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**IN BRIEF**

**Xigris Withdrawn**

The FDA has announced that Eli Lilly has voluntarily withdrawn drotrecogin alfa (activated) (Xigris) after a recently completed trial (PROWESS-SHOCK) in patients with severe sepsis and septic shock failed to show an increase in survival in those treated with the drug.\(^1\) Drotrecogin alfa is a recombinant form of human activated protein C. Native activated protein C inhibits coagulation, increases fibrinolysis and has anti-inflammatory properties. FDA approval of Xigris (for patients with severe sepsis at high risk of death) was based on a single study (PROWESS).\(^2\) Post-marketing studies found a higher rate of bleeding than that reported in PROWESS.\(^3,4\)


Happy New Year

This is the last issue of 2011. The first issue of 2012 will be dated January 9th.