Brief Prescribing Information

☐ Tegreto® (carbamazepine)

TEGRETOL® 200 mg TEGRETOL® CHEWTABS™ 100 mg and 200 mg TEGRETOL® CR 200 mg and 400 mg

Action

ACTION
TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) has anticonvulsant properties which have been found useful in the treatment of psychomotor epilepsy and, as an adjunct in the treatment of partial epilepsies, when administered in conjunction with other anticonvulsant drugs to prevent the possible generalization of the epileptic discharge. A mild psychotropic effect has been observed in some patients, which seems related to the effect of the carbamazepine in psychomotor or temporal lobe epilepsy.

TEGRETOL relieves or diminishes the pain associated with trigeminal neu-

recision for the relieves or diffinishes me pain associated with higherminal neu-raligia often within 24 to 48 hours.

Like other tricyclic compounds, TEGRETOL has a moderate anticholinergic action which is responsible for some of its side effects. A tolerance may develop to the action of TEGRETOL after a few months of treatment and should be watched for.

seventy to the action of Technerot, after a few hindrins of treatment and should be watched for.

TEGRETOL may suppress ventricular automaticity due to its membrane depressant effect similar to that of quinidine and procainamide, associated with suppression of phase 4 depolarization of the heart muscle fibre. A number of investigators have reported a deterioration of EEG abnormalities with regard to focal afterations and a higher incidence of records with nil beta activity, during carbamazepine combined treatment.

The absorption of carbamazepine in man is relatively slow. When taken in a single oral dose, TEGRETOL (carbamazepine tablets) and TEGRETOL CHEWTABS (carbamazepine chewable tablets) yield peak plasma concentrations of unchanged carbamazepine within 4-24 hours. With respect to the quantity of carbamazepine absorbed, there is no clinically relevant difference between the various dosage forms. When TEGRETOL CR (carbamazepine controlled release tablets) are administered repeatedly, they yield lower average maximal concentration of carbamazepine in the plasma, without a reduction in the average minimal concentration. This tends to result in a lower incidence of intermittent concentration-dependent adverse drug reactions. It also ensures that the plasma concentrations remain largely stable throughout the day, thereby making it possible to manage with y stable throughout the day, thereby making it possible to manage with

largely stable inrougnout the day, thereby making it possible to manage a twice-daily dosage.

Carbamazepine becomes bound to serum proteins to the extent of 70-80%. The concentration of unchanged substance in the saliva reflects the non-protein-bound portion present in the serum (20-30%).

The elimination half-life of unchanged carbamazepine in the plasma averages approximately 36 hours following a single oral dose, whereas after repeated administration, which leads to autoinduction of hepatic enzymes, it averages only 16-24 hours, depending on the duration of the medication. In patients receiving concomitant treatment with other enzyme-inducing anti-epileptic agents, half-life values averaging 9-10 hours have been found. Onty 2-3% of the dose, whether given singly or repeatedly, is excreted in the urine in unchanged form. The primary metabolite is the pharmacologically active 10, 11-epoxide.

In man, the main urinary metabolite of carbamazepine is the trans-diol derivative originating from the 10, 11-epoxide; a small portion of the epoxide is converted into 9-hydroxymethy-10-carbamoyl-acridan. Other important biotransformation products are various monohydroxylated compounds, as well as the N-glucuronide of carbamazepine.

The therapeutic range for the steady-state plasma concentration of carba-mazepine generally lies between 4-10 mg/ml.

Indications and Clinical Use

A Trigeminal Neuralgia:
TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) is indicated for the symptomatic relief of pain of trigeminal neuralgia only during periods of exacerbation of true or primary trigeminal neuralgia (tic douloureux). It should not be used preventively during periods of remission. In some patients, TEGRETOL has relieved glossopharyngeal neuralgia. For patients who fail to respond to TEGRETOL, or who are sensitive to the drug, recourse to other accepted measures must be considered.

TEGRETOL is not a simple analgesic and should not be used to relieve trivial facial pains or headaches.

- facial pains or headaches.

 8. TEGRETOL has been found useful in:

 1. the management of psychomotor (temporal lobe) epilepsy and,

 2. as an adjunct, in some patients with secondary or partial epilepsy with complex symptomatology or secondarily peneralized seizures, when administered in combination with other antiepileptic medication.

