

Definitions of the adverse events:

Hyperlipidemia was defined as elevation of serum total cholesterol (TC) and/or triglyceride (TG) or reduced high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol.

Hyperglycemia was defined as random plasma glucose ≥ 200 mg/dl plus symptoms of diabetes, a fasting plasma glucose ≥ 126 mg/dl, or a 2-h plasma glucose ≥ 200 mg/dl following a 75-g oral glucose challenge in adults.

Liver dysfunction was defined as abnormal plasma levels of bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase or aminotransferase.

Leucopenia was defined as decrease in number of white blood cells in a blood specimen.

Mild infections were defined as infections not requiring hospitalization.

Serious infections were defined as infections requiring hospitalization.

Osteonecrosis was defined as necrotic changes in the bone tissue.