

# CNS SPECTRUMS®

The International Journal of Neuropsychiatric Medicine



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**KEPPRA™ (levetiracetam)****250 mg, 500 mg and 750 mg tablets****Rx only****BRIEF SUMMARY (for full prescribing information, consult package insert)****INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Keppra (levetiracetam) is indicated as adjunctive therapy in the treatment of partial onset seizures in adults with epilepsy.**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** This product should not be administered to patients who have previously exhibited hypersensitivity to levetiracetam or any of the inactive ingredients in Keppra tablets.

**WARNINGS: Neuropsychiatric Adverse Events:** Keppra use is associated with the occurrence of central nervous system adverse events that can be classified into the following categories: 1) somnolence and fatigue, 2) coordination difficulties, and 3) behavioral abnormalities. In controlled trials of patients with epilepsy, 14.8% of Keppra treated patients reported somnolence, compared to 8.4% of placebo patients. There was no clear dose response up to 3000 mg/day. In a study where there was no titration, about 45% of patients receiving 4000 mg/day reported somnolence. The somnolence was considered serious in 0.3% of the treated patients, compared to 0% in the placebo group. About 3% of Keppra treated patients discontinued treatment due to somnolence, compared to 0.7% of placebo patients. In 1.4% of treated patients and in 0.9% of placebo patients the dose was reduced, while 0.3% of the treated patients were hospitalized due to somnolence. In controlled trials of patients with epilepsy, 14.7% of treated patients reported asthenia, compared to 9.1% of placebo patients. Treatment was discontinued in 0.8% of treated patients as compared to 0.5% of placebo patients. In 0.5% of treated patients and in 0.2% of placebo patients the dose was reduced. A total of 3.4% of Keppra treated patients experienced coordination difficulties (reported as either ataxia, abnormal gait, or incoordination) compared to 1.6% of placebo patients. A total of 0.4% of patients in controlled trials discontinued Keppra treatment due to ataxia, compared to 0% of placebo patients. In 0.7% of treated patients and in 0.2% of placebo patients the dose was reduced due to coordination difficulties, while one of the treated patients was hospitalized due to worsening of preexisting ataxia. Somnolence, asthenia and coordination difficulties occurred most frequently within the first 4 weeks of treatment. In controlled trials of patients with epilepsy, 5 (0.7%) of Keppra treated patients experienced psychotic symptoms compared to 1 (0.2%) placebo patient. Two (0.3%) Keppra treated patients were hospitalized and their treatment was discontinued. Both events, reported as psychosis, developed within the first week of treatment and resolved within 1 to 2 weeks following treatment discontinuation. Two other events, reported as hallucinations, occurred after 1-5 months and resolved within 2-7 days while the patients remained on treatment. In one patient experiencing psychotic depression occurring within a month, symptoms resolved within 45 days while the patient continued treatment. A total of 13.3% of Keppra patients experienced other behavioral symptoms (reported as agitation, hostility, anxiety, apathy, emotional lability, depersonalization, depression, etc.) compared to 6.2% of placebo patients. Approximately half of these patients reported these events within the first 4 weeks. A total of 1.7% of treated patients discontinued treatment due to these events, compared to 0.2% of placebo patients. The treatment dose was reduced in 0.8% of treated patients and in 0.5% of placebo patients. A total of 0.8% of treated patients had a serious behavioral event (compared to 0.2% of placebo patients) and were hospitalized. In addition, 4 (0.5%) of treated patients attempted suicide compared to 0% of placebo patients. One of these patients successfully committed suicide. In the other 3 patients, the events did not lead to discontinuation or dose reduction. The events occurred after patients had been treated for between 4 weeks and 6 months. **Withdrawal Seizures:** Antiepileptic drugs, including Keppra, should be withdrawn gradually to minimize the potential of increased seizure frequency.

**PRECAUTIONS: Hematologic Abnormalities:** Minor, but statistically significant, decreases compared to placebo in total mean RBC count ( $0.03 \times 10^9/\text{mm}^3$ ), mean hemoglobin ( $0.09 \text{ g/dL}$ ), and mean hematocrit ( $0.38\%$ ) were seen in Keppra treated patients in controlled trials. A total of 3.2% of treated and 1.8% of placebo patients had at least one possibly significant ( $\leq 2.8 \times 10^9/\text{L}$ ) decreased WBC, and 2.4% of treated and 1.4% of placebo patients had at least one possibly significant ( $\leq 1.0 \times 10^9/\text{L}$ ) decreased neutrophil count. Of the treated patients with a low neutrophil count, all but one rose towards or to baseline with continued treatment. No patient was discontinued secondary to low neutrophil counts. **Hepatic Abnormalities:** There were no meaningful changes in mean liver function tests (LFT) in controlled trials; lesser LFT abnormalities were similar in drug and placebo treated patients in controlled trials (1.4%). No patients were discontinued from controlled trials for LFT abnormalities except for 1 (0.07%) epilepsy patient receiving open treatment. **Information For Patients:** Patients should be instructed to take Keppra only as prescribed. Patients should be advised to notify their physician if they become pregnant or intend to become pregnant during therapy. Patients should be advised that Keppra may cause dizziness and somnolence. Accordingly, patients should be advised not to drive or operate machinery or engage in other hazardous activities until they have gained sufficient experience on Keppra to gauge whether it adversely affects their performance of these activities. **Laboratory Tests:** Although most laboratory tests are not systematically altered with Keppra treatment, there have been relatively infrequent abnormalities seen in hematologic parameters and liver function tests. **Use in Patients With Impaired Renal Function:** Caution should be taken in dosing patients with moderate and severe renal impairment and patients undergoing hemodialysis. Dosage should be reduced in patients with impaired renal function receiving Keppra and supplemental doses should be given to patients after dialysis (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Patients with Impaired Renal Function). **Drug Interactions:** *In vitro* data on metabolic interactions indicate that Keppra is unlikely to produce, or be subject to, pharmacokinetic interactions. Levetiracetam and its major metabolite, at concentrations well above  $C_{50}$  levels achieved within the therapeutic dose range, are neither inhibitors of nor high affinity substrates for human liver cytochrome P450 isoforms, epoxide hydrolase or UDP-glucuronidation enzymes. In addition, levetiracetam does not affect the *in vitro* glucuronidation of valproic acid. Levetiracetam circulates largely unbound (<10% bound) to plasma proteins; clinically significant interactions with other drugs through competition for protein binding sites are therefore unlikely. Potential pharmacokinetic interactions were assessed in clinical pharmacokinetic studies (phenytoin, warfarin, digoxin, oral contraceptive) and through pharmacokinetic screening in the placebo-controlled clinical studies in epilepsy patients. **Drug-Drug Interactions Between Keppra and Existing Antiepileptic Drugs (AEDs):** Potential drug interactions between Keppra and existing AEDs (phenytoin, carbamazepine, valproic acid, phenobarbital, lamotrigine, gabapentin and primidone) were assessed by evaluating the serum concentrations of levetiracetam and these AEDs during placebo-controlled clinical studies. These data indicate that levetiracetam does not influence the plasma concentration of existing AEDs and that these AEDs do not influence the pharmacokinetics of levetiracetam. **Other Drug Interactions: Oral Contraceptives:** Keppra (500 mg twice daily) did not influence the pharmacokinetics of an oral contraceptive containing 0.03 mg ethinyl estradiol and 0.15 mg levonorgestrel, or of the luteinizing hormone and progesterone levels, indicating that impairment of contraceptive efficacy is unlikely. Coadministration of this oral contraceptive did not influence the pharmacokinetics of levetiracetam. **Digoxin:** Keppra (1000 mg twice daily) did not influence the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (ECG) of digoxin given as a 0.25 mg dose every day. Coadministration of digoxin did not influence the pharmacokinetics of levetiracetam. **Warfarin:** Keppra (1000 mg twice daily) did not influence the pharmacokinetics of R and S warfarin. Prothrombin time was not affected by levetiracetam. Coadministration of warfarin did not affect the pharmacokinetics of levetiracetam. **Probenecid:** Probenecid, a renal tubular secretion blocking agent, administered at a dose of 500 mg four times a day, did not change the pharmacokinetics of levetiracetam 1000 mg twice daily.  $C_{50}$  of the metabolite, ucb L057, was approximately doubled in the presence of probenecid while the fraction of drug excreted unchanged in the urine remained the same. Renal clearance of ucb L057 in the presence of probenecid decreased 60%, probably related to competitive inhibition of tubular secretion of ucb L057. The effect of Keppra on probenecid was not studied. **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Carcinogenesis:** Rats were dosed with levetiracetam in the diet for 104 weeks at doses of 50, 300 and 1800 mg/kg/day. The highest dose corresponds to 6 times the maximum recommended daily human dose (MRHD) of 3000 mg on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis and it also provided systemic exposure (AUC) approximately 6 times that achieved in humans receiving the MRHD. There was no evidence of carcinogenicity. A study was conducted in which mice received levetiracetam in the diet for 80 weeks at doses of 60, 240 and 960 mg/kg/day (high dose is equivalent to 2 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  or exposure basis). Although no evidence for carcinogenicity was seen, the potential for a carcinogenic response has not been fully evaluated in that species because adequate doses have not been studied. **Mutagenesis:** Levetiracetam was not mutagenic in the Ames test or in mammalian cells *in vitro* in the Chinese hamster ovary/HGPRT locus assay. It was not clastogenic in an *in vitro* analysis of metaphase chromosomes obtained from Chinese hamster ovary cells or in an *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay. The hydrolysis product and major human metabolite of levetiracetam (ucb L057) was not mutagenic in

the Ames test or the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma assay. **Impairment of Fertility:** No adverse effects on male or female fertility or reproductive performance were observed in rats at doses up to 1800 mg/kg/day (approximately 6 times the maximum recommended human dose on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  or exposure basis). **Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C:** In animal studies, levetiracetam produced evidence of developmental toxicity at doses similar to or greater than human therapeutic doses. Administration to female rats throughout pregnancy and lactation was associated with increased incidences of minor fetal skeletal abnormalities and retarded offspring growth pre- and/or postnatally at doses  $\geq 350 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$  (approximately equivalent to the maximum recommended human dose of 3000 mg [MRHD] on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis) and with increased pup mortality and offspring behavioral alterations at a dose of 1800 mg/kg/day (6 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis). The developmental no effect dose was 70 mg/kg/day (0.2 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis). There was no overt maternal toxicity at the doses used in this study. Treatment of pregnant rabbits during the period of organogenesis resulted in increased embryofetal mortality and increased incidences of minor fetal skeletal abnormalities at doses  $\geq 600 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$  (approximately 4 times MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis) and in decreased fetal weights and increased incidences of fetal malformations at a dose of 1800 mg/kg/day (12 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis). The developmental no effect dose was 200 mg/kg/day (1.3 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis). Maternal toxicity was also observed at 1800 mg/kg/day. When pregnant rats were treated during the period of organogenesis, fetal weights were decreased and the incidence of fetal skeletal variations was increased at a dose of 3600 mg/kg/day (12 times the MRHD). 1200 mg/kg/day (4 times the MRHD) was a developmental no effect dose. There was no evidence of maternal toxicity in this study. Treatment of rats during the last third of gestation and throughout lactation produced no adverse developmental or maternal effects at doses up to 1800 mg/kg/day (6 times the MRHD on a  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$  basis). There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Keppra should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. **Pregnancy Exposure Registry:** To facilitate monitoring fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to Keppra physicians are encouraged to register patients, before fetal outcome is known (e.g., ultrasound, results of amniocentesis, etc.), in the Antiepileptic Drug Pregnancy Registry by calling (888) 233-2334 (toll free). **Labor and Delivery:** The effect of Keppra on labor and delivery in humans is unknown. **Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether this drug is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Keppra is administered to a nursing woman. **Pediatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness in patients below the age of 16 have not been established. **Geriatric Use:** Of the total number of subjects in clinical studies of levetiracetam, 347 were 65 and over. No overall differences in safety were observed between these subjects and younger subjects. There were insufficient numbers of elderly subjects in controlled trials of epilepsy to adequately assess the effectiveness of Keppra in these patients. A study in 16 elderly subjects (age 61-88 years) with oral administration of single dose and multiple twice-daily doses for 10 days showed no pharmacokinetic differences related to age alone. Levetiracetam is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of adverse reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function. **Use in Patients With Impaired Renal Function:** Clearance of levetiracetam is decreased in patients with renal impairment and is correlated with creatinine clearance. The dosage should be reduced in patients with impaired renal function receiving Keppra and supplemental doses should be given to patients after dialysis (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Patients with Impaired Renal Function).

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** In well-controlled clinical studies, the most frequently reported adverse events associated with the use of Keppra in combination with other AEDs, not seen at an equivalent frequency among placebo-treated patients, were somnolence, asthenia, infection and dizziness. Table 1 lists treatment-emergent adverse events that occurred in at least 1% of patients with epilepsy treated with Keppra participating in placebo-controlled studies and were numerically more common in patients treated with Keppra than placebo. In these studies, either Keppra or placebo was added to concurrent AED therapy. Adverse events were usually mild to moderate in intensity. The prescriber should be aware that these figures, obtained when Keppra was added to concurrent AED therapy, cannot be used to predict the frequency of adverse experiences in the course of usual medical practice where patient characteristics and other factors may differ from those prevailing during clinical studies. Similarly, the cited frequencies cannot be directly compared with figures obtained from other clinical investigations involving different treatments, uses, or investigators. An inspection of these frequencies, however, does provide the prescriber with one basis to estimate the relative contribution of drug and non-drug factors to the adverse event incidences in the population studied. **Table 1: Incidence (%) of Treatment-emergent Adverse Events in Placebo-controlled, Add-on Studies by Body System (Adverse Events Occurred in at Least 1% of Keppra-treated Patients and Occurred More Frequently than Placebo-treated Patients) Keppra (N=769) vs Placebo (N=439):** Body System/Adverse Event: Body as a Whole: Asthenia (15% vs 9%); Headache (14% vs 13%); Infection (13% vs 8%); Pain (7% vs 6%). Digestive System: Anorexia (3% vs 2%); Nervous System: Amnesia (2% vs 1%); Anxiety (2% vs 1%); Ataxia (3% vs 1%); Depression (4% vs 2%); Dizziness (9% vs 4%); Emotional Lability (2% vs 0%); Hostility (2% vs 1%); Nervousness (4% vs 2%); Paresthesia (2% vs 1%); Somnolence (15% vs 8%); Vertigo (3% vs 1%). Respiratory System: Cough Increased (2% vs 1%); Pharyngitis (6% vs 4%); Rhinitis (4% vs 3%); Sinusitis (2% vs 1%). Special Senses: Diplopia (2% vs 1%). Other events reported by 1% or more of patients treated with Keppra but as or more frequent in the placebo group were: abdominal pain, accidental injury, amblyopia, arthralgia, back pain, bronchitis, chest pain, confusion, constipation, convulsion, diarrhea, drug level increased, dyspepsia, ecchymosis, fever, flu syndrome, fungal infection, gastroenteritis, gingivitis, grand mal convulsion, insomnia, nausea, otitis media, rash, thinking abnormal, tremor, urinary tract infection, vomiting and weight gain. **Time Course of Onset of Adverse Events:** Of the most frequently reported adverse events, asthenia, somnolence and dizziness appeared to occur predominantly during the first 4 weeks of treatment with Keppra. **Discontinuation or Dose Reduction in Well-Controlled Clinical Studies:** In well-controlled clinical studies, 15.0% of patients receiving Keppra and 11.6% receiving placebo either discontinued or had a dose reduction as a result of an adverse event. The adverse events most commonly associated (>1%) with discontinuation or dose reduction in either treatment group are presented in Table 2. **Table 2: Adverse Events Most Commonly Associated With Discontinuation or Dose Reduction in Placebo-controlled Studies in Patients With Epilepsy Keppra (N=769) vs Placebo (N=439):** [Number (%):] Asthenia [10 (1.3%) vs 3 (0.7%)]; Convulsion [23 (3.0%) vs 15 (3.4%)]; Dizziness [11 (1.4%) vs 0%]; Somnolence [34 (4.4%) vs 7 (1.6%)]; Rash [0 vs 5 (1.1%)]. **Comparison of Gender, Age and Race:** The overall adverse experience profile of Keppra was similar between females and males. There are insufficient data to support a statement regarding the distribution of adverse experience reports by age and race.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Keppra is indicated as adjunctive treatment of partial onset seizures in adults with epilepsy. In clinical trials, daily doses of 1000 mg, 2000 mg and 3000 mg, given as twice a day dosing, were shown to be effective. Although in some studies there was a tendency toward greater response with higher dose (see CLINICAL STUDIES in package insert), a consistent increase in response with increased dose has not been shown. Treatment should be initiated with a daily dose of 1000 mg/day, given as twice daily dosing (500 mg BID). Additional dosing increments may be given (1000 mg/day additional every 2 weeks) to a maximum recommended daily dose of 3000 mg. Long term experience at doses greater than 3000 mg/day is relatively minimal, and there is no evidence that doses greater than 3000 mg/day confer additional benefit. Keppra is given orally with or without food. **Patients With Impaired Renal Function:** Keppra dosing must be individualized according to the patient's renal function status. Recommended doses and adjustment for dose are shown in the Table below. To use this dosing table, an estimate of the patient's creatinine clearance (CLcr) in mL/min is needed. CLcr in mL/min may be estimated from serum creatinine (mg/dL) determination using the following formula:

$$\text{CLcr} = \frac{[140 - \text{age (years)}] \times \text{weight (kg)}}{72 \times \text{serum creatinine (mg/dL)}} \quad (\times 0.85 \text{ for female patients})$$