 3. as an alternative medication in patients with generalized tonic-clonic seizures who are experiencing marked side effects or fail to respond to other anticorvulsant druos.
- anticonvulsant drugs.

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Contraindications

TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) should not be administered to patients with a history of hepatic disease or serious blood disorder.

Instory of nepatic disease or serious proof disorder. Defore, in conjunction with, or immediately after a monoamine oxidase inhibitor. When it seems desirable to administer TEGRETOL to a patient who has been receiving an MAO inhibitor, there should be as long a drug-free interval as the clinical condition allows, but in no case should this be less than 14 days. Then the dosage of TEGRETOL should be low initially, and increased very gradually. TEGRETOL should not be administered to patients presenting atrioventricular heart block. (See Sections on Action and Precautions).

at near touck. (See Sections on Action and Precautions). Sate use in pregnancy has not been established. Therefore, TEGRETOL should not be administered during the first 3 months of pregnancy. TEGRETOL should not be given to women of child-bearing potential unless, in the opinion of the physician, the expected benefits to the patient outweigh the possible risk to the fetus (See Reproductive Studies). Because of demonstrated toxicity in nursing animals TEGRETOL should not be administered to nursing mothers.

TEGRETOL should not be administered to patients with known hypersensitivity to carbamazepine or to any of the tricyclic compounds, such as amitriphyline, trimpramine, imipramine, or their analogues or metabolites, because of the similarity in chemical structure.

Warnings

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Although reported infrequently, serious adverse effects have been observed during the use of TEGRETOL (carbamazepine). Agranulocytosis and aplastic anemia have occurred in a few instances with a fatal outcome. Leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, hepatocellular and cholestatic jaundice, and hepatitis have also been reported. It is, therefore, important that TEGRETOL should

be used carefully and close clinical and frequent laboratory supervision should be maintained throughout treatment in order to detect as early as

should be maintained undurfund treatment in order to select as early as possible signs and symptoms of a possible blood dyscrasia. Long-term toxicity studies in rats indicated a potential carcinogenic risk (See Section on "foxicology"). Therefore, the possible risk of drug use must be weighed against the potential benefits before prescribing carbamazepine

Precautions

Precautions

Monitoring of Hematological and Other Adverse Reactions:
Complete blood studies, including platelet counts, and evaluation of hepatic and renal function and urinalysis should be carried out before treatment is instituted. Careful clinical and laboratory supervision should be maintained throughout treatment, including frequent performance of complete blood counts, in order to detect any early signs or symptoms of blood dyscrasia. Should any signs or symptoms or abnormal laboratory findings suggestive of blood dyscrasia or liver disorder occur, TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) should be immediately discontinued until the case is carefully reassessed. Non-progressive or fluctuating asymptomatic leucopenia, which is encountered, does not generally call for the withdrawal of TEGRETOL. However, treatment with TEGRETOL should be discontinued if the patient develops leucopenia which is progressive or accompanied by clinical manifestations, e.g. fever or sore throat. e.o. fever or sore throat.

Uninary Retention and Increased Intraocular Pressure:
Because of its anticholinergic action, TEGRETOL should be given cautiously, if at all, to patients with increased intraocular pressure or uninary retention.
Such patients should be followed closely while taking the drug.

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Because it is closely related to the other tricyclic drugs, there is some possibility that TEGRETOL might activate a latent psychosis, or, in elderly patients, produce agitation or confusion, especially when combined with other drugs. Caution should also be exercised in alcoholics.

Uses in Patients with Cardiovascular Disorders:
TEGRETOL should be used cautiously in patients with a history of coronary artery disease, organic heart disease, or congestive failure. If a defective conductive system is suspected, an ECG should be performed before administering TEGRETOL, in order to exclude patients with atrioventricular black.

Driving and Operating Hazardous Machinery:
Because dizziness and drowsiness are possible side effects of TEGRETOL, patients should be warned about the possible hazards of operating machinery or driving automobiles.

Drug Interactions:

Urug interactions:
Induction of hepatic enzymes in response to TEGRETOL may have the effect of diminishing the activity of certain drugs that are metabolized in the liver. This should be considered when administering TEGRETOL concomitantly with other anti-epileptic agents and drugs such as theophylline.
Concomitant administration of TEGRETOL with verapamil, dilitiazem, eryth-

romycin, troleandomycin, cimetidine, propoxyphene or isoniazid, has been reported to result in elevated plasma levels of carbamazepine. Since an increase in the blood levels of carbamazepine may result in unwanted effects (e.g. dizziness, headache, ataxia, diplopia and nystagmus may occur), the dosage of carbamazepine should be adapted accordingly and blood levels monitored.

