Summary of risk management plan for ITULAZAX (Birch pollen extract)

This is a summary of the risk management plan (RMP) for ITULAZAX. The RMP details important risks of ITULAZAX, and how more information will be obtained about ITULAZAX's risks and uncertainties (missing information).

ITULAZAX's summary of product characteristics (SmPC) and its package leaflet (PL) give essential information to healthcare professionals and patients on how ITULAZAX should be used.

I. The medicine and what it is used for

ITULAZAX is authorised for treatment of moderate-to-severe allergic rhinitis and/or conjunctivitis, induced by pollen from the birch homologous group (see SmPC for the full indication). It contains allergen extract from birch (*Betula verrucosa*) as the active substance and it is given by sublingual administration of a white to off-white freeze-dried debossed oral lyophilisate.

II. Risks associated with the medicine and activities to minimise or further characterise the risks

Important risks of ITULAZAX, together with measures to minimise such risks and the proposed studies for learning more about ITULAZAX's risks, are outlined below.

Measures to minimise the risks identified for medicinal products can be:
Specific information, such as warnings, precautions, and advice on correct use, in the package leaflet and SmPC addressed to patients and healthcare professionals
Important advice on the medicine's packaging
The authorised package size — the amount of medicine in a pack is chosen so to ensure that the medicine is used correctly
The medicine's legal status — the way a medicine is supplied to the patient (e.g. with or without prescription) can help to minimise its risks.

Together, these measures constitute routine risk minimisation measures.

II.A List of important risks and missing information

Important risks of ITULAZAX are risks that need special risk management activities to further investigate or minimise the risk, so that the medicinal product can be safely administered. Important risks can be regarded as identified or potential. Identified risks are concerns for which there is sufficient proof of a link with the use of ITULAZAX. Potential risks are concerns for which an association with the use of this medicine is possible based on available data, but this association has not been established yet and needs further evaluation. Missing information refers to information on the safety of the medicinal product that is currently missing and needs to be collected (e.g. on the long-term use of the medicine).

List of important risks and missing information	
Important identified risks	None
Important potential risks	Acute worsening of asthma symptoms Eosinophilic esophagitis
Missing information	None

II.B Summary of important risks

Important potential risk: Acute worsening of asthma symptoms	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	Acute worsening of asthma is considered an important potential risk as it can lead to life threatening situations or even fatal outcomes for the patients in severe cases. In addition, asthma is a known risk factor for systemic allergic reactions and has previously been known to constitute a risk in AIT although AIT has also been used to treat asthma. From the clinical development programme, it has not been possible to establish a clear causal relationship to treatment with ITULAZAX, however the evidence from the literature and other SLIT-tablets provides evidence to suspect a causal relationship, thus a potential risk to ITULAZAX.
Risk factors and risk groups	Impaired lung function/FEV_1<70% of predicted value at initiation of treatment Severe asthma exacerbation within the last 3 months prior to initiation of treatment Recent or ongoing upper respiratory tract infections Pregnancy
Risk minimisation measures	Routine risk minimisation measures: ***SmPC*** *section 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4* ***PL*** *section 2, 3 and 4* Additional risk minimisation measures: *None*

Important potential risk: Eosinophilic esophagitis	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	Events of eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) have occurred with the use of other SLIT-tablets but it is not yet confirmed that this association may be a class effect for SLIT. EoE is thus considered an important potential risk for ITULAZAX.
Risk factors and risk groups	Male gender Caucasian race Atopy Genetic predisposition Environmental factors including the timing and nature of food and aeroallergen exposure to the developing immune system may be important.
Risk minimisation measures	Routine risk minimisation measures: ***SmPC*** *section 4.4* ***PL*** *section 4* Additional risk minimisation measures: *None*

II.C Post-authorisation development plan

II.C.1 Studies which are conditions of the marketing authorisation

Not applicable since the ITULAZAX has not yet obtained a marketing authorisation.

II.C.2 Other studies in post-authorisation development plan

Not applicable since the ITULAZAX has not yet obtained a marketing authorisation.