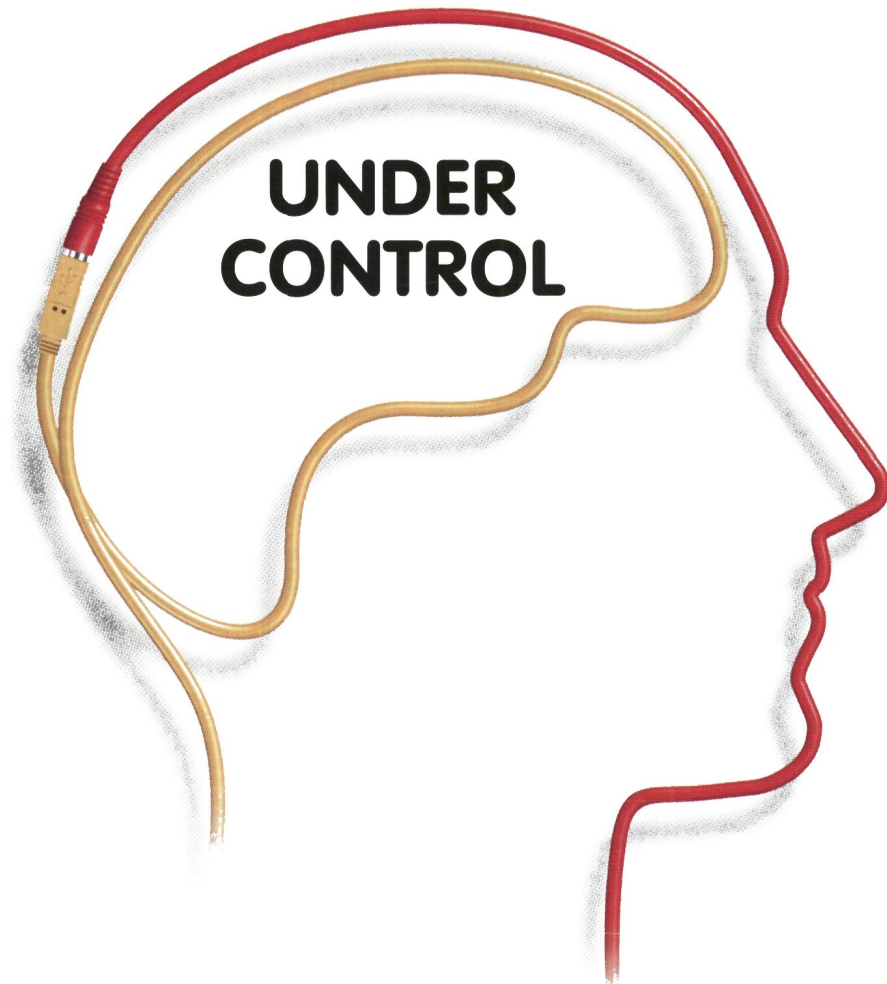
Dosing Adjustment Regimen for Patients With Impaired Renal Function

Group	Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Dosage (mg)	Frequency
Normal	> 80	500 to 1,500	Every 12 h
Mild	50 - 80	500 to 1,000	Every 12 h
Moderate	30 - 50	250 to 750	Every 12 h
Severe	< 30	250 to 500	Every 12 h
ESRD patients using dialysis	—	500 to 1,000	Every 24 h*

\*Following dialysis, a 250 to 500 mg supplemental dose is recommended.







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- Provides up to 4 out of 10 refractory patients with  $\geq 50\%$  partial onset seizure reduction
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**GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED**

- The most common adverse events associated with Keppra™ in combination with other AEDs were somnolence, asthenia, infection, and dizziness. Of these, most appeared to occur during the first 4 weeks of treatment
- No dose relationship was observed for the most common adverse events over the entire treatment period in Phase III clinical studies<sup>1</sup>

**EASY TO START, EASY TO MANAGE**

- Starting dose of 1000 mg/day (500 mg bid) is effective for many patients
- If needed, the dose can be increased by an additional 1000 mg/day at 2 week intervals up to a maximum dose of 3000 mg/day
- No drug/drug interactions with AEDs included in well-controlled studies, a combination oral contraceptive, warfarin, or digoxin

**Keppra™**  
*levetiracetam*  
 250 • 500 • 750 mg tablets

**SIMPLIFYING SEIZURE CONTROL**

Keppra™ use is associated with the occurrence of central nervous system adverse events including somnolence and fatigue, coordination difficulties, and behavioral abnormalities, and with minor, but statistically significant, hematological abnormalities. Keppra™ dosing must be individualized according to renal function status.

Please consult brief summary of prescribing information on adjacent page.

Reference: 1. Data on file, UCB Pharma, Inc.





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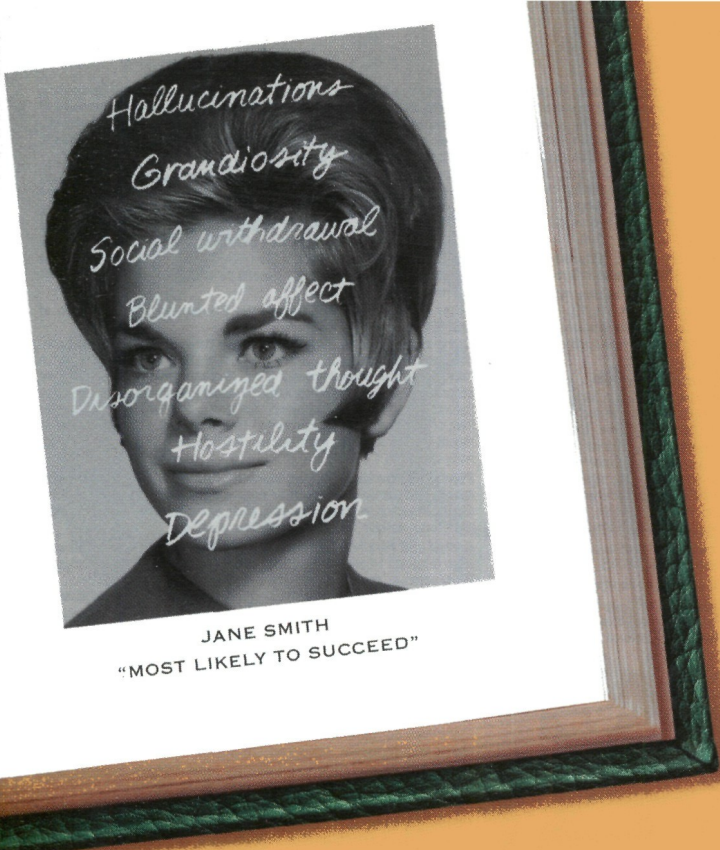
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# Efficacy you expect, safety you trust

**"Nothing could have prepared me for the devastation of psychosis."**

**"RISPERDAL gave me a new start."**

- Incidence of diabetes <1%
- Well established cardiac safety profile
- Low weight gain
  - Only 5.0 lb average in a long-term trial\*



**Risperdal**<sup>®</sup>   
tablets and oral solution 1 mg/mL RISPERIDONE

**The #1 prescribed antipsychotic<sup>1</sup>**

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Please see brief summary of full Prescribing Information on adjacent page.

Reference: 1. IMS Health, NPA Plus, New and Total Prescriptions, 12 months ending November 2000.

\*Data on file, 2000. Submitted for publication.

In two 6- to 8-week placebo-controlled trials, spontaneously reported, treatment-emergent adverse events with an incidence of 5% or greater in at least one of the RISPERDAL groups and at least twice that of placebo were: anxiety, somnolence, extrapyramidal symptoms, dizziness, constipation, nausea, dyspepsia, rhinitis, rash, and tachycardia.

Adverse events reported since market introduction that were temporally (but not necessarily causally) related to RISPERDAL therapy include diabetes mellitus aggravated, including diabetic ketoacidosis.

Risperidone and/or 9-hydroxyrisperidone appears to lengthen the QT interval in some patients, although there is no average increase in treated patients, even at 12–16 mg/day, well above the recommended dose. Risperidone has not been evaluated in patients with a recent history of myocardial infarction or unstable heart disease.

Percentage of patients experiencing weight gain ( $\geq 7\%$  of baseline body weight) in controlled clinical trials was 9% placebo versus 18% risperidone. This difference is statistically significant. Weight gain was dose dependent in short-term clinical trials. Other weight-related adverse events occurring in premarketing studies and listed as infrequent include increased appetite, weight increase, and weight decrease.



# Risperdal

tablets and oral solution 1 mg/mL

## RISPERIDONE

**BEFORE PRESCRIBING, PLEASE CONSULT COMPLETE PRESCRIBING INFORMATION OF WHICH THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SUMMARY.**

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

RISPERDAL® (risperidone) is indicated for the management of the manifestations of psychotic disorders.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

RISPERDAL® (risperidone) is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to the product.

### WARNINGS

#### Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS)

A potentially fatal symptom complex sometimes referred to as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS) has been reported in association with antipsychotic drugs. If a patient receives antipsychotic drug treatment after recovery from NMS, the potential reintroduction of drug therapy should be carefully considered. The patient should be carefully monitored, since recurrences of NMS have been reported.

#### Tardive Dyskinesia

A syndrome of potentially irreversible, involuntary, dyskinetic movements may develop in patients treated with antipsychotic drugs. Whether antipsychotic drug products differ in their potential to cause tardive dyskinesia is unknown.

If signs and symptoms of tardive dyskinesia appear in a patient on RISPERDAL®, drug discontinuation should be considered. However, some patients may require treatment with RISPERDAL® despite the presence of the syndrome.

**Potential for Proarrhythmic Effects:** Risperidone and/or 9-hydroxyrisperidone appears to lengthen the QT interval in some patients, although there is no average increase in treated patients, even at 12-16 mg/day, well above the recommended dose. Other drugs that prolong the QT interval have been associated with the occurrence of torsades de pointes, a life-threatening arrhythmia. Bradycardia, electrolyte imbalance, concomitant use with other drugs that prolong QT, or the presence of congenital prolongation in QT can increase the risk for occurrence of this arrhythmia.

### PRECAUTIONS

#### General

**Orthostatic Hypotension:** RISPERDAL® (risperidone) may induce orthostatic hypotension associated with dizziness, tachycardia, and in some patients, syncope, especially during the initial dose-titration period, probably reflecting its alpha-adrenergic antagonistic properties. Syncope was reported in 0.2% (6/2807) of RISPERDAL® treated patients in phase 2-3 studies. The risk of orthostatic hypotension and syncope may be minimized by limiting the initial dose to 2 mg total (either QD or 1 mg BID) in normal adults and 0.5 mg BID in the elderly and patients with renal or hepatic impairment (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Monitoring of orthostatic vital signs should be considered in patients for whom this is of concern. A dose reduction should be considered if hypotension occurs. RISPERDAL® should be used with particular caution in patients with known cardiovascular disease (history of myocardial infarction or ischemia, heart failure, or conduction abnormalities), cerebrovascular disease, and conditions which would predispose patients to hypotension (e.g., dehydration and hypovolemia). Clinically significant hypotension has been observed with concomitant use of RISPERDAL® and antihypertensive medication.

**Seizures:** RISPERDAL® should be used cautiously in patients with a history of seizures.

**Dysphagia:** Esophageal dysmotility and aspiration have been associated with antipsychotic drug use. Aspiration pneumonia is a common cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with advanced Alzheimer's dementia. RISPERDAL® and other antipsychotic drugs should be used cautiously in patients at risk for aspiration pneumonia.

**Hyperprolactinemia:** As with other drugs that antagonize dopamine D<sub>2</sub> receptors, risperidone elevates prolactin levels and the elevation persists during chronic administration. Neither clinical studies nor epidemiologic studies conducted to date have shown an association between chronic administration of this class of drugs and tumorigenesis in humans; the available evidence is considered too limited to be conclusive at this time.

**Potential for Cognitive and Motor Impairment:** Somnolence was a commonly reported adverse event associated with RISPERDAL® treatment, especially when ascertained by direct questioning of patients. This adverse event is dose related. Patients should be cautioned about operating hazardous machinery, including automobiles, until they are reasonably certain that RISPERDAL® therapy does not affect them adversely.

**Priapism:** Rare cases of priapism have been reported.

**Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP):** A single case of TTP was reported in a 28 year-old female patient receiving RISPERDAL® in a large, open premarketing experience (approximately 1300 patients). She experienced jaundice, fever, and bruising, but eventually recovered after receiving plasmapheresis. The relationship to RISPERDAL® therapy is unknown.

**Antiemetic effect:** Risperidone has an antiemetic effect in animals; this effect may also occur in humans, and may mask signs and symptoms of overdose with certain drugs or of conditions such as intestinal obstruction, Reye's syndrome, and brain tumor.

**Body Temperature Regulation:** Disruption of body temperature regulation has been attributed to antipsychotic agents. Caution is advised when prescribing for patients who will be exposed to temperature extremes.

**Suicide:** The possibility of a suicide attempt is inherent in schizophrenia, and close supervision of high risk patients should accompany drug therapy.

**Use in Patients with Concomitant Illness:** Clinical experience with RISPERDAL® in patients with certain concomitant systemic illnesses is limited. Caution is advisable in using RISPERDAL® in patients with diseases or conditions that could affect metabolism or hemodynamic responses.

Because of the risks of orthostatic hypotension and QT prolongation, caution should be observed in cardiac patients (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS).

Increased plasma concentrations of risperidone and 9-hydroxyrisperidone occur in patients with severe renal impairment and in patients with severe hepatic impairment. A lower starting dose should be used in such patients.

#### Information for Patients

Physicians are advised to consult full prescribing information to review issues to be discussed with patients for whom they prescribe RISPERDAL®.

#### Drug Interactions

The interactions of RISPERDAL® and other drugs have not been systematically evaluated. Given the primary CNS effects of risperidone, caution should be used when RISPERDAL® is taken in combination with other centrally acting drugs and alcohol. RISPERDAL® may antagonize the effects of levodopa and dopamine agonists. Chronic administration of carbamazepine with risperidone may increase the clearance of risperidone. Chronic administration of clozapine with risperidone may decrease the clearance of risperidone. Fluoxetine may increase the plasma concentration of the anti-psychotic fraction (risperidone plus 9-hydroxyrisperidone) by raising the concentration of risperidone, although not the active metabolite, 9-hydroxyrisperidone.

**Drugs that Inhibit Cytochrome P<sub>2</sub> and Other P<sub>2</sub> Isozymes:** Risperidone is metabolized to 9-hydroxyrisperidone by cytochrome P<sub>2</sub>, an enzyme that is polymorphic in the population and that can be inhibited by a variety of psychotropic and other drugs (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). Drug interactions that reduce the metabolism of risperidone to 9-hydroxyrisperidone would increase the plasma concentrations of risperidone and lower the concentrations of 9-hydroxyrisperidone. Analysis of clinical studies involving a modest number of poor metabolizers (n=70) does not suggest that poor and extensive metabolizers have different rates of adverse effects. No comparison of effectiveness in the two groups has been made.