The concomitant administration of carbamazepine and lithium may increase the risk of neurotoxic side effects.

In patients receiving oral anticoagulant medication, the dosage of the anticoagulant should be readapted to clinical requirements whenever treatment with TEGRETOL is initiated or withdrawn.

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TEGRETOL, like other anticonvulsants, may adversely affect the reliability of oral contraceptives. Patients should accordingly be advised to use some alternative, non-hormonal method of contraception.

TEGRETOL, like other psycho-active drugs, may reduce the patient's alcohol tolerance; it is therefore advisable to abstain from alcohol consumption

during treatment

TEGRETOL should not be administered in conjunction with an MAO inhibitor. (See Section on Contraindications).

Adverse Reactions

AUVERSE NEACTIONS
The reactions which have been most frequently reported with TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) are drowsiness, unsteadiness on the feet, vertigo, dizziness, gastrointestinal disturbances, and nausea. These reactions usually occur only during the initial phase of therapy. They have rarely necessitated discontinuing TEGRETOL therapy, and can be minimized by initiating treatment at a burt feet on.

ment at a low dosage.

The more serious adverse reactions observed are the hematologic, hepatic, cardiovascular and dermatologic reactions, which require discontinuation of therapy. If treatment with TEGRETOL has to be withdrawn abruptly, the change-over to another anti-epileptic drug should be effected under cover of

The following adverse reactions have been reported:

Hematologic - Transitory leucopenia, eosinophilia, hyponatremia, leucocytosis, thrombocytopenic purpura, agranulocytosis, macrocytic anemia and aplastic anemia. In a few instances, deaths have occurred.

Hepatic - During the long-term administration of TEGRETOL, abnormalities in liver function tests, cholestatic and hepatocellular jaundice, and hepatitis have been reported.

Dermatologic - The following reactions occurred during treatment with TEGRETOL: skin sensitivity reactions and rashes, erythematous rashes, pruritic ruptions, urticaria, photosensitivity, pigmentary changes, neuro-dermatitis and in rare cases Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, exfoliative dermatitis, alopecia, diaphoresis, erythema multiforme, erythema nodosum, and aggravation of disseminated lupus erythematosus.

erynematosus.
Meurologic - The reactions reported as occurring during treatment with TEGRETOL include vertigo, somnolence, ataxia, confusion, headache, tatigue, blurred vision, visual hallucinations, transient dinjopia and occulomotor disturbances, speech disturbances, abnormal involuntary movements and increase in motor seizures. In addition, peripheral neurilis and parestessia, depression with adjiation, talkativeness, nystagmus, hyperacusis, and tinnitus have been reported but only very rarely. There have been some reports of paralysis and other symptoms of cerebral arterial insufficiency but no conclusive relationship to the administration of TEGRETOL could be established.

Cardiovascular - Thromboemholism, recurrence of thromboohlebitis in Cardiovascular - informboemboism, recurrence of thrombophiebits patients with a prior history of thrombophiebits, prinary thrombophiebits, congestive heart failure, aggravation of hypertension, Stokes-Adams in patients with AV block, hypotension, syncope and collapse, edema, aggravation of cornary artery disease. Some of these complications (including myocardial infarction and arrhythmia) have been associated with other

Genitourinary - Urinary frequency, acute urinary retention, oliguria with elevated blood pressure, azotemia, renal failure, and impotence. Elevation of BUN, albuminuria and glycosuria also have been observed.

Respiratory – Pulmonary hypersensitivity characterized by fever, dyspnea, pneumonitis or pneumonia.

Gastrointestinal - Disturbances associated with TEGRETOL therapy have included nausea, vomiting, gastric or abdominal discomfort, diarrhea or constipation, anorexia and dryness of the mouth and throat, glossilis and stomatitis.

Ophthalmic – There is no conclusive evidence that TEGRETOL produces pathological changes in the cornea, lens or retina. However, it should be recognized that many phenothiazines and related drugs have been shown to cause eye changes. By analogy, periodic eye examinations, including slit-lamp fundoscopy and tonometry, are recommended.