In vitro studies showed that drugs metabolized by other P<sub>2</sub> isozymes, including 1A1, 1A2, 1C9, MP, and 3A4, are only weak inhibitors of risperidone metabolism.

**Drugs Metabolized by Cytochrome P<sub>2</sub>:** In vitro studies indicate that risperidone is a relatively weak inhibitor of cytochrome P<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, RISPERDAL® is not expected to substantially inhibit the clearance of drugs that are metabolized by this enzymatic pathway. However, clinical data to confirm this expectation are not available.

#### Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

**Carcinogenesis:** Carcinogenicity studies were conducted in Swiss albino mice and Wistar rats. Risperidone was administered in the diet at doses of 0.63, 2.5, and 10 mg/kg for 18 months to mice and for 25 months to rats. These doses are equivalent to 2.4, 9.4 and 37.5 times the maximum human dose (16 mg/day) on a mg/kg basis or 0.2, 0.75 and 3 times the maximum human dose (mice) or 0.4, 1.5, and 6 times the maximum human dose (rats) on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis. There were statistically significant increases in pituitary gland adenomas, endocrine pancreas adenomas and mammary gland adenocarcinomas.

These findings are considered to be prolactin mediated. The relevance for human risk of the findings of prolactin-mediated endocrine tumors in rodents is unknown (See Hyperprolactinemia under PRECAUTIONS, GENERAL).

**Mutagenesis:** No evidence of mutagenic potential for risperidone was found.

**Impairment of Fertility:** Risperidone (0.16 to 5 mg/kg) was shown to impair mating, but not fertility, in Wistar rats in three reproductive studies at doses 0.1 to 3 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis.

#### Pregnancy

**Pregnancy Category C:** There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women.

RISPERDAL® should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

#### Labor and Delivery

The effect of RISPERDAL® on labor and delivery in humans is unknown.

#### Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether or not risperidone is excreted in human milk. Women receiving RISPERDAL® should not breast feed.

#### Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

#### Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of RISPERDAL® did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between elderly and younger patients. In general, a lower starting dose is recommended for an elderly patient, reflecting a decreased pharmacokinetic clearance in the elderly, as well as a greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). While elderly patients exhibit a greater tendency to orthostatic hypotension, its risk in the elderly may be minimized by limiting the initial dose to 0.5 mg BID followed by careful titration (See PRECAUTIONS). Monitoring of orthostatic vital signs should be considered in patients for whom this is of concern.

This drug is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

#### Associated with Discontinuation of Treatment

Approximately 9% percent (24/2607) of RISPERDAL® (risperidone)-treated patients in phase 2-3 studies discontinued treatment due to an adverse event, compared with about 7% on placebo and 10% on active control drugs. The more common events (≥ 0.3%) associated with discontinuation and considered to be possibly or probably drug-related included: extrapyramidal symptoms, dizziness, hyperkinesia, somnolence, and nausea.

#### Incidence in Controlled Trials

**Commonly Observed Adverse Events in Controlled Clinical Trials:** In two 6- to 8-week placebo-controlled trials, spontaneously-reported, treatment-emergent adverse events with an incidence of 5% or greater in at least one of the RISPERDAL® groups and at least twice that of placebo were: anxiety, somnolence, extrapyramidal symptoms, dizziness, constipation, nausea, dyspepsia, rhinitis, rash, and tachycardia.

Adverse events were also elicited in one of these two trials (i.e., in the fixed-dose trial comparing RISPERDAL® at doses of 2, 6, 10, and 16 mg/day with placebo) utilizing a checklist for detecting adverse events, a method that is more sensitive than spontaneous reporting. By this method, the following additional common and drug-related adverse events were present at least 5% and twice the rate of placebo: increased dream activity, increased duration of sleep, accommodation disturbances, reduced salivation, micturition disturbances, diarrhea, weight gain, menorrhagia, diminished sexual desire, erectile dysfunction, ejaculatory dysfunction, and orgasmic dysfunction.

The following adverse events occurred at an incidence of 1% or more, and were at least as frequent among RISPERDAL® treated patients treated at doses of 510 mg/day than among placebo-treated patients in the pooled results of two 6- to 8-week controlled trials: **Psychiatric Disorders:** insomnia, agitation, anxiety, somnolence, aggressive reaction. **Nervous System:** extrapyramidal symptoms\*, headache, dizziness. **Gastrointestinal System:** constipation, nausea, dyspepsia, vomiting, abdominal pain, saliva increased, toothache. **Respiratory System:** rhinitis, coughing, sinusitis, pharyngitis, dyspnea. **Body as a Whole:** back pain, chest pain, fever. **Dermatological:** rash, dry skin, seborrhea. **Infections:** upper respiratory. **Visual:** abnormal vision. **Musculo-Skeletal:** arthralgia. **Cardiovascular:** tachycardia.

\* Includes tremor, dystonia, hypokinesia, hypertonia, hyperkinesia, oculogyric crisis, ataxia, abnormal gait, involuntary muscle contractions, hyperreflexia, slowness, and extrapyramidal disorders.

#### Dose Dependency of Adverse Events:

Data from two fixed dose trials provided evidence of dose-relatedness for extrapyramidal symptoms associated with risperidone treatment. These symptoms include: sleepiness, increased duration of sleep, accommodation disturbances, orthostatic dizziness, palpitations, weight gain, erectile dysfunction, ejaculatory dysfunction, orgasmic dysfunction, asthenia/lassitude/increased fatigability, and increased pigmentation.

**Vital Sign Changes:** RISPERDAL® is associated with orthostatic hypotension and tachycardia (See PRECAUTIONS).

**Weight Changes:** A statistically significant greater incidence of weight gain for RISPERDAL® (18%) compared to placebo (9%).

**Laboratory Changes:** A between group comparison for 6- to 8-week placebo-controlled trials revealed no statistically significant RISPERDAL®/placebo differences in the proportions of patients experiencing potentially important

changes in routine serum chemistry, hematology, or urinalysis parameters. Similarly, there were no RISPERDAL®/placebo differences in the incidence of discontinuations for changes in serum chemistry, hematology, or urinalysis. However, RISPERDAL® administration was associated with increases in serum prolactin (See PRECAUTIONS).

**ECG Changes:** The electrocardiograms of approximately 380 patients who received RISPERDAL® and 120 patients who received placebo in two double-blind, placebo-controlled trials were evaluated and revealed one finding of potential concern; i.e., 8 patients taking RISPERDAL® whose baseline QTc interval was less than 450 msec were observed to have QTc intervals greater than 450 msec during treatment (See WARNINGS). Changes of this type were not seen among about 120 placebo patients, but were seen in patients receiving haloperidol (3/126).

#### Other Events Observed During the Pre-Marketing Evaluation of RISPERDAL®

During its premarketing assessment, multiple doses of RISPERDAL® (risperidone) were administered to 2607 patients in phase 2 and 3 studies and the following reactions were reported: (Note: frequent adverse events are those occurring in at least 1/100 patients; infrequent adverse events are those occurring in 1/100 to 1/1000 patients; rare events are those occurring in fewer than 1/1000 patients. It is important to emphasize that, although the events reported occurred during treatment with RISPERDAL®, they were not necessarily caused by it.)

**Psychiatric Disorders:** Frequent: increased dream activity\*, diminished sexual desire\*, nervousness. Infrequent: impaired concentration, depression, apathy, catatonic reaction, euphoria, increased libido, amnesia. Rare: emotional lability, nightmares, delirium, withdrawal syndrome, yawning.

**Central and Peripheral Nervous System Disorders:** Frequent: increased sleep duration\*. Infrequent: dysarthria, vertigo, stupor, paraesthesia, confusion. Rare: aphasia, cholinergic syndrome, hypoesthesia, tongue paralysis, leg cramps, torticollis, hypotonia, coma, migraine, hyperreflexia, choreoathetosis.

**Gastro-intestinal Disorders:** Frequent: anorexia, reduced salivation\*. Infrequent: flatulence, diarrhea, increased appetite, stomatitis, melena, dysphagia, hemorrhoids, gastritis. Rare: fecal incontinence, eructation, gastro-esophageal reflux, gastroenteritis, esophagitis, tongue discoloration, cholelithiasis, tongue edema, diverticulitis, gingivitis, discolored feces, GI hemorrhage, hematemesis.

**Body as a Whole/General Disorders:** Frequent: fatigue. Infrequent: edema, rigors, malaise, influenza-like symptoms. Rare: pallor, enlarged abdomen, allergic reaction, ascites, sarcoidosis, flushing.

**Respiratory System Disorders:** Infrequent: hyperventilation, bronchospasm, pneumonia, stridor. Rare: asthma, increased sputum, aspiration.

**Skin and Appendage Disorders:** Frequent: increased pigmentation\*, photosensitivity\*. Infrequent: increased sweating, acne, decreased sweating, alopecia, hyperkeratosis, pruritus, skin exfoliation. Rare: bullous eruption, skin ulceration, aggravated psoriasis, lunuloculosis, verruca, dermatitis lichenoid, hypertrichosis, genital pruritus, urticaria.

**Cardiovascular Disorders:** Infrequent: palpitation, hypertension, hypotension, AV block, myocardial infarction. Rare: ventricular tachycardia, angina pectoris, premature atrial contractions, T wave inversions, ventricular extrasystoles, ST depression, myocarditis.

**Vision Disorders:** Infrequent: abnormal accommodation, xerophthalmia. Rare: diplopia, eye pain, blepharitis, photopsia, photophobia, abnormal lacrimation.

**Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders:** Infrequent: hyponatremia, weight increase, creatine phosphokinase increase, thirst, weight decrease, diabetes mellitus. Rare: decreased serum iron, cachexia, dehydration, hypokalemia, hypoproteinemia, hyperphosphatemia, hypertriglyceridemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia.

**Urinary System Disorders:** Frequent: polyuria/polydipsia\*. Infrequent: urinary incontinence, hematuria, dysuria. Rare: urinary retention, cystitis, renal insufficiency.

**Musculo-skeletal System Disorders:** Infrequent: myalgia. Rare: arthrosis, synostosis, bursitis, arthritis, skeletal pain.

**Reproductive Disorders, Female:** Frequent: menorrhagia\*, orgasmic dysfunction\*, dry vagina\*. Infrequent: nonpuerperal lactation, amenorrhea, female breast pain, leukorrhea, mastitis, dysmenorrhea, female perineal pain, intermenstrual bleeding, vaginal hemorrhage.

**Liver and Biliary System Disorders:** Infrequent: increased SGOT, increased SGPT. Rare: hepatic failure, cholestatic hepatitis, cholecystitis, cholelithiasis, hepatitis, hepatocellular damage.

**Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting Disorders:** Infrequent: epistaxis, purpura. Rare: hemorrhage, superficial phlebitis, thrombophlebitis, thrombocytopenia.

**Hearing and Vestibular Disorders:** Rare: tinnitus, hyperacusis, decreased hearing.

**Red Blood Cell Disorders:** Infrequent: anemia, hypochromic anemia. Rare: normocytic anemia.

**Reproductive Disorders, Male:** Frequent: erectile dysfunction\*. Infrequent: ejaculation failure.

**White Cell and Resistance Disorders:** Rare: leukocytosis, lymphadenopathy, leukopenia, Pelger-Huet anomaly.

**Endocrine Disorders:** Rare: gynecostasia, male breast pain, antidiuretic hormone disorder.

**Special Senses:** Rare: bitter taste.

\* Incidence based on elicited reports.

**Postintroduction Reports:** Adverse events reported since market introduction which were temporally (but not necessarily causally) related to RISPERDAL® therapy, include the following: anaphylactic reaction, angioedema, apnea, atrial fibrillation, cardiovascular obstruction, diabetes mellitus aggravated, including diabetic ketoacidosis, intestinal obstruction, jaundice, mania, pancreatitis, Parkinson's disease aggravated, pulmonary embolism. There have been rare reports of sudden death and/or cardiopulmonary arrest in patients receiving RISPERDAL®. A causal relationship with RISPERDAL® has not been established. It is important to note that sudden and unexpected death may occur in psychotic patients whether they remain untreated or whether they are treated with other antipsychotic drugs.

### DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

**Controlled Substance Class:** RISPERDAL® (risperidone) is not a controlled substance.

For information on symptoms and treatment of overdose, see full prescribing information.

More detailed pharmacological information is available upon request.

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US Patent 4,804,663

July 1998, May 1999

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Published online by Cambridge University Press



For an Alzheimer's disease patient...

# Just achieving the ordinary can be extraordinary



**Reference: 1.** EXELON® [package insert]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp; 2000.  
Please see brief summary of complete prescribing information on the adjacent page.

 NOVARTIS

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation  
East Hanover, New Jersey 07936

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C-EXL-1024



# EXELON...The first choice that stays the course

- Proven efficacy in global functioning, based on evaluation of 3 key domains of Alzheimer's disease...<sup>\*1</sup>

**A**ctivities of daily living   **B**ehavior   **C**ognition

- Dosing flexibility allows customized treatment<sup>1</sup>
  - Simple 1-step dosing to therapeutic dosage range
  - Clear dose response that can maximize efficacy<sup>1</sup>
    - Higher doses can be associated with increased incidence of adverse events, especially during dose titration
- Established safety profile
  - Minimal metabolism by the CYP450 isoenzyme system<sup>1</sup>
  - No clinically significant drug interactions in clinical trials<sup>1</sup>
  - No dosage adjustment needed for patients with renal or hepatic impairment<sup>1</sup>

For mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease

 **EXELON**<sup>®</sup>  
(rivastigmine tartrate)

1.5, 3.0, 4.5, 6.0 mg Capsules  
2 mg/ml Oral Solution

**More than memories**

<sup>\*1</sup>Measured by the Clinician's Interview-Based Impression of Change With Caregiver Input (CIBIC-Plus).

In controlled clinical trials, the most common adverse events were nausea, vomiting, anorexia, dyspepsia, and asthenia. **EXELON use is associated with significant gastrointestinal adverse reactions, including nausea and vomiting, anorexia, and weight loss. If therapy is interrupted for longer than several days, treatment should be reinitiated with the lowest daily dose in order to avoid the possibility of severe vomiting and its potentially serious sequelae.** In the controlled trials, 47% of patients experienced nausea and 31% of patients experienced vomiting. Weight loss associated with EXELON occurred more commonly among women receiving high doses in clinical trials. Due to increased cholinergic activity, cholinesterase inhibitors may be expected to increase gastric acid secretion and/or have vagotonic effects on heart rate. Therefore, EXELON should be used with caution in patients with peptic ulcers, gastrointestinal bleeding, and "sick sinus syndrome" or other supraventricular cardiac conduction conditions. (Please see important **WARNINGS** in brief summary of full prescribing information.)



# Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate)

## Capsules

### Rx only

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Please see package insert for full prescribing information.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate) is indicated for the treatment of mild to moderate dementia of the Alzheimer's type.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate) is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to rivastigmine, other carbamate derivatives or other components of the formulation (see *DESCRIPTION* in the full prescribing information).

**WARNINGS:** Gastrointestinal Adverse Reactions: Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate) use is associated with significant gastrointestinal adverse reactions, including nausea and vomiting, anorexia, and weight loss. For this reason, patients should always be started at a dose of 1.5 mg BID and titrated to their maintenance dose. If treatment is interrupted for longer than several days, treatment should be reinitiated with the lowest daily dose (see *DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION* in the full prescribing information) to reduce the possibility of severe vomiting and its potentially serious sequelae (e.g., there has been one post-marketing report of severe vomiting with esophageal rupture following inappropriate reinitiation of treatment with a 4.5-mg dose after 8 weeks of treatment interruption).

**Nausea and Vomiting:** In the controlled clinical trials, 47% of the patients treated with an Exelon dose in the therapeutic range of 6-12 mg/day (n=1189) developed nausea (compared with 12% in placebo). A total of 31% of Exelon-treated patients developed at least one episode of vomiting (compared with 6% for placebo). The rate of vomiting was higher during the titration phase (24% vs. 3% for placebo) than in the maintenance phase (14% vs. 3% for placebo). The rates were higher in women than men. Five percent of patients discontinued for vomiting, compared to less than 1% for patients on placebo. Vomiting was severe in 2% of Exelon-treated patients and was rated as mild or moderate each in 14% of patients. The rate of nausea was higher during the titration phase (43% vs. 9% for placebo) than in the maintenance phase (17% vs. 4% for placebo).

**Weight Loss:** In the controlled trials, approximately 26% of women on high doses of Exelon (greater than 9 mg/day) had weight loss of equal to or greater than 7% of their baseline weight compared to 6% in the placebo-treated patients. About 16% of the males in the high dose group experienced a similar degree of weight loss compared to 4% in placebo-treated patients. It is not clear how much of the weight loss was associated with anorexia, nausea, vomiting, and the diarrhea associated with the drug.

**Anorexia:** In the controlled clinical trials, of the patients treated with an Exelon dose of 6-12 mg/day, 17% developed anorexia compared to 3% of the placebo patients. Neither the time course or the severity of the anorexia is known.

**Peptic Ulcers/Gastrointestinal Bleeding:** Because of their pharmacological action, cholinesterase inhibitors may be expected to increase gastric acid secretion due to increased cholinergic activity. Therefore, patients should be monitored closely for symptoms of active or occult gastrointestinal bleeding, especially those at increased risk for developing ulcers, e.g., those with a history of ulcer disease or those receiving concurrently nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Clinical studies of Exelon have shown no significant increase, relative to placebo, in the incidence of either peptic ulcer disease or gastrointestinal bleeding.

**Anesthesia:** Exelon as a cholinesterase inhibitor, is likely to exaggerate succinylcholine-type muscle relaxation during anesthesia.

**Cardiovascular Conditions:** Drugs that increase cholinergic activity may have vagotonic effects on heart rate (e.g., bradycardia). The potential for this action may be particularly important to patients with "sick sinus syndrome" or other supraventricular cardiac conduction conditions. In clinical trials, Exelon was not associated with any increased incidence of cardiovascular adverse events, heart rate or blood pressure changes, or ECG abnormalities. Syncope episodes have been reported in 3% of patients receiving 6-12 mg/day of Exelon, compared to 2% of placebo patients.

**Genitourinary:** Although this was not observed in clinical trials of Exelon, drugs that increase cholinergic activity may cause urinary obstruction.

**Neurological Conditions:** Seizures: Drugs that increase cholinergic activity are believed to have some potential for causing seizures. However, seizure activity also may be a manifestation of Alzheimer's Disease.

**Pulmonary Conditions:** Like other drugs that increase cholinergic activity, Exelon should be used with care in patients with a history of asthma or obstructive pulmonary disease.

**PRECAUTIONS: Information for Patients and Caregivers:** Caregivers should be advised of the high incidence of nausea and vomiting associated with the use of the drug along with the possibility of anorexia and weight loss. Caregivers should be encouraged to monitor for these adverse events and inform the physician if they occur. It is critical to inform caregivers that if therapy has been interrupted for more than several days, the next dose should not be administered until they have discussed this with the physician.

**Drug-Drug Interactions: Effect of Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate) on the Metabolism of Other Drugs:** Rivastigmine is primarily metabolized through hydrolysis by esterases. Minimal metabolism occurs via the major cytochrome P450 isoenzymes. Based on *in vitro* studies, no pharmacokinetic drug interactions with drugs metabolized by the following isoenzyme systems are expected: CYP1A2, CYP2D6, CYP3A4/5, CYP2E1, CYP2C9, CYP2C8, or CYP2C19.

No pharmacokinetic interaction was observed between rivastigmine and digoxin, warfarin, diazepam, or fluoxetine in studies in healthy volunteers. The elevation of prothrombin time induced by warfarin is not affected by administration of Exelon.

**Effect of Other Drugs on the Metabolism of Exelon:** Drugs that induce or inhibit CYP450 metabolism are not expected to alter the metabolism of rivastigmine. Single dose pharmacokinetic studies demonstrated that the metabolism of rivastigmine is not significantly affected by concurrent administration of digoxin, warfarin, diazepam, or fluoxetine.

Population PK analysis with a database of 625 patients showed that the pharmacokinetics of rivastigmine were not influenced by commonly prescribed medications such as antiacids (n=77), antihypertensives (n=72), β-blockers (n=42), calcium channel blockers (n=75), antibiotics (n=21), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (n=79), estrogens (n=70), salicylate analgesics (n=177), antiarrhythmics (n=35), and antihistamines (n=15).

**Use with Anticholinergics:** Because of their mechanism of action, cholinesterase inhibitors have the potential to interfere with the activity of anticholinergic medications.

**Use with Cholinomimetics and Other Cholinesterase Inhibitors:** A synergistic effect may be expected when cholinesterase inhibitors are given concurrently with succinylcholine, similar neuromuscular blocking agents or cholinergic agonists such as bethanechol.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** In carcinogenicity studies conducted at dose levels up to 1.1 mg-base/kg/day in rats and 1.6 mg-base/kg/day in mice, rivastigmine was not carcinogenic. These dose levels are approximately 0.9 times and 0.7 times the maximum recommended human daily dose of 12 mg/day on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis.

Rivastigmine was clastogenic in two *in vitro* assays in the presence, but not the absence, of metabolic activation. It caused structural chromosomal aberrations in V79 Chinese hamster lung cells and both structural and numerical (polyploid) chromosomal aberrations in human peripheral blood lymphocytes. Rivastigmine was not genotoxic in three *in vitro* assays: the Ames test, the unscheduled DNA synthesis (UDS) test in rat hepatocytes (a test for induction of DNA repair synthesis), and the HGPRT test in V79 Chinese hamster cells. Rivastigmine was not clastogenic in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test.

Rivastigmine had no effect on fertility or reproductive performance in the rat at dose levels up to 1.1 mg-base/kg/day. This dose is approximately 0.9 times the maximum recommended human daily dose of 12 mg/day on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis.

**Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category B:** Reproduction studies conducted in pregnant rats at doses up to 2.3 mg-base/kg/day (approximately 2 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) and in pregnant rabbits at doses up to 2.3 mg-base/kg/day (approximately 4 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Studies in rats showed slightly decreased fetal/pup weights, usually at doses causing some maternal toxicity; decreased weights were seen at doses which were several fold lower than the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis. There are no adequate or well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, Exelon should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether rivastigmine is excreted in human breast milk. Exelon has no indication for use in nursing mothers.

**Pediatric Use:** There are no adequate and well-controlled trials documenting the safety and efficacy of Exelon in any illness occurring in children.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS: Adverse Events Leading to Discontinuation:** The rate of discontinuation due to adverse events in controlled clinical trials of Exelon® (rivastigmine tartrate) was 15% for patients receiving 6-12 mg/day compared to 5% for patients on placebo during forced weekly dose titration. While on a maintenance dose, the rates were 6% for patients on Exelon compared to 4% for those on placebo.

The most common adverse events leading to discontinuation, defined as those occurring in at least 2% of patients and at twice the incidence seen in placebo patients, are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Most Frequent Adverse Events Leading to Withdrawal from Clinical Trials during Titration and Maintenance in Patients Receiving 6-12 mg/day Exelon® Using a Forced Dose Titration**

Study Phase	Titration		Maintenance		Overall	
	Placebo (n=868)	Exelon ≥6-12 mg/day (n=1189)	Placebo (n=788)	Exelon ≥6-12 mg/day (n=987)	Placebo (n=868)	Exelon ≥6-12 mg/day (n=1189)
Event / %						
Discontinuing						
Nausea	<1	8	<1	1	1	8
Vomiting	<1	4	<1	1	<1	5
Anorexia	0	2	<1	1	<1	3
Dizziness	<1	2	<1	1	<1	2

**Most Frequent Adverse Clinical Events Seen in Association with the Use of Exelon:** The most common adverse events, defined as those occurring at a frequency of at least 5% and twice the placebo rate, are largely predicted by Exelon's cholinergic effects. These include nausea, vomiting, anorexia, dyspepsia, and asthma.

**Gastrointestinal Adverse Reactions:** Exelon use is associated with significant nausea, vomiting, and weight loss (see *WARNINGS*).

**Adverse Events Reported in Controlled Trials:** Table 2 lists treatment emergent signs and symptoms that were reported in at least 2% of patients in placebo-controlled trials and for which the rate of occurrence was greater for patients treated with Exelon doses of 6-12 mg/day than for those treated with placebo. The prescriber should be aware that these figures cannot be used to predict the frequency of adverse events in the course of usual medical practice when patient characteristics and other factors may differ from those prevailing during clinical studies. Similarly, the cited frequencies cannot be directly compared

with figures obtained from other clinical investigations involving different treatments, uses, or investigators. An inspection of these frequencies, however, does provide the prescriber with one basis by which to estimate the relative contribution of drug and non-drug factors to the adverse event incidences in the population studied.

In general, adverse reactions were less frequent later in the course of treatment.

No systematic effect of race or age could be determined on the incidence of adverse events in the controlled studies. Nausea, vomiting and weight loss were more frequent in women than men.

**Table 2. Adverse Events Reported in Controlled Clinical Trials in at Least 2% of Patients Receiving Exelon® (6-12 mg/day) and at a Higher Frequency than Placebo-Treated Patients**

Body System/Adverse Event	Placebo (n=868)	Exelon (6-12 mg/day) (n=1189)
<b>Percent of Patients with any Adverse Event</b>	79	92
<b>Autonomic Nervous System</b>		
Sweating increased	1	4
Syncope	2	3
<b>Body as a Whole</b>		
Accidental Trauma	9	10
Fatigue	5	9
Asthenia	2	6
Malaise	2	5
Influenza-like Symptoms	2	3
Weight Decrease	<1	3
<b>Cardiovascular Disorders, General</b>		
Hypertension	2	3
<b>Central and Peripheral Nervous System</b>		
Dizziness	11	21
Headache	12	17
Somnolence	3	5
Tremor	1	4
<b>Gastrointestinal System</b>		
Nausea	12	47
Vomiting	6	31
Diarrhea	11	19
Anorexia	3	19
Abdominal Pain	6	13
Dyspepsia	4	9
Constipation	4	5
Flatulence	2	4
Erectation	1	2
<b>Psychiatric Disorders</b>		
Insomnia	7	9
Confusion	7	7
Depression	4	6
Anxiety	3	5
Hallucination	3	4
Aggressive Reaction	2	3
<b>Resistance Mechanism Disorders</b>		
Urinary Tract Infection	6	7
<b>Respiratory System</b>		
Rhinitis	3	4

Other adverse events observed at a rate of 2% or more on Exelon 6-12 mg/day but at a greater or equal rate on placebo were chest pain, peripheral edema, vertigo, back pain, arthralgia, pain, bone fracture, agitation, nervousness, delusion, paranoid reaction, upper respiratory tract infections, infection (general), coughing, pharyngitis, bronchitis, rash (general), urinary incontinence.

**Other Adverse Events Observed During Clinical Trials:** Exelon has been administered to over 5297 individuals during clinical trials worldwide. Of these, 4326 patients have been treated for at least 3 months, 3407 patients have been treated for at least 6 months, 2150 patients have been treated for 1 year, 1250 have been treated for 2 years, and 168 have been treated for over 3 years. With regard to exposure to the highest dose, 2809 patients were exposed to doses of 10-12 mg, 2615 patients treated for 3 months, 2328 patients treated for 6 months, 1378 patients treated for 1 year, 917 patients treated for 2 years, and 129 treated for over 3 years.

Treatment emergent signs and symptoms that occurred during 8 controlled clinical trials and 9 open-label trials in North America, Western Europe, Australia, South Africa, and Japan were recorded as adverse events by the clinical investigators using terminology of their own choosing. To provide an overall estimate of the proportion of individuals having similar types of events, the events were grouped into a smaller number of standardized categories using a modified WHO dictionary, and event frequencies were calculated across all studies. These categories are used in the listing below. The frequencies represent the proportion of 5297 patients from these trials who experienced that event while receiving Exelon. All adverse events occurring in at least 6 patients (approximately 0.1%) are included, except for those already listed elsewhere in labeling, WHO terms too general to be informative, relatively minor events, or events unlikely to be drug caused. Events are classified by body system and listed using the following definitions: frequent adverse events – those occurring in at least 1/100 patients; infrequent adverse events – those occurring in 1/100 to 1/1000 patients. These adverse events are not necessarily related to Exelon treatment and in most cases were observed at a similar frequency in placebo-treated patients in the controlled studies.

**Autonomic Nervous System:** *Infrequent:* Cold clammy skin, dry mouth, flushing, increased saliva.

**Body as a Whole:** *Frequent:* Accidental trauma, fever, edema, allergy, hot flushes, rigors. *Infrequent:* Edema periorbital or facial, hypothermia, edema, feeling cold, halitosis.

**Cardiovascular System:** *Frequent:* Hypotension, postural hypotension, cardiac failure.

**Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** *Frequent:* Abnormal gait, ataxia, parasthesia, convulsions. *Infrequent:* Paresis, apraxia, aphasia, dysphonia, hyperkinesia, hyperreflexia, hypertonia, hypoesthesia, hypokinesia, migraine, neuralgia, nystagmus, peripheral neuropathy.

**Endocrine System:** *Infrequent:* Goitre, hypothyroidism.

**Gastrointestinal System:** *Frequent:* Fecal incontinence, gastritis. *Infrequent:* Dysphagia, esophagitis, gastric ulcer, gastritis, gastroesophageal reflux, GI hemorrhage, hernia, intestinal obstruction, melena, rectal hemorrhage, gastroenteritis, ulcerative stomatitis, duodenal ulcer, hematemesis, gingivitis, tenesmus, pancreatitis, colitis, glossitis.

**Hearing and Vestibular Disorders:** *Frequent:* Tinnitus.

**Heart Rate and Rhythm Disorders:** *Frequent:* Atrial fibrillation, bradycardia, palpitation. *Infrequent:* AV block, bundle branch block, sick sinus syndrome, cardiac arrest, supraventricular tachycardia, extrasystoles, tachycardia.

**Liver and Biliary System Disorders:** *Infrequent:* Abnormal hepatic function, cholelithiasis.

**Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders:** *Frequent:* Dehydration, hypokalemia. *Infrequent:* Diabetes mellitus, gout, hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, hypoglycemia, cachexia, thirst, hyperglycemia, hyponatremia.

**Musculoskeletal Disorders:** *Frequent:* Arthritis, leg cramps, myalgia. *Infrequent:* Cramps, hernia, muscle weakness.

**Myo-, Endo-, Pericardial and Valve Disorders:** *Frequent:* Angina pectoris, myocardial infarction.

**Platelet, Bleeding, and Clotting Disorders:** *Frequent:* Epistaxis. *Infrequent:* Hematoma, thrombocytopenia, purpura.

**Psychiatric Disorders:** *Frequent:* Paranoid reaction, confusion. *Infrequent:* Abnormal dreaming, amnesia, apathy, delirium, dementia, depersonalization, emotional lability, impaired concentration, decreased libido, personality disorder, suicide attempt, increased libido, neurosis, suicidal ideation, psychosis.

**Red Blood Cell Disorders:** *Frequent:* Anemia. *Infrequent:* Hypochromic anemia.

**Reproductive Disorders (Female & Male):** *Infrequent:* Breast pain, impotence, atrophic vaginitis.

**Resistance Mechanism Disorders:** *Infrequent:* Cellulitis, cystitis, herpes simplex, otitis media.

**Respiratory System:** *Infrequent:* Bronchospasm, laryngitis, acne.

**Skin and Appendages:** *Frequent:* Rashes of various kinds (maculopapular, eczema, bullous, exfoliative, psoriasisform, erythematous). *Infrequent:* Alopecia, skin ulceration, urticaria, dermatitis contact.

**Special Senses:** *Infrequent:* Perversion of taste, loss of taste.

**Urinary System Disorders:** *Frequent:* Hematuria. *Infrequent:* Albuminuria, oliguria, acute renal failure, dysuria, micturition urgency, nocturia, polyuria, renal calculus, urinary retention.

**Vascular (extracardiac) Disorders:** *Infrequent:* Hemorrhoids, peripheral ischemia, pulmonary embolism, thrombosis, thrombophlebitis deep, aneurysm, hemorrhage intracranial.