Other reactions reported during treatment with TEGRETOL include fever and chills, aching joints and muscles, leg cramps, conjunctivitis, and adenopathy or lymphadenopathy.

Symptoms and Treatment of Overdosage

Symptoms of Overdosage: The symptoms of overdosage include dizziness, ataxia, drowsiness, stupor, nausea, vomiting, restlessness, agitation, disorientation; tremor, involuntary movements, opisthotonos, abnormal reflexes (slowed or hyperactive); mydriasis, nystagmus; flushing, cyanosis, and urinary retention. Hypoten-sion or hypertension may develop. Coma may ensue. EEG and ECG changes may occur. The laboratory findings in isolated instances of overdosage have included leukocytosis, reduced leukocyte count, glycosuria and acetonuria.

Treatment of Overdosage:
There is no known specific antidote to TEGRETOL (carbamazepine). Experience with accidental TEGRETOL overdosage is limited. Since TEGRETOL is chemically related to the tircyclic antidepressants, reference to treatment of TOFRANIL (imipramine) overdosage is relevant.

It is recommended that emesis be induced, and that gastric lavage be

It is recommended that emess be induced, and that gastric lavage be performed. Vital signs should be watched and symptomatic treatment should be administered as required. Hyperirritability may be controlled by the administration of parenteral diazepam or barblurates. However, barblurates should not be used if drugs that inhibit monoamine oxidase have also been taken by the patient, either in overdosage or in recent therapy (within

Barbiturates may also induce respiratory depression, particularly in chil-dren. It is therefore advisable to have equipment available for artificial ventilation and resuscitation when barbiturates are employed. Paraldehyde may be used to counteract muscular hypertonus without producing respir tory depression.

Shock (circulatory collapse) should be treated with supportive measures, including intravenous fluids, oxygen, and corticosteroids.

It is recommended that the electrocardiogram be monitored, particularly in children, to detect any cardiac arrhythmias or conduction defects.

Dosage and Administration

Use in Epilepsy (See Indications):

A low initial daily dosage of TEGRETOL (carbamazepine) with a gradual increase in dosage is advised. Dosage should be adjusted to the needs of

TEGRETOL tablets and CHEWTABS should be taken in 2 to 4 divided doses daily, with meals whenever possible.

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The controlled release characteristics of TEGRETOL CR reduce the daily fluctuations of plasma carbamazepine. TEGRETOL CR tablets (either whole or, it so prescribed, only half a tablet) should be swallowed unchewed with a little liquid during or after a meal. These controlled release tablets should be prescribed as a twice-daily dosage. If necessary, three divided doses may be prescribed.

oe prescribed.

Adults and Children Over 12 Years of Age:
Initially, 100 to 200 mg once or twice a day depending on the severity of the case and previous therapeutic history. The initial dosage is progressively increased, in divided doses, until the best response is obtained. The usual optimal dosage is 800 to 1200 mg daily. In rare instances some adult patients have received 1600 mg. As soon as disappearance of seizures has been obtained and maintained, dosage should be reduced very gradually until a minimum effective dose is reached. until a minimum effective dose is reached.

until a minimum effective dose is reachieu. Children 6:12 'Pasr of Age. Initially, 100 mg in divided doses on the first day. Increase gradually by adding 100 mg per day until the best response is obtained. Dosage should generally not exceed 1000 mg daily. As soon as disappearance of seizures has been obtained and maintained, dosage should be reduced very gradually until a minimum effective dose is reached.

gradually until a minimum effective dose is reached. *Use in Trigenmal Neuralgia:*The initial daily dosage should be small; 200 mg taken in 2 doses of 100 mg each is recommended. The total daily dosage can be increased by 200 mg/day until relief of pain is obtained. This is usually achieved at dosage between 200 and 800 mg daily, but occasionally up to 1200 mg/day may be necessary. As soon as relief of pain has been obtained and maintained, progressive reduction in dosage should be attempted until a minimal effective dosage is zeached. Beause trigenging legical is characteristic is characteristic. tive dosage is reached. Because trigeminal neuralgia is characterized by periods of remission, attempts should be made to reduce or discontinue the use of TEGRETOL at intervals of not more than 3 months, depending upon the individual clinical course.

Prophylactic use of the drug in trigeminal neuralgia is not recommended.