**Vision Disorders:** *Frequent:* Cataract. *Infrequent:* Conjunctival hemorrhage, blepharitis, diplopia, eye pain, glaucoma.

**White Cell and Resistance Disorders:** *Infrequent:* Lymphadenopathy, leukocytosis.

**Post-Introduction Reports:** Voluntary reports of adverse events temporally associated with Exelon that have been received since market introduction that are not listed above, and that may or may not be causally related to the drug include the following:

**Skin and Appendages:** Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Store below 77°F (25°C) in a tight container.

REV: JANUARY 2001 Printed in U.S.A. T2000-74  
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Manufactured by Novartis Pharma AG Basle, Switzerland

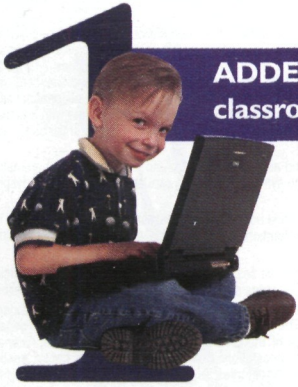
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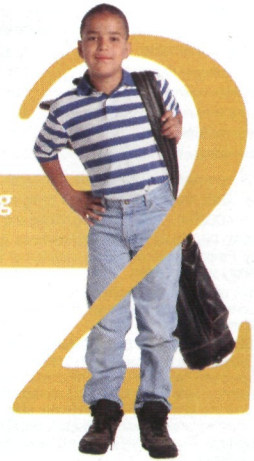
In the medical management of ADHD...

# *FIVE* reasons to *consider* the proven *efficacy*<sup>1,2</sup> of **ADDERALL**<sup>®</sup> for the ADHD *patients* in *your* practice...

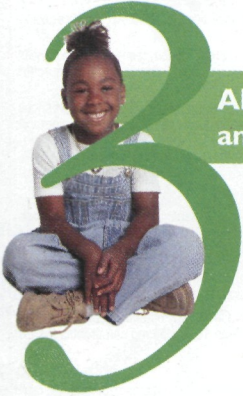


**1** ADDERALL—Significant improvement across numerous classroom measures compared to placebo ( $p < 0.0001$ )<sup>1</sup>

**2** ADDERALL—Significant improvement in controlling inattentive and overactive behaviors ( $p < 0.05$ )<sup>2</sup>



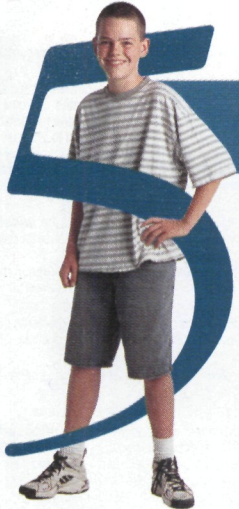
**3** ADDERALL—Significant improvement in reducing aggressive and defiant behaviors ( $p < 0.05$ )<sup>2</sup>



**4** ADDERALL—Significant number of medication responders ( $p < 0.01$ )<sup>2</sup>



**5** ADDERALL—Significant Clinical Global Impression (CGI) improvement scores ( $p < 0.05$ )<sup>2</sup>



*ADDERALL is generally well tolerated. The most frequently reported adverse reactions include anorexia, insomnia, stomach pain, headache, irritability, and weight loss. As with other psychostimulants indicated for ADHD, there is a potential for precipitating motor tics and Tourette's syndrome. In rare cases, psychosis has been reported.*

*ADDERALL is contraindicated in patients with symptomatic cardiovascular disease, moderate to severe hypertension, or history of drug abuse. Amphetamines may exacerbate symptoms of behavior disturbance and thought disorder in psychotic children. The possibility of growth inhibition warrants monitoring growth during treatment.*

*ADDERALL should be prescribed only as part of an overall multimodal treatment program for ADHD with close physician supervision.*



ADDERALL is a registered trademark of Shire US Inc. Please see adjacent page for references and full prescribing information.



**References:** 1. Pelham WE, Aronoff HR, Midlam JK, et al. A comparison of Ritalin and Adderall: efficacy and time-course in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *Pediatrics* [serial online]. 1999;103:e43. Available at: <http://www.pediatrics.org/>. 2. Pliszka S, Browne RG, Wynne SK, et al. Comparing Adderall and methylphenidate in ADHD. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2000; 39(5):619-626.



5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 12.5 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg & 30 mg TABLETS  
(Mixed Salts of a Single-Entity Amphetamine Product)  
Dextroamphetamine Sulfate Amphetamine Sulfate  
Dextroamphetamine Saccharate Amphetamine Aspartate

AMPHETAMINES HAVE A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE. ADMINISTRATION OF AMPHETAMINES FOR PROLONGED PERIODS OF TIME MAY LEAD TO DRUG DEPENDENCE AND MUST BE AVOIDED. PARTICULAR ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBJECTS OBTAINING AMPHETAMINES FOR NON-THERAPEUTIC USE OR DISTRIBUTION TO OTHERS, AND THE DRUGS SHOULD BE PRESCRIBED OR DISPENSED SPARINGLY.

**DESCRIPTION:** A single entity amphetamine product combining the neutral sulfate salts of dextroamphetamine and amphetamine, with the dextro isomer of amphetamine saccharate and d, l-amphetamine aspartate.

EACH TABLET CONTAINS:	5 mg	7.5 mg	10 mg	12.5 mg	15 mg	20 mg	30 mg
Dextroamphetamine Saccharate	1.25 mg	1.875 mg	2.5 mg	3.125 mg	3.75 mg	5 mg	7.5 mg
Amphetamine Aspartate	1.25 mg	1.875 mg	2.5 mg	3.125 mg	3.75 mg	5 mg	7.5 mg
Dextroamphetamine Sulfate USP	1.25 mg	1.875 mg	2.5 mg	3.125 mg	3.75 mg	5 mg	7.5 mg
Amphetamine Sulfate USP	1.25 mg	1.875 mg	2.5 mg	3.125 mg	3.75 mg	5 mg	7.5 mg
Total amphetamine base equivalence	3.13 mg	4.7 mg	6.3 mg	7.8 mg	9.4 mg	12.6 mg	18.8 mg

Inactive Ingredients: sucrose, lactose, corn starch, acacia and magnesium stearate.

Colors: ADDERALL 5 mg, 7.5 mg and 10 mg contain FD & C Blue #1.

ADDERALL 12.5 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg and 30 mg contain FD & C Yellow #6 as a color additive.

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY:** Amphetamines are non-catecholamine sympathomimetic amines with CNS stimulant activity. Peripheral actions include elevation of systolic and diastolic blood pressures and weak bronchodilator and respiratory stimulant action.

There is neither specific evidence which clearly establishes the mechanism whereby amphetamine produces mental and behavioral effects in children, nor conclusive evidence regarding how these effects relate to the condition of the central nervous system.

**INDICATIONS: Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity:** Adderall is indicated as an integral part of a total treatment program which typically includes other remedial measures (psychological, educational, social) for a stabilizing effect in children with behavioral syndrome characterized by the following group of developmentally inappropriate symptoms: moderate to severe distractibility, short attention span, hyperactivity, emotional lability, and impulsivity. The diagnosis of this syndrome should not be made with finality when these symptoms are only of comparatively recent origin. Nonlocalizing (soft) neurological signs, learning disability and abnormal EEG may or may not be present, and a diagnosis of central nervous system dysfunction may or may not be warranted.

**In Narcolepsy**

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

Advanced arteriosclerosis, symptomatic cardiovascular disease, moderate to severe hypertension, hyperthyroidism, known hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to the sympathomimetic amines, glaucoma.

Agitated states.

Patients with a history of drug abuse.

During or within 14 days following the administration of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (hypertensive crises may result).

**WARNINGS:** Clinical experience suggests that in psychotic children, administration of amphetamine may exacerbate symptoms of behavior disturbance and thought disorder. Data are inadequate to determine whether chronic administration of amphetamine may be associated with growth inhibition; therefore, growth should be monitored during treatment.

**Usage in Nursing Mothers:** Amphetamines are excreted in human milk. Mothers taking amphetamines should be advised to refrain from nursing.

**PRECAUTIONS: General:** Caution is to be exercised in prescribing amphetamines for patients with even mild hypertension.

The least amount feasible should be prescribed or dispensed at one time in order to minimize the possibility of overdose.

**Information for Patients:** Amphetamines may impair the ability of the patient to engage in potentially hazardous activities such as operating machinery or vehicles; the patient should therefore be cautioned accordingly.

**Drug Interactions: Acidifying agents -** Gastrointestinal acidifying agents (guanethidine, reserpine, glutamic acid HCl, ascorbic acid, fruit juices, etc.) lower absorption of amphetamines.

**Urinary acidifying agents -**

(ammonium chloride, sodium acid phosphate, etc.) Increase the concentration of the ionized species of the amphetamine molecule, thereby increasing urinary excretion. Both groups of agents lower blood levels and efficacy of amphetamines.

**Adrenergic blockers -**

Adrenergic blockers are inhibited by amphetamines.

**Alkalinizing agents -**

Gastrointestinal alkalinizing agents (sodium bicarbonate, etc.) increase absorption of amphetamines. Urinary alkalinizing agents (acetazolamide, some thiazides) increase the concentration of the non-ionized species of the amphetamine molecule, thereby decreasing urinary excretion. Both groups of agents increase blood levels and therefore potentiate the actions of amphetamines.

**Antidepressants, tricyclic -**

Amphetamines may enhance the activity of tricyclic or sympathomimetic agents; d-amphetamine with desipramine or protriptyline and possibly other tricyclics cause striking and sustained increases in the concentration of d-amphetamine in the brain; cardiovascular effects can be potentiated.

**MAOI inhibitors -**

MAOI antidepressants, as well as a metabolite of furazolidone, slow amphetamine metabolism. This slowing potentiates amphetamines, increasing their effect on the release of norepinephrine and other monoamines from adrenergic nerve endings; this can cause headaches and other signs of hypertensive crisis. A variety of neurological toxic effects and malignant hyperpyrexia can occur, sometimes with fatal results.

**Antihistamines -**

Amphetamines may counteract the sedative effect of antihistamines.

**Antihypertensives -**

Amphetamines may antagonize the hypotensive effects of antihypertensives.

**Chlorpromazine -**

Chlorpromazine blocks dopamine and norepinephrine receptors, thus inhibiting the central stimulant effects of amphetamines, and can be used to treat amphetamine poisoning.

**Ethosuximide -**

Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of ethosuximide.

**Haloperidol -**

Haloperidol blocks dopamine receptors, thus inhibiting the central stimulant effects of amphetamines.

**Lithium carbonate -**

The anorectic and stimulatory effects of amphetamines may be inhibited by lithium carbonate.

**Meperidine -**

Amphetamines potentiate the analgesic effect of meperidine.

**Methamphetamine therapy -**

Urinary excretion of amphetamines is increased, and efficacy is reduced, by acidifying agents used in methamphetamine therapy.

**Norepinephrine -**

Amphetamines enhance the adrenergic effect of norepinephrine.

**Phenobarbital -**

Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of phenobarbital; co-administration of phenobarbital may produce a synergistic anticonvulsant action.

**Phenytol -**

Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of phenytol; co-administration of phenytol may produce a synergistic anticonvulsant action.

**Propoxyphene -**

In cases of propoxyphene overdose, amphetamine CNS stimulation is potentiated and fatal convulsions can occur.

**Veratrum alkaloids -**

Amphetamines inhibit the hypotensive effect of veratrum alkaloids.

**Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions:**

- Amphetamines can cause a significant elevation in plasma corticosteroid levels. This increase is greatest in the evening.
- Amphetamines may interfere with urinary steroid determinations.

**Carcinogenesis/Mutagenesis:** Mutagenicity studies and long-term studies in animals to determine the carcinogenic potential of amphetamine, have not been performed.

**Pregnancy - Teratogenic Effects:** Pregnancy Category C. Amphetamine has been shown to have embryotoxic and teratogenic effects when administered to A/Jax mice and C57BL mice in doses approximately 41 times the maximum human dose. Embryotoxic effects were not seen in New Zealand white rabbits given the drug in doses 7 times the human dose nor in rats given 12.5 times the maximum human dose. While there are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women, there has been one report of severe congenital bony deformity, tracheoesophageal fistula, and anal atresia (vater association) in a baby born to a woman who took dextroamphetamine sulfate with lovastatin during the first trimester of pregnancy. Amphetamines should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nonteratogenic Effects:** Infants born to mothers dependent on amphetamines have an increased risk of premature delivery and low birth weight. Also, these infants may experience symptoms of withdrawal as demonstrated by dysphoria, including agitation, and significant lassitude.

**Pediatric Use:** Long-term effects of amphetamines in children have not been well established. Amphetamines are not recommended for use in children under 3 years of age with Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity described under INDICATIONS AND USAGE.

Amphetamines have been reported to exacerbate motor and phonic tics and Tourette's syndrome. Therefore, clinical evaluation for tics and Tourette's syndrome in children and their families should precede use of stimulant medications. Drug treatment is not indicated in all cases of Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity and should be considered only in light of the complete history and evaluation of the child. The decision to prescribe amphetamines should depend on the physician's assessment of the chronicity and severity of the child's symptoms and their appropriateness for his/her age. Prescription should not depend solely on the presence of one or more of the behavioral characteristics. When these symptoms are associated with acute stress reactions, treatment with amphetamines is usually not indicated.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:**

**Cardiovascular:** Palpitations, tachycardia, elevation of blood pressure. There have been isolated reports of cardiomyopathy associated with chronic amphetamine use.

**Central Nervous System:** Psychotic episodes at recommended doses (rare), overstimulation, restlessness, dizziness, insomnia, euphoria, dyskinesia, dysphoria, tremor, headache, exacerbation of motor and phonic tics and Tourette's syndrome.

**Gastrointestinal:** Dryness of the mouth, unpleasant taste, diarrhea, constipation, other gastrointestinal disturbances. Anorexia and weight loss may occur as undesirable effects when amphetamines are used for other than the anorectic effect.

**Allergic:** Urticaria.

**Endocrine:** Impotence, changes in libido.

**DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE:** Dextroamphetamine sulfate is a Schedule II controlled substance.

Amphetamines have been extensively abused. Tolerance, extreme psychological dependence, and severe social disability have occurred. There are reports of patients who have increased the dosage to many times that recommended. Abrupt cessation following prolonged high dosage administration results in extreme fatigue and mental depression; changes are also noted on the sleep EEG. Manifestations of chronic intoxication with amphetamines include severe dermatoses, marked insomnia, irritability, hyperactivity, and personality changes. The most severe manifestation of chronic intoxication is psychosis, often clinically indistinguishable from schizophrenia. This is rare with oral amphetamines.

**OVERDOSAGE:** Individual patient response to amphetamines varies widely. While toxic symptoms occasionally occur as an idiosyncrasy at doses as low as 2 mg, they are rare with doses of less than 15 mg; 30 mg can produce severe reactions, yet doses of 400 to 500 mg are not necessarily fatal.

In rats, the oral LD<sub>50</sub> of dextroamphetamine sulfate is 96.8 mg/kg.

**Symptoms:** Manifestations of acute overdose with amphetamines include restlessness, tremor, hyperreflexia, rapid respiration, confusion, assaultiveness, hallucinations, panic states, hyperpyrexia and rhabdomyolysis.

Fatigue and depression usually follow the central stimulation.

Cardiovascular effects include arrhythmias, hypertension or hypotension and circulatory collapse.

Gastrointestinal symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Fatal poisoning is usually preceded by convulsions and coma.

**Treatment:** Consult with a Certified Poison Control Center for up to date guidance and advice. Management of acute amphetamine intoxication is largely symptomatic and includes gastric lavage, administration of activated charcoal, administration of a cathartic and sedation. Experience with hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis is inadequate to permit recommendation in this regard. Acidification of the urine increases amphetamine excretion, but is believed to increase risk of acute renal failure if myoglobinuria is present. If acute, severe hypertension complicates amphetamine overdose, administration of intravenous phentolamine has been suggested. However, a gradual drop in blood pressure will usually result when sufficient sedation has been achieved. Chlorpromazine antagonizes the central stimulant effects of amphetamines and can be used to treat amphetamine intoxication.

**DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Regardless of indication, amphetamines should be administered at the lowest effective dosage and dosage should be individually adjusted. Late evening doses should be avoided because of the resulting insomnia.

**Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity:** Not recommended for children under 3 years of age. In children from 3 to 5 years of age, start with 2.5 mg daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 2.5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained.

In children 6 years of age and older, start with 5 mg once or twice daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. Only in rare cases will it be necessary to exceed a total of 40 mg per day. Give first dose on awakening; additional doses (1 or 2) at intervals of 4 to 6 hours.

Where possible, drug administration should be interrupted occasionally to determine if there is a recurrence of behavioral symptoms sufficient to require continued therapy.

**Narcolepsy:** Usual dose 5 mg to 60 mg per day in divided doses, depending on the individual patient response.

Narcolepsy seldom occurs in children under 12 years of age; however, when it does, dextroamphetamine sulfate may be used. The suggested initial dose for patients aged 6-12 is 5 mg daily; daily dose may be raised in increments of 5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. In patients 12 years of age and older, start with 10 mg daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 10 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. If both severe adverse reactions appear (e.g., insomnia or anorexia), dosage should be reduced. Give first dose on awakening; additional doses (1 or 2) at intervals of 4 to 6 hours.

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- ADDERALL® 5 mg: Blue double-scored tablet, debossed "AD" on one side and "5" on the other side (NDC 58521-031-01)
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**Celexa**   
citalopram HBr <sup>TM</sup>

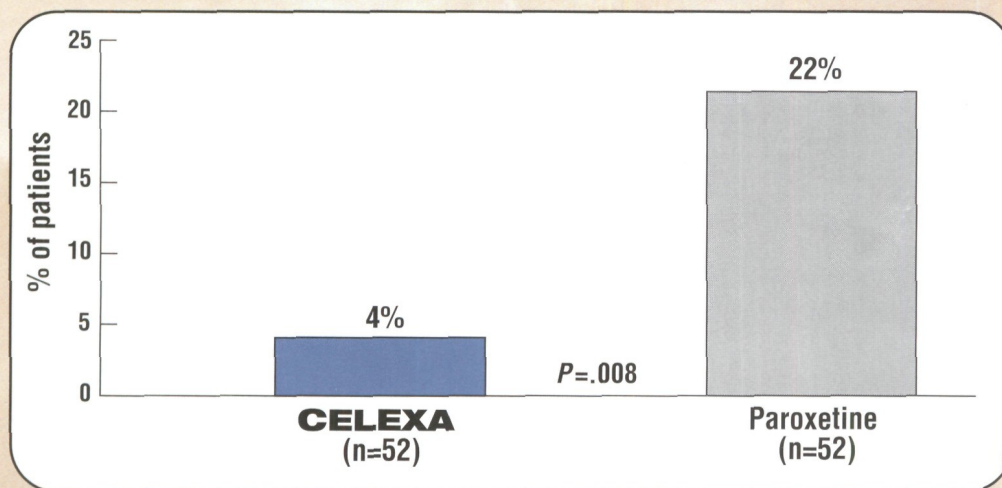
**FOR DEPRESSION**



## Effective first-line SSRI therapy with a favorable side-effect profile

In a 6-month trial\*

Significantly fewer patients treated with CELEXA experienced weight gain vs paroxetine<sup>1,2</sup>



Only 4% of CELEXA-treated patients experienced significant weight gain vs 22% of patients treated with paroxetine<sup>2</sup>

\*Study design: 6-month, double-blind, randomized, parallel, flexible-dose (CELEXA 20-40 mg/day; paroxetine 20-40 mg/day) U.S. multicenter trial in 104 patients with anxious depression. Mean daily dose for CELEXA was 27.4 mg/day and for paroxetine, 28.6 mg/day. Significant weight gain is defined as  $\geq 7\%$  increase in weight.

- In short-term clinical trials, no statistically significant insomnia, anxiety, agitation, nervousness, or fatigue vs placebo<sup>1</sup>
- Significantly reduces anxiety symptoms in depressed patients vs placebo<sup>3</sup>
- Weak inhibition of P450 isozymes<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup>The clinical significance of *in vitro* data is unknown.

The most frequent adverse events reported with CELEXA vs placebo in clinical trials were nausea (21% vs 14%), dry mouth (20% vs 14%), somnolence (18% vs 10%), insomnia (15% vs 14%), increased sweating (11% vs 9%), tremor (8% vs 6%), diarrhea (8% vs 5%), and ejaculation disorder (6% vs 1%).

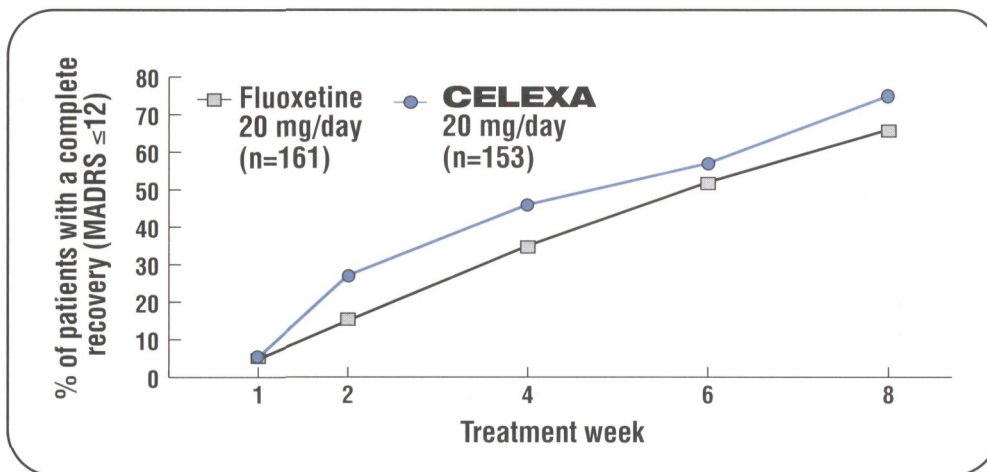
CELEXA is contraindicated in patients taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or in patients with a hypersensitivity to citalopram HBr or any of the ingredients in CELEXA. As with other SSRIs, caution is indicated in the coadministration of tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs) with CELEXA.



## Effectively treats depression

In a head-to-head clinical study<sup>†</sup>

### CELEXA 20 mg and fluoxetine 20 mg effectively treated major depression<sup>1,5</sup>



- 75% of CELEXA-treated patients showed complete recovery at week 8<sup>5</sup>
- At week 8, there was no statistical difference between CELEXA and fluoxetine<sup>5</sup>

<sup>†</sup>8-week, double-blind, randomized, parallel, fluoxetine-controlled, fixed-dose (20 mg/day) study in patients with major depression. (Major depression=Montgomery-Åsberg Depression Rating Scale [MADRS] ≥22.) Baseline MADRS: CELEXA, 29.7; fluoxetine, 29.4.

### Once-daily 20 mg starting dose for all patients<sup>6</sup>

- 20 mg/day is the recommended dose for most elderly patients and patients with hepatic impairment, with titration to 40 mg/day only for nonresponding patients
- Available in a sugar-free, alcohol-free oral solution
  - 1 tsp contains 10 mg

Visit the CELEXA Web site at <http://www.celexa.com>

**References:** 1. Data on file, Forest Laboratories, Inc. 2. Jefferson JW, Greist JH. A double-blind comparison of citalopram and paroxetine in the treatment of patients with depression and anxiety. Presented at the 39th Annual Meeting, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology; 2000; San Juan, Puerto Rico. 3. Stahl SM. Placebo-controlled comparison of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors citalopram and sertraline. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2000;48:894-901. 4. Greenblatt DJ, von Moltke LL, Harmatz JS, Shader RI. Drug interactions with newer antidepressants: role of human cytochromes P450. *J Clin Psychiatry*. 1998;59(suppl 15):19-27. 5. Patris M, Bouchard J-M, Bougerol T, et al. Citalopram versus fluoxetine: a double-blind, controlled, multicentre, phase III trial in patients with unipolar major depression treated in general practice. *Int Clin Psychopharmacol*. 1996;11:129-136. 6. Montgomery SA, Pedersen V, Tanghøj P, Rasmussen C, Rioux P. The optimal dosing regimen for citalopram: a meta-analysis of nine placebo-controlled studies. *Int Clin Psychopharmacol*. 1994;9(suppl 1):35-40.

Please see brief summary of prescribing information on last page of this advertisement.

**Celexa**  
citalopram HBr

**Well-tolerated SSRI therapy**



**CELEXA™**  
(citalopram HBr)

**Brief Summary:** For complete details, please see full prescribing information for Celebra. **INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Celebra (citalopram HBr) is indicated for the treatment of depression. The efficacy of Celebra in the treatment of depression was established in 4- to 6-week controlled trials of outpatients whose diagnoses corresponded most closely to the DSM-IV and DSM-III-R category of major depressive disorder. A major depressive episode (DSM-IV) implies a prominent and relatively persistent (nearly every day for at least 2 weeks) depressed or dysphoric mood that usually interferes with daily functioning, and includes at least 5 of the following 9 symptoms: depressed mood, loss of interest in usual activities, significant change in weight or appetite, insomnia or hypersomnia, psychomotor agitation or retardation, increased fatigue, feelings of guilt or worthlessness, slowed thinking or impaired concentration, a suicide attempt, or suicidal ideation. The antidepressant action of Celebra in hospitalized depressed patients has not been adequately studied. The efficacy of Celebra in maintaining an antidepressant response for up to 24 weeks following 6 to 8 weeks of acute treatment was demonstrated in two placebo-controlled trials. Nevertheless, the physician who elects to use Celebra for extended periods should periodically re-evaluate the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient. **CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Concomitant use in patients taking monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) is contraindicated (see WARNINGS). Celebra is contraindicated in patients with a hypersensitivity to citalopram or any of the inactive ingredients in Celebra. **WARNINGS: Potential for Interaction with Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors in Patients receiving serotonin reuptake inhibitor drugs in combination with a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI), there have been reports of serious, sometimes fatal, reactions including hyperthermia, rigidity, myoclonus, autonomic instability with possible rapid fluctuations of vital signs, and mental status changes that include extreme agitation progressing to delirium and coma. These reactions have also been reported in patients who have recently discontinued SSRI treatment and have been started on a MAOI. Some cases present with features resembling neuroleptic malignant syndrome. Furthermore, limited animal data on the effects of combined use of SSRIs and MAOIs suggest that these drugs may not synergistically to elevate the MAOI's effect on the behavior of the patient. Therefore, Celebra should not be used in combination with a MAOI, or within 14 days of discontinuing treatment with a MAOI. Similarly, at least 14 days should be allowed after stopping Celebra before starting an MAOI. PRECAUTIONS: General: Hypomania/Mania. Several cases of hypomania and SIADH (syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion) have been reported in association with Celebra treatment. All patients with these events have recovered with discontinuation of Celebra and/or medical intervention. Activation of Mania/Hypomania in placebo-controlled trials of Celebra, some of which included patients with bipolar disorder, activation of mania/hypomania was reported in 0.2% of 1063 patients treated with Celebra and in none of the 446 patients treated with placebo. Activation of mania/hypomania has also been reported in a small proportion of patients with major affective disorders treated with other marketed antidepressants. As with all antidepressants, Celebra should be used cautiously in patients with a history of mania. Seizures: Although anticonvulsant effects of citalopram have been observed in animal studies, Celebra has not been systematically evaluated in patients with a seizure disorder. These patients were excluded from clinical studies during the product's premarketing testing. In clinical trials of Celebra, seizures occurred in 0.3% of patients treated with Celebra (a rate of one patient per 98 years of exposure) and 0.5% of patients treated with placebo (a rate of one patient per 50 years of exposure). Like other antidepressants, Celebra should be introduced with care in patients with a history of seizure disorder. Suicide: The possibility of a suicide attempt is inherent in depression and may persist until significant remission occurs. Close supervision of high-risk patients should accompany initial drug therapy. Prescriptions for Celebra should be written for the smallest quantity of tablets consistent with good patient management, in order to reduce the risk of overdose. Interference With Cognitive and Motor Performance: In studies in normal volunteers, Celebra in doses of 40 mg/day did not produce impairment of intellectual function or psychomotor performance. Because any psychoactive drug may impair judgment, thinking, or motor skills, however, patients should be cautioned about operating hazardous machinery, including automobiles, until they are reasonably certain that Celebra therapy does not affect their ability to engage in such activities. Use in Patients With Concomitant Illness: Clinical experience with Celebra in patients with certain concomitant systemic illnesses is limited. Caution is advisable in using Celebra in patients with diseases or conditions that produce altered metabolism or hemodynamic responses. Celebra has not been systematically evaluated in patients with a recent history of myocardial infarction or unstable heart disease. Patients with these diagnoses were generally excluded from clinical studies during the product's premarketing testing. However, the electrocardiograms of 1116 patients who received Celebra in clinical trials were evaluated, and the data indicate that Celebra is not associated with the development of clinically significant ECG abnormalities. In subjects with hepatic impairment, citalopram clearance was decreased and plasma concentrations were increased. The use of Celebra in hepatically impaired patients should be approached with caution and a lower maximum dosage is recommended. Because citalopram is extensively metabolized, excretion of unchanged drug in urine is a minor route of elimination. Unlike adequate numbers of patients with severe renal impairment have been evaluated during chronic treatment with Celebra, however, it should be used with caution in such patients. Drug Interactions: CNS Drugs - Given the primary CNS effects of citalopram, caution should be used when it is taken in combination with other centrally acting drugs. Alcohol - Although citalopram did not potentiate the cognitive and motor effects of alcohol in a clinical trial, as with other psychotropic medications, the use of alcohol by depressed patients taking Celebra is not recommended. Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs) - See CONTRAINDICATIONS and WARNINGS. Cimetidine - In subjects who had received 21 days of 40 mg/day Celebra, combined administration of 400 mg/day cimetidine for 8 days resulted in an increase in citalopram AUC and C<sub>max</sub> of 43% and 39%, respectively. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown. Digoxin - In subjects who had received 21 days of 40 mg/day Celebra, combined administration of Celebra and digoxin (single dose of 1 mg) did not significantly affect the pharmacokinetics of either citalopram or digoxin. Lithium - Co-administration of Celebra (40 mg/day for 10 days) and lithium (300 mg/day for 5 days) had no significant effect on the pharmacokinetics of either Celebra or lithium. Neuroleptics - Neuroleptics should be monitored with appropriate adjustment to the lithium dose in accordance with standard clinical practice. Because lithium may enhance the serotonergic effects of citalopram, caution should be exercised when Celebra and lithium are coadministered. Sumatriptan - There have been rare postmarketing reports describing patients with weakness, hyperreflexia, and incoordination following the use of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and sumatriptan if concomitant treatment with sumatriptan and an SSRI (eg, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline, citalopram) is clinically warranted, appropriate observation of the patient is advised. Warfarin - Administration of 40 mg/day Celebra for 21 days did not affect the pharmacokinetics of warfarin, a CYP3A4 substrate. Prothrombin time was increased by 5%, the clinical significance of which is unknown. Carbamazepine - Combined administration of Celebra (40 mg/day for 14 days) and carbamazepine (titrated to 400 mg/day for 35 days) did not significantly affect the pharmacokinetics of carbamazepine, a CYP3A4 substrate. Although trough citalopram plasma levels were unaffected, given the enzyme-inducing properties of carbamazepine, the possibility that carbamazepine might increase the clearance of citalopram should be considered if the two drugs are coadministered. CYP3A4 and CYP2C19 Inhibitors - In *in vitro* studies indicated that CYP3A4 and CYP2C19 are the primary enzymes involved in the metabolism of citalopram. As data are not available from clinical pharmacokinetic studies, the possibility that the clearance of citalopram will be decreased when citalopram is administered with a potent inhibitor of CYP3A4 (eg, ketoconazole, itraconazole, fluconazole, or erythromycin) or a potent inhibitor of CYP2C19 (eg, omeprazole) should be considered. Metoprolol - Administration of 40 mg/day Celebra for 22 days resulted in a two-fold increase in the plasma levels of the beta-adrenergic blocker metoprolol. Increased metoprolol plasma levels have been associated with decreased cardioselectivity. Co-administration of Celebra and metoprolol had no clinically significant effects on blood pressure or heart rate. Imipramine and Other Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCAs) - *In vitro* studies suggest that citalopram is a relatively weak inhibitor of CYP2D6. Co-administration of Celebra (40 mg/day for 10 days) with the tricyclic antidepressant imipramine (single dose of 100 mg), a substrate for CYP2D6, did not significantly affect the plasma concentrations of imipramine or citalopram. However, the concentration of the imipramine metabolite desipramine was increased by approximately 50%. The clinical significance of the desipramine change is unknown. Nevertheless, caution is indicated in the co-administration of TCAs with Celebra. Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) - There are no clinical studies of the combined use of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and Celebra. Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C - There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women; therefore, citalopram should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. Labor and Delivery: The effect of Celebra on labor and delivery in humans is unknown. Nursing Mothers: As has been found to occur with many other drugs, citalopram is excreted in human breast milk. The decision whether to continue or discontinue either nursing or Celebra therapy should take into account the risks of citalopram exposure for the infant and the benefits of Celebra treatment for the mother. Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established. Geriatric Use: Of 4422 patients in clinical studies of Celebra, 1367 were 60 and over, 1034 were 65 and over, and 457 were 75 and over. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects**