Availability

TEGRETOL Tablets 200 mg: Each white, round, flat, bevelled-edge double-scored tablet engraved GEIGY on one side contains 200 mg carbamazepine. Available in bottles of 100 and 500 tablets.

Available in bottles on 100 and 500 atteles.

TEGRETOL CHEWTABS 100 mg: Pate pink, round, flat, bevelled-edge tablets with distinct red spots. GEIGY engraved on one side and MR on the other. Fully bisected between the M and R. Each chewable tablet contains 100 mg carbamazepine. Available in bottles of 100 CHEWTABS.

carbamazepine. Available in bottles of 100 CHEWIABS.

TEGRETIOL CHEWTABS. 200 mg. Pale pink, oval biconvex tablets with distinct red spots. GEIGY engraved on one side and PU engraved on the other. Fully bisected between the P and U. Each chewable tablet contains 200 mg carbamazepine. Available in bottles of 100 CHEWTABS.

TEGRETIOL CR. 200 mg. Beige-orange, capsule-shaped, slightly biconvex tablet, engraved CG/CG on one side and HC/HC on the other. Fully bisected on both sides. Each controlled release tablet contains 200 mg carbamazepine. Available in bottles of 100 tablets.

TEGRETIOL CR. 200 mg. Pengrish pageage. Capsule chaped. Slightly bicone.

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Protect from heat and humidity

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1. Kramer G., Besser R., Katzmann K., Theisohn M. Slow release carbamazépine in the treat-ment of epilepsy; Atl. Neurol. 1985; 12: 70-74. 2. Data on file 3. Product Monograph A. Hop-pener RJ, Kuyer A. Neiler JAWA, Hustman J. Cornelation between dally Hustalians of carba-mazépine strum levels and intermittent side effects: Epilepsia 1980; 21: 341-350. 8. Diurnal fluctuations in fream and total treatistical paisma levels of carbamazépine and cornelation with intermittent side effects. Epilepsia 1984; 25: (4): 476-481. 8. Aldenkamp AP. Alpherts WCJ. and MC, Ohevenger N, Van Parys JAP. Controlled release carbai fects in patients with epilepsy. Epilepsia 1987; 28: 507-514.

Product Monograph supplied upon request.

Geigy Mississauga, Ontario L5N 2W5

DILANTIN*

(extended phenytoin sodium capsules USP)

THERAPEUTIC CLASSIFICATION **ANTICONVULSANT**

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Dilantin (phenytoin sodium) is indicated for the control of generalized tonicclonic and psychomotor (grand mal and temporal lobe) seizures and prevention and treatment of seizures occurring during or following neurosurgery. Phenytoin serum level determinations may be necessary for optimal dosage adjustments (see Dosage and Administration).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Dilantin (phenytoin sodium) is contraindicated in those patients who are hypersensitive to phenytoin or other hydantoins.

Abrupt withdrawal of Dilantin (phenytoin sodium) in epileptic patients may precipitate status epilepticus. When, in the judgement of the clinician, the need for dosage reduction, discontinuation, or substitution of alternative antiepileptic medication arises, this should be done gradually. However, in the event of an allergic or hypersensitivity reaction, rapid substitution of alternative therapy may be necessary. In this case, alternative therapy should be an antiepileptic drug not belonging to the hydantoin chemical class. There have been a number of reports suggesting a relationship between

phenytoin and the development of lymphadenopathy (local or generalized) including benign lymph node hyperplasia, pseudolymphoma, lymphoma, and Hodgkin's Disease. Although a cause and effect relationship has not been established, the occurrence of lymphadenopathy indicates the need to differentiate such a condition from other types of lymph node pathology. Lymph node involvement may occur with or without symptoms and signs resembling serum sickness, e.g. fever, rash and liver involvement.

In all cases of lymphadenopathy, follow-up observation for an extended period is indicated and every effort should be made to achieve seizure control using alternative antiepileptic drugs.

Acute alcoholic intake may increase phenytoin serum levels while chronic alcoholic use may decrease serum levels.

Usage in Pregnancy

A number of reports suggests an association between the use of antiepileptic drugs by women with epilepsy and a higher incidence of birth defects in children born to these women. Data are more extensive with respect to phenytoin and phenobarbital, but these are also the most commonly prescribed antiepileptic drugs; less systematic or anecdotal reports suggest a possible similar association with the use of all known antiepileptic drugs.