and younger subjects, and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out. Most elderly patients treated with Celebra in clinical trials received daily doses of 20 and 40 mg. In two pharmacokinetic studies, citalopram AUC was increased by 23% and 30%, respectively, in elderly subjects as compared to younger subjects, and its half-life was increased by 30% and 50%, respectively. 20 mg/day is the recommended dose for most elderly patients. **ADVERSE REACTIONS:** The premarketing development program for Celebra included citalopram exposures in patients and/or normal subjects from 3 different groups of studies: 429 normal subjects in clinical pharmacology/pharmacokinetic studies; 4422 exposures from patients in controlled and uncontrolled clinical trials, corresponding to approximately 1370 patient exposure years. There were, in addition, over 19,000 exposures from mostly open-label, European postmarketing studies. The conditions and duration of treatment with Celebra varied greatly and included (in overlapping categories) open-label and double-blind studies, inpatient and outpatient studies, fixed-dose and dose-titration studies, and short-term and long-term exposure. Adverse reactions were assessed by collecting adverse events, results of physical examinations, vital signs, weights, laboratory analyses, ECGs, and results of ophthalmologic examinations. Adverse events during exposure were obtained primarily by general inquiry and recorded by clinical investigators using terminology of their own choosing. Consequently, it is not possible to provide a meaningful estimate of the proportion of individuals experiencing adverse events without first grouping similar types of events into a smaller number of standardized event categories. In the tables and tabulations that follow, standard World Health Organization (WHO) terminology has been used to classify reported adverse events. The stated frequencies of adverse events represent the proportion of individuals who experienced, at least once, a treatment-emergent adverse event of the type listed. An event was considered treatment-emergent if it occurred for the first time or worsened while receiving therapy following baseline evaluation. **Adverse Findings Observed in Short-Term, Placebo-Controlled Trials:** Adverse Events Associated With Discontinuation of Treatment: Among 1063 depressed patients who received Celebra at doses ranging from 10 to 80 mg/day in placebo-controlled trials of up to 6 weeks in duration, 16% discontinued treatment due to an adverse event, as compared to 8% of 446 patients receiving placebo. The adverse events associated with discontinuation and considered drug-related (ie, associated with discontinuation at least 1% of Celebra-treated patients and at a rate at least twice that of placebo) are shown in TABLE 1. It should be noted that one patient can report more than one reason for discontinuation and be counted more than once in this table.

**TABLE 1.**  
**Adverse Events Associated With Discontinuation of Treatment in Short-Term, Placebo-Controlled Depression Trials**

Body System/Adverse Event	Percentage of Patients Discontinuing Due to Adverse Event	
	Celebra (N=1063)	Placebo (N=446)
<b>General</b>		
Asthenia	1%	<1%
<b>Gastrointestinal Disorders</b>		
Nausea	4%	0%
Dry Mouth	1%	<1%
Abdominal Pain	1%	0%
<b>Central and Peripheral Nervous System Disorders</b>		
Dizziness	2%	<1%
<b>Psychiatric Disorders</b>		
Insomnia	3%	1%
Somnolence	2%	1%
Agitation	1%	<1%

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**Adverse Events Occurring at an Incidence of 2% or More Among Celebra-Treated Patients:** TABLE 2 enumerates the incidence, rounded to the nearest percent, of treatment-emergent adverse events that occurred among 1063 depressed patients who received Celebra at doses ranging from 10 to 80 mg/day in placebo-controlled trials of up to 6 weeks in duration. Events included are those occurring in 2% or more of patients treated with Celebra and for which the incidence in patients treated with Celebra was greater than the incidence in placebo-treated patients. The prescriber should be aware that these figures cannot be used to predict the incidence of adverse events in the course of usual medical practice where patient characteristics and other factors differ from those which prevailed in the clinical trials. Similarly, the cited frequencies cannot be compared with figures obtained from other clinical investigations involving different treatments, uses, and investigators. The cited figures, however, do provide the prescribing physician with some basis for estimating the relative contribution of drug and non-drug factors to the adverse event incidence rate in the population studied. The only commonly observed adverse event that occurred in Celebra patients with an incidence of 5% or greater and at least twice the incidence in placebo patients was ejaculation disorder (primarily ejaculatory delay) in male patients (see TABLE 2).

**TABLE 2.**  
**Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events: Incidence in Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trials\***

Body System/Adverse Event	Percentage of Patients Reporting Event	
	Celebra (N=1063)	Placebo (N=446)
<b>Autonomic Nervous System Disorders</b>		
Dry Mouth	20%	14%
Sweating Increased	11%	9%
<b>Central &amp; Peripheral Nervous System Disorders</b>		
Tremor	8%	6%
<b>Gastrointestinal Disorders</b>		
Nausea	21%	15%
Diarrhea	8%	5%
Dyspepsia	5%	4%
Vomiting	4%	3%
Abdominal Pain	3%	2%
<b>General</b>		
Fatigue	5%	3%
Fever	2%	<1%
<b>Musculoskeletal System Disorders</b>		
Arthralgia	2%	1%
Myalgia	2%	1%
<b>Psychiatric Disorders</b>		
Somnolence	18%	10%
Insomnia	15%	14%
Anxiety	4%	2%
Anorexia	4%	3%
Agitation	3%	1%
Dysmenorrhea	3%	2%
Libido Decreased	2%	<1%
Yawning	2%	<1%
<b>Respiratory System Disorders</b>		
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	5%	4%
Rhinitis	5%	3%
Sinusitis	3%	<1%
<b>Urogenital</b>		
Ejaculation Disorder†	6%	1%
Impotence†	3%	<1%

\*Events reported by at least 2% of patients treated with Celebra are reported, except for the following events that had an incidence in placebo ≥ Celebra: headache, asthenia, dizziness, constipation, palpitation, vision abnormal, sleep disorder, nervousness, pharyngitis, micturition disorder, back pain. †Denominator used was for females only (N=638 Celebra, N=252 placebo). ‡Primarily ejaculatory delay. †Denominator used was for males only (N=425 Celebra, N=194 placebo). **Dose Dependency of Adverse Events:** The potential relationship between the dose of Celebra administered and the incidence of adverse events was examined in a fixed-dose study in depressed patients receiving placebo or Celebra 10, 20, 40, and 60 mg. Jonckheere's trend test revealed a positive dose response (p<.05) for the following adverse events: fatigue, insomnia, sweating increased, somnolence, and yawning. **Male and Female Sexual Dysfunction With SSRI's:** Although changes in sexual desire, sexual performance and sexual satisfaction often occur as manifestations of a psychiatric disorder, they may also be a consequence of pharmacologic treatment. In particular, some evidence suggests that selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) can cause such untoward sexual effects. The prevalence of the incidence and severity of untoward experiences involving sexual desire, performance and satisfaction are difficult to obtain, however, in part because patients and physicians may be reluctant to discuss them. Accordingly, estimates of the incidence of untoward sexual experience and performance cited in product labeling, are likely to underestimate their actual incidence. The table below displays the incidence of sexual side effects reported by at least 2% of patients taking Celebra in a pool of placebo-controlled clinical trials in patients with depression.

Treatment	Celebra (425 males)	Placebo (194 males)
<b>Abnormal Ejaculation</b> (mostly ejaculatory delay)	6.1% (males only)	1% (males only)
<b>Decreased Libido</b>	3.8% (males only)	<1% (males only)
<b>Impotence</b>	2.8% (males only)	<1% (males only)

In female depressed patients receiving Celebra, the reported incidence of decreased libido and anorgasmia was 1.3% (n=638 females) and 1.1% (n=252 females), respectively. There are no adequately designed studies examining sexual dysfunction with citalopram treatment. Prazosin has been reported with all SSRIs. While it is difficult to know the precise risk of sexual dysfunction associated with the use of SSRIs, physicians should routinely inquire about such possible side effects. **Vital Sign Changes:** Celebra and placebo groups were compared with respect to (1) mean change from baseline in vital signs plus, systolic blood pressure, and diastolic blood pressure and (2) the incidence of patients meeting criteria for potentially clinically significant changes from baseline in these variables. These analyses did not reveal any clinically important changes in vital signs associated with Celebra treatment. In addition, a comparison of supine and standing vital sign measures for Celebra and placebo treatments indicated that Celebra treatment is not associated with orthostatic changes. **Weight Changes:** Patients treated with Celebra in controlled trials experienced a weight loss of about 0.5 kg compared to no change for placebo patients. **Laboratory Changes:** Celebra and placebo groups were compared with respect to (1) mean change from baseline in various serum chemistry, hematology, and urinalysis variables and (2) the incidence of patients meeting criteria for potentially clinically significant changes from baseline in these variables. These analyses revealed no clinically important changes in laboratory test parameters associated with Celebra treatment. **ECG Changes:** Electrocardiograms from Celebra (N=1063) and placebo (N=446) groups were compared with respect to (1) mean change from baseline in various ECG parameters and (2) the incidence of patients meeting criteria for potentially clinically significant changes from baseline in these variables. The only statistically significant drug-placebo difference observed was a decrease in heart rate for Celebra of 1.7 bpm compared to no change in heart rate for placebo. There were no observed differences in QT or other ECG intervals. **Other Events Observed During the Premarketing Evaluation of Celebra:** Following is a list of WHO terms that reflect treatment-emergent adverse events, as defined in the introduction to the ADVERSE REACTIONS section, reported by patients treated with Celebra at multiple doses in a range of 10 to 80 mg/day during any phase of a trial within the premarketing database of 4422 patients. All reported events are included except those already listed in TABLE 2 or elsewhere in labeling, those events for which a drug cause was remote, those event terms which were so general as to be uninformative, and those occurring in only one patient. It is important to emphasize that although the events reported occurred during treatment, they were not necessarily caused by it. Events are further categorized by body system and listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the following definitions: frequent adverse events are those occurring on one or more occasions in at least 1/100 patients; infrequent adverse events are those occurring in less than 1/100 patients but at least 1/1000 patients; rare events are those occurring in fewer than 1/1000 patients. **Cardiovascular - Frequent:** tachycardia, postural hypotension, hypertension. **Infrequent:** hypertension, bradycardia, edema (extremities), angina pectoris, extrasystoles, cardiac failure, flushing, myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular accident, myocardial ischemia. **Rare:** transient ischemic attack, phlebitis, atrial fibrillation, cardiac arrest, bundle branch block. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System Disorders - Frequent:** paresthesia, migraine. **Infrequent:** hyperkinesia, vertigo, hyperreflexia, extrapyramidal disorder, leg cramps, involuntary muscle contractions, hypokinesia, neuralgia, dystonia, abnormal gait, hyposthesia, ataxia. **Rare:** abnormal coordination, hyperreflexia, phosia, stupor. **Endocrine Disorders - Rare:** hypothyroidism, goiter, gynecoma. **Gastrointestinal Disorders - Frequent:** saliva decreased, flatulence. **Infrequent:** gastritis, irritable bowel syndrome, hemorrhoids, dysphagia, teeth grinding, gingivitis, esophagitis. **Rare:** colitis, gastric ulcer, cholelithiasis, cholelithiasis, duodenal ulcer, gastroesophageal reflux, glossitis, jaundice, diverticulitis, rectal hemorrhage, nicotinic. **General - Infrequent:** hot flashes, rigors, alcohol intolerance, syncope, influenza-like symptoms. **Rare:** hay fever, hemic and lymphatic disorders - **Infrequent:** purpura, anemia, epistaxis, leukocytosis, leukopenia, lymphadenopathy. **Rare:** pulmonary embolism, granulocytopenia, lymphocytosis, lymphopenia, hypochromic anemia, coagulation disorder, gingival bleeding. **Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders - Frequent:** decreased weight, increased weight. **Infrequent:** increased hepatic enzymes, thirst, dry eyes, increased alkaline phosphatase, abnormal glucose tolerance. **Rare:** bilirubinemia, hypokalemia, obesity, hypoglycemia, hepatitis, dehydration. **Musculoskeletal System Disorders - Infrequent:** arthritis, muscle weakness, skeletal pain. **Rare:** bursitis, osteoporosis. **Psychiatric Disorders - Frequent:** impaired concentration, amnesia, apathy, depression, increased appetite, aggravated depression, suicide attempt, confusion. **Infrequent:** increased libido, aggressive reaction, paranoia, drug dependence, depersonalization, euphoria, psychotic depression, delusion, paranoid reaction, emotional lability, panic reaction, psychosis. **Rare:** catatonic reaction, melancholia. **Reproductive Disorders/Female† - Frequent:** amenorrhea. **Infrequent:** galactorrhea, breast pain, breast enlargement, vaginal hemorrhage. †Based on female subjects only; 2955. **Respiratory System Disorders - Frequent:** coughing. **Infrequent:** bronchitis, dyspnea, pneumonia. **Rare:** asthma, laryngitis, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, sputum increased. **Skin and Appendages Disorders - Frequent:** rash, pruritus. **Infrequent:** photosensitivity reaction, urticaria, acne, skin discoloration, eczema, alopecia, dermatitis, skin dry, psoriasis. **Rare:** hypertrichosis, decreased sweating, melanosis, keratitis, cellulitis, pruritus ani. **Special Senses - Frequent:** accommodation abnormal, taste perversion. **Infrequent:** tinnitus, conjunctivitis, eye pain. **Rare:** mydriasis, photophobia, diplopia, abnormal lacrimation, cataract, taste loss. **Urinary System Disorders - Frequent:** polyuria. **Infrequent:** micturition frequency, urinary incontinence, urinary retention, dysuria. **Rare:** facial edema, hematuria, oliguria, nephrolithiasis, renal calculus, renal pain. **OVERDOSE: Human Experience:** Although there were no reports of fatal citalopram overdose in clinical trials involving overdoses of up to 2000 mg, postmarketing reports of drug overdoses involving citalopram have included 12 fatalities, 10 in combination with other drugs and/or alcohol and 2 with citalopram alone (3920 mg and 2800 mg), as well as nonfatal overdoses of up to 6000 mg. Symptoms most often accompanying citalopram overdose, alone or in combination with other drugs and/or alcohol, included dizziness, sweating, nausea, vomiting, tremor, somnolence, and sinus tachycardia. In more rare cases, observed symptoms included anorexia, confusion, coma, convulsions, hyperventilation, cyanosis, rhabdomyolysis, and ECG changes (including QTc prolongation, nodal rhythm, ventricular arrhythmia, and one possible case of torsades de pointes).

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**ARICEPT® (Donepezil Hydrochloride Tablets)**

**Brief Summary**—see package insert for full prescribing information. **INDICATIONS AND USAGE** ARICEPT® is indicated for the treatment of mild to moderate dementia of the Alzheimer's type. **CONTRAINDICATIONS** ARICEPT® is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to donepezil hydrochloride or to piperidine derivatives. **WARNINGS Anesthesia:** ARICEPT®, as a cholinesterase inhibitor, is likely to exaggerate succinylcholine-type muscle relaxation during anesthesia. **Cardiovascular Conditions:** Because of their pharmacological action, cholinesterase inhibitors may have vagotonic effects on the sinoatrial and atrioventricular nodes. This effect may manifest as bradycardia or heart attack in patients both with or without known underlying cardiac conduction abnormalities. Syncope episodes have been reported in association with the use of ARICEPT®. **Gastrointestinal Conditions:** Through their primary action, cholinesterase inhibitors may be expected to increase gastric acid secretion due to increased cholinergic activity. Therefore, patients should be monitored closely for symptoms of active or occult gastrointestinal bleeding, especially those at increased risk for developing ulcers, e.g., those with a history of ulcer disease or those receiving concurrent nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Clinical studies of ARICEPT® have shown no increase, relative to placebo, in the incidence of either peptic ulcer disease or gastrointestinal bleeding. ARICEPT® as a predictable consequence of its pharmacological properties, has been shown to produce diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. These effects, when they occur, appear more frequently with the 10 mg/day dose than with the 5 mg/day dose. In most cases, these effects have been mild and transient, sometimes lasting one to three weeks, and have resolved during continued use of ARICEPT®. **Genitourinary:** Although not observed in clinical trials of ARICEPT®, cholinomimetics may cause bladder outflow obstruction. **Neurological Conditions:** Seizures: Cholinomimetics are believed to have some potential to cause generalized convulsions. However, seizure activity also may be a manifestation of Alzheimer's Disease. **Pulmonary Conditions:** Because of their cholinomimetic actions, cholinesterase inhibitors should be prescribed with care to patients with a history of asthma or obstructive pulmonary disease. **PRECAUTIONS Drug-Drug Interactions Drugs Highly Bound to Plasma Proteins:** Drug displacement studies have been performed *in vitro* between this highly bound drug (96%) and other drugs such as furosemide, digoxin, and warfarin. ARICEPT® at concentrations of 0.3-10 µg/mL did not affect the binding of furosemide (5 µg/mL), digoxin (2 ng/mL), and warfarin (3 µg/mL) to human albumin. Similarly, the binding of ARICEPT® to human albumin was not affected by furosemide, digoxin, and warfarin. **Effect of ARICEPT® on the Metabolism of Other Drugs:** No *in vivo* clinical trials have investigated the effect of ARICEPT® on the clearance of drugs metabolized by CYP 3A4 (e.g. cisapride, terfenadine) or by CYP 2D6 (e.g. imipramine). However, *in vitro* studies show a low rate of binding to these enzymes (mean K<sub>i</sub> about 50-130 µM), that, given the therapeutic plasma concentrations of donepezil (164 nM), indicates little likelihood of interference. Whether ARICEPT® has any potential for enzyme induction is not known. **Effect of Other Drugs on the Metabolism of ARICEPT®:** Ketoconazole and quinidine, inhibitors of CYP450, 3A4 and 2D6, respectively, inhibit donepezil metabolism *in vitro*. Whether there is a clinical effect of these inhibitors is not known. Inducers of CYP 2D6 and CYP 3A4 (e.g., phenytoin, carbamazepine, dexamethasone, rifampin, and phenobarbital) could increase the rate of elimination of ARICEPT®. **Use with Anticholinergics:** Because of their mechanism of action, cholinesterase inhibitors have the potential to interfere with the activity of anticholinergic medications. **Use with Cholinomimetics and Other Cholinesterase Inhibitors:** A synergistic effect may be expected when cholinesterase inhibitors are given concurrently with succinylcholine, similar neuromuscular blocking agents or cholinergic agonists such as bethanechol. **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility** Carcinogenicity studies of donepezil have not been completed. Donepezil was not mutagenic in the Ames reverse mutation assay in bacteria. In the chromosome aberration test in cultures of Chinese hamster lung (CHL) cells, some clastogenic effects were observed. Donepezil was not clastogenic in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. Donepezil had no effect on fertility in rats at doses up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 8 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). **Pregnancy Pregnancy Category C:** Teratology studies conducted in pregnant rats at doses up to 16 mg/kg/day (approximately 13 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) and in pregnant rabbits at doses up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 16 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) did not disclose any evidence for a teratogenic potential of donepezil. However, in a study in which pregnant rats were given up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 8 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) from day 17 of gestation through day 20 postpartum, there was a slight increase in still births and a slight decrease in pup survival through day 4 postpartum at this dose; the next lower dose tested was 3 mg/kg/day. There are no adequate or well-controlled studies in pregnant women. ARICEPT® should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. **Nursing Mothers** It is not known whether donepezil is excreted in human breast milk. ARICEPT® has no indication for use in nursing mothers. **Pediatric Use** There are no adequate and well-controlled trials to document the safety and efficacy of ARICEPT® in any illness occurring in children. **ADVERSE REACTIONS Adverse Events Leading to Discontinuation** The rates of discontinuation from controlled clinical trials of ARICEPT® due to adverse events for the ARICEPT® 5 mg/day treatment groups were comparable to those of placebo-treatment groups at approximately 5%. The rate of discontinuation of patients who received 7-day escalations from 5 mg/day to 10 mg/day, was higher at 13%. The most common adverse events leading to discontinuation, defined as those occurring in at least 2% of patients and at twice the incidence seen in placebo patients, are shown in Table 1.

**Table 3. Adverse Events Reported in Controlled Clinical Trials in at Least 2% of Patients Receiving ARICEPT® (donepezil HCl) and at a Higher Frequency than Placebo-treated Patients**

Body System/Adverse Event	Placebo (n=355)	ARICEPT® (n=747)
<b>Percent of Patients with any Adverse Event</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Body as a Whole</b>		
Headache	9	10
Pain, various locations	8	9
Fatigue	6	7
<b>Cardiovascular System</b>		
Syncope	1	2
<b>Digestive System</b>		
Nausea	6	11
Diarrhea	5	10
Vomiting	3	5
Anorexia	2	4
<b>Hemic and Lymphatic System</b>		
Echymosis	3	4
<b>Metabolic and Nutritional Systems</b>		
Weight Decrease	1	3
<b>Musculoskeletal System</b>		
Muscle Cramps	2	6
Arthritis	1	2
<b>Nervous System</b>		
Insomnia	6	9
Dizziness	6	8
Depression	<1	3
Abnormal Dreams	0	3
Somnolence	<1	2
<b>Urogenital System</b>		
Frequent Urination	1	2

**Other Adverse Events Observed During Clinical Trials** ARICEPT® has been administered to over 1700 individuals during clinical trials worldwide. Approximately 1200 of these patients have been treated for at least 3 months and more than 1000 patients have been treated for at least 6 months. Controlled and uncontrolled trials in the United States included approximately 900 patients. In regards to the highest dose of 10 mg/day, this population includes 650 patients treated for 3 months, 475 patients treated for 6 months and 116 patients treated for over 1 year. The range of patient exposure is from 1 to 1214 days. Treatment emergent signs and symptoms that occurred during 3 controlled clinical trials and two open-label trials in the United States were recorded as adverse events by the clinical investigators using terminology of their own choosing. To provide an overall estimate of the proportion of individuals having similar types of events, the events were grouped into a smaller number of standardized categories using a modified COSTART dictionary and event frequencies were calculated across all studies. These categories are used in the listing below. The frequencies represent the proportion of 900 patients from these trials who experienced that event while receiving ARICEPT®. All adverse events occurring at least twice are included, except for those already listed in Tables 2 or 3. COSTART terms too general to be informative, or events less likely to be drug caused. Events are classified by body system and listed using the following definitions: *frequent adverse events*—those occurring in at least 1/100 patients; *infrequent adverse events*—those occurring in 1/100 to 1/1000 patients. These adverse events are not necessarily related to ARICEPT® treatment and in most cases were observed at a similar frequency in placebo-treated patients in the controlled studies. No



important additional adverse events were seen in studies conducted outside the United States. **Body as a Whole:** *Frequent:* influenza, chest pain, toothache; *Infrequent:* fever, edema face, periorbital edema, hernia hiatal, abscess, cellulitis, chills, generalized coldness, head fullness, listlessness. **Cardiovascular System:** *Frequent:* hypertension, vasodilation, atrial fibrillation, hot flashes, hypotension; *Infrequent:* angina pectoris, postural hypotension, myocardial infarction, AV block (first degree), congestive heart failure, arteritis, bradycardia, peripheral vascular disease, supraventricular tachycardia, deep vein thrombosis. **Digestive System:** *Frequent:* fecal incontinence, gastrointestinal bleeding, bloating, epigastric pain; *Infrequent:* eructation, gingivitis, increased appetite, flatulence, peridontal abscess, cholelithiasis, diverticulitis, drooling, dry mouth, liver sore, gastritis, irritable colon, tongue edema, epigastric distress, gastroenteritis, increased transaminases, hemorrhoids, ileus, increased thirst, jaundice, melena, polydipsia, duodenal ulcer, stomach ulcer. **Endocrine System:** *Infrequent:* diabetes mellitus, goiter. **Hemic and Lymphatic System:** *Infrequent:* anemia, thrombocytopenia, thrombocytopenia, eosinophilia, erythrocytopenia. **Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders:** *Frequent:* dehydration; *Infrequent:* gout, hypokalemia, increased creatine kinase, hyperglycemia, weight increase, increased lactate dehydrogenase. **Musculoskeletal System:** *Frequent:* bone fracture; *Infrequent:* muscle weakness, muscle fasciculation. **Nervous System:** *Frequent:* delusions, tremor, irritability, paresthesia, aggression, vertigo, ataxia, increased libido, restlessness, abnormal crying, nervousness, aphasia; *Infrequent:* cerebrovascular accident, intracranial hemorrhage, transient ischemic attack, emotional lability, neuralgia, coldness (localized), muscle spasm, dysphoria, gait abnormality, hypertonia, hypokinesia, neurodermatitis, numbness (localized), paranoia, dysarthria, dysphasia, hostility, decreased libido, melancholia, emotional withdrawal, nystagmus, pacing. **Respiratory System:** *Frequent:* dyspnea, sore throat, bronchitis; *Infrequent:* epistaxis, post nasal drip, pneumonia, hyperventilation, pulmonary congestion, wheezing, hypoxia, pharyngitis, pleurisy, pulmonary collapse, sleep apnea, snoring. **Skin and Appendages:** *Frequent:* pruritus, diaphoresis, urticaria; *Infrequent:* dermatitis, erythema, skin discoloration, hyperkeratosis, alopecia, lungal dermatitis, herpes zoster, hirsutism, skin striae, night sweats, skin ulcer. **Special Senses:** *Frequent:* cataract, eye irritation, vision blurred; *Infrequent:* dry eyes, glaucoma, earache, tinnitus, buphthalmos, decreased hearing, retinal hemorrhage, otitis externa, otitis media, bad taste, conjunctival hemorrhage, ear buzzing, motion sickness, spots before eyes. **Urogenital System:** *Frequent:* urinary incontinence, nocturia; *Infrequent:* dysuria, hematuria, urinary urgency, metrorrhagia, cystitis, anuresis, prostate hypertrophy, pyelonephritis, inability to empty bladder, breast fibroadenosis, fibrocystic breast, mastitis, pyuria, renal failure, vaginitis. **Postintroduction Reports** Voluntary reports of adverse events temporally associated with ARICEPT® that have been received since market introduction that are not listed above, and that there is inadequate data to determine the causal relationship with the drug include the following: abdominal pain, agitation, cholecystitis, confusion, convulsions, hallucinations, heart block (all types), hemolytic anemia, hepatitis, hyponatremia, pancreatitis, and rash. **OVERDOSAGE Because strategies for the management of overdose are continually evolving, it is advisable to contact a Poison Control Center to determine the latest recommendations for the management of an overdose of any drug.** As in any case of overdose, general supportive measures should be utilized. Overdosage with cholinesterase inhibitors can result in cholinergic crisis characterized by severe nausea, vomiting, salivation, sweating, bradycardia, hypotension, respiratory depression, collapse and convulsions. Increasing muscle weakness is a possibility and may result in death if respiratory muscles are involved. Tertiary anticholinergics such as atropine may be used as an antidote for ARICEPT® overdose. Intravenous atropine sulfate titrated to effect is recommended: an initial dose of 1.0 to 2.0 mg IV with subsequent doses based upon clinical response. Atypical responses in blood pressure and heart rate have been reported with other cholinomimetics when co-administered with quaternary anticholinergics such as glycopyrrolate. It is not known whether ARICEPT® and/or its metabolites can be removed by dialysis (hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, or hemofiltration). Dose-related signs of toxicity in animals included reduced spontaneous movement, prone position, staggering gait, lacrimation, clonic convulsions, depressed respiration, salivation, miosis, tremors, fasciculation and lower body surface temperature. **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION** The dosages of ARICEPT® shown to be effective in controlled clinical trials are 5 mg and 10 mg administered once per day. The higher dose of 10 mg did not provide a statistically significantly greater clinical benefit than 5 mg. There is a suggestion, however, based upon order of group mean scores and dose trend analyses of data from these clinical trials, that a daily dose of 10 mg of ARICEPT® might provide additional benefit for some patients. Accordingly, whether or not to employ a dose of 10 mg is a matter of prescriber and patient preference. Evidence from the controlled trials indicates that the 10 mg dose, with a one week titration, is likely to be associated with a higher incidence of cholinergic adverse events than the 5 mg dose. In open label trials using a 6 week titration, the frequency of these same adverse events was similar between the 5 mg and 10 mg dose groups. Therefore, because steady state is not achieved for 15 days and because the incidence of untoward effects may be influenced by the rate of dose escalation, treatment with a dose of 10 mg should not be contemplated until patients have been on a daily dose of 5 mg for 4 to 6 weeks. ARICEPT® should be taken in the evening, just prior to retiring, and may be taken with or without food.

**Table 1. Most Frequent Adverse Events Leading to Withdrawal from Controlled Clinical Trials by Dose Group**

Dose Group	Placebo	5 mg/day ARICEPT®	10 mg/day ARICEPT®
<b>Patients Randomized</b>	355	350	315
<b>Event/%Discontinuing</b>			
Nausea	1%	1%	3%
Diarrhea	0%	<1%	3%
Vomiting	<1%	<1%	2%

**Most Frequent Adverse Clinical Events Seen in Association with the Use of ARICEPT®** The most common adverse events, defined as those occurring at a frequency of at least 5% in patients receiving 10 mg/day and twice the placebo rate, are largely predicted by ARICEPT®'s cholinomimetic effects. These include nausea, diarrhea, insomnia, vomiting, muscle cramp, fatigue and anorexia. These adverse events were often of mild intensity and transient, resolving during continued ARICEPT® treatment without the need for dose modification. There is evidence to suggest that the frequency of these common adverse events may be affected by the rate of titration. An open-label study was conducted with 269 patients who received placebo in the 15- and 30-week studies. These patients were titrated to a dose of 10 mg/day over a 6-week period. The rates of common adverse events were lower than those seen in patients titrated to 10 mg/day over one week in the controlled clinical trials and were comparable to those seen in patients on 5 mg/day. See Table 2 for a comparison of the most common adverse events following one and six week titration regimens.

**Table 2. Comparison of Rates of Adverse Events in Patients Titrated to 10 mg/day Over 1 and 6 Weeks**

Adverse Event	Placebo (n=315)	No titration 5 mg/day (n=311)	One-week titration 10 mg/day (n=315)	Six-week titration 10 mg/day (n=269)
Nausea	6%	5%	19%	6%
Diarrhea	5%	8%	15%	9%
Insomnia	6%	6%	14%	6%
Fatigue	3%	4%	8%	3%
Vomiting	3%	3%	8%	5%
Muscle cramps	2%	6%	8%	3%
Anorexia	2%	3%	7%	3%

**Adverse Events Reported in Controlled Trials** The events cited reflect experience gained under closely monitored conditions of clinical trials in a highly selected patient population. In actual clinical practice or in other clinical trials, these frequency estimates may not apply, as the conditions of use, reporting behavior, and the kinds of patients treated may differ. Table 3 lists treatment emergent signs and symptoms that were reported in at least 2% of patients in placebo-controlled trials who received ARICEPT® and for which the rate of occurrence was greater for ARICEPT® assigned than placebo assigned patients. In general, adverse events occurred more frequently in female patients and with advancing age.



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