The reports suggesting a higher incidence of birth defects in children of

drug-treated epileptic women cannot be regarded as adequate to prove a definite cause and effect relationship. There are intrinsic methodologic problems in obtaining adequate data on drug teratogenicity in humans; genetic factors or the epileptic condition itself may be more important than drug therapy in leading to birth defects. The great majority of mothers on antiepileptic medication deliver normal infants. It is important to note that antiepileptic drugs should not be discontinued in patients in whom the drug is administered to prevent major seizures, because of the strong possibility of precipitating status epilepticus with attendant hypoxia and threat to life. In individual cases where the severity and frequency of the seizure disorder are such that the removal of medication does not pose a serious threat to the patient, discontinuation of the drug may be considered prior to and during pregnancy, although it cannot be said with any confidence that even minor seizures do not pose some hazard to the developing embryo or fetus. The prescribing physician will wish to weigh these considerations in treating or

counseling epileptic women of childbearing potential.
In addition to the reports of the increased incidence of congenital malformations, such as cleft lip/palate and heart malformations in children of women receiving phenytoin and other antiepileptic drugs, there have more recently been reports of a fetal hydantoin syndrome. This consists of prenatal growth deficiency, microcephaly and mental deficiency in children born to mothers who have received phenytoin, barbiturates, alcohol, or trimethadione. However, these features are all interrelated and are frequently associated with intrauterine growth retardation from other causes.

There have been isolated reports of malignancies, including neuroblastoma, in children whose mothers received phenytoin during pregnancy.

An increase in seizure frequency during pregnancy occurs in a high proportion of patients, because of altered phenytoin absorption or metabolism. Periodic measurement of serum phenytoin levels is particularly valuable in the management of a pregnant epileptic patient as a guide to an appropriate adjustment of dosage. However, postpartum restoration of the original dosage will probably be indicated.

Neonatal coagulation defects have been reported within the first 24 hours in babies born to epileptic mothers receiving phenobarbital and/or phenytoin.

Vitamin K has been shown to prevent or correct this defect and has been recommended to be given to the mother before delivery and to the neonate after birth.

PRECAUTIONS

The liver is the chief site of biotransformation of Dilantin (phenytoin sodium); patients with impaired liver function, elderly patients, or those who are gravely ill may show early signs of toxicity.

A small percentage of individuals who have been treated with phenytoin have been shown to metabolize the drug slowly. Slow metabolism may be due to limited enzyme availability and lack of induction; it appears to be genetically

Phenytoin should be discontinued if a skin rash appears (see "Warnings" section regarding drug discontinuation). If the rash is exfoliative, purpuric, or bullous or if tupus erythematosus or Stevens-Johnson syndrome is suspected, use of this drug should not be resumed and alternative therapy should be considered (see Adverse Reactions). If the rash is of a milder type (measles-like or scarlatiniform), therapy may be resumed after the rash has completely disappeared. If the rash recurs upon reinstitution of therapy, further phenytoin medication is contraindicated.

Hyperglycemia, resulting from the drug's inhibitory effects on insulin release, has been reported. Phenytoin may also raise the serum glucose level in diabetic patients.

Osteomalacia has been associated with phenytoin therapy and is considered to be due to phenytoin's interference with Vitamin D metabolism.

Phenytoin is not indicated for seizures due to hypoglycemic or other metabolic causes. Appropriate diagnostic procedures should be performed as indicated.

Phenytoin is not effective for absence (petit mal) seizures. If tonic-clonic (grand mal) and absence (petit mal) seizures are present, combined drug therapy is needed.

Serum levels of phenytoin sustained above the optimal range may produce confusional states referred to as "delirium", "psychosis", or "encephalopathy", or rarely, irreversible cerebellar dysfunction. Accordingly, at the first sign of acute toxicity, plasma level determinations are recommended. Dose reduction of phenytoin therapy is indicated if plasma levels are excessive; if symptoms persist, termination is recommended (see Warnings).

Information for Patients

Patients taking phenytoin should be advised of the importance of adhering strictly to the prescribed dosage regimen, and of informing the physician of any clinical condition in which it is not possible to take the drug orally as prescribed, e.g. surgery, etc.

Patients should also be cautioned on the use of other drugs or alcoholic beverages without first seeking the physician's advice.

Patients should be instructed to call their physician if skin rash develops.

The importance of good dental hygiene should be stressed in order to minimize the development of gingival hyperplasia and its complications.

Do not use capsules which are discoloured.

Laboratory Tests

Phenytoin serum level determinations may be necessary to achieve optimal dosage adjustments

Drug Interactions

There are many drugs which may increase or decrease phenytoin levels or which phenytoin may affect. The most commonly occurring drug interactions are listed below:

- 1. Drugs which may increase phenytoin serum levels include: chloramphenicol, dicumarol, disulfiram, tolbutamide, isoniazid, phenylbutazone, acute alcohol intake, salicylates, chlordiazepoxide, phenothiazines, diazepam, estrogens, ethosuximide, halothane, methylphenidate, sulfonamides, cimetidine, trazodone.
- Drugs which may decrease phenytoin levels include: carbamazepine, chronic alcohol abuse, reserpine. Ingestion times of phenytoin and antacid preparations containing calcium should be staggered in patients with low serum phenytoin levels to prevent absorption problems.

 3. Orugs which may either increase or decrease phenytoin serum levels
- include: phenobarbital, valproic acid, and sodium valproate. Similarly, the effect of phenytoin on phenobarbital, valproic acid and sodium valproate serum levels is unpredictable.
- 4. Although not a true drug interaction, tricyclic antidepressants may precipitate seizures in susceptible patients and phenytoin dosage may need to be adjusted.
- 5. Drugs whose efficacy is impaired by phenytoin include: corticosteroids, cournarin anticoagulants, oral contraceptives, quinidine, vitamin D, digitoxin, rifampin, doxycycline, estrogens, furosemide.

Serum level determinations are especially helpful when possible drug interactions are suspected.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Phenytoin may cause decreased serum levels of protein-bound iodine (PBI). It may also produce lower than normal values for devamethasone or metyrapone tests. Phenytoin may cause increased seurm levels of glucose, alkaline phosphatase, and gamma glutamyl transpeptidase (GGT)

Nursing Mothers

Infant breast-feeding is not recommended for women taking this drug because phenytoin appears to be secreted in low concentrations in human milk

See WARNINGS section.

Carcinogenesis

See WARNINGS section.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Central Nervous System:

The most common manifestations encountered with Dilantin (phenytoin sodium) therapy are referable to this system and are usually dose-related. These include nystagmus, ataxia, slurred speech, decreased coordination and mental confusion. Dizziness, insomnia, transient nervousness, motor twitchings, and headaches have also been observed. There have also been rare reports of phenytoin induced dyskinesias, including chorea, dystonia, tremor and asterixis, similar to those induced by phenothiazine and other

A predominantly sensory peripheral polyneuropathy has been observed in patients receiving long-term phenytoin therapy.

Gastrointestinal System:

Nausea, vomiting, and constipation.

Integumentary System:

Dermatological manifestations sometimes accompanied by fever have included scartatiniform or morbilliform rashes. A morbilliform rash (me like) is the most common; other types of dermatitis are seen more rarely. Other more serious forms which may be fatal have included bullous, exfoliative or purpuric dermatitis, lupus erythematosus, and Stevens-Johnson syndrome (see Precautions).

Hemonoletic System:

Hemopoietic complications, some fatal, have occasionally been reported in association with administration of phenytoin. These have included thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, granulocytopenia, agranulocytosis, and pancytopenia with or without bone marrow suppression. While macrocytosis and megaloblastic anemia have occurred, these conditions usually respond to folic acid therapy. Lymphadenopathy including benign lymph node hyperplasia, pseudolymphoma, lymphuma, and Hodgkin's Disease have been reported (see Warnings).

Connective Tissue System:
Coarsening of the facial features, enlargement of the lips, gingival hyperplasia, hypertrichosis and Peyronie's Disease

Systemic lupus erythematosus, periarteritis nodosa, toxic hepatitis, liver damage, and immunoglobulin abnormalities may occur.

OVERDOSAGE

The lethal dose of Ditantin (phenytoin sodium) in children is not known. The lethal dose in adults is estimated to be 2 to 5 grams. The initial symptoms are nystagmus, ataxia, and dysarthria. Other signs are tremor, hyperflexia, lethargy, slurred speech, nausea, vomiting. The patient may become comatose and hypotensive. Death is due to respiratory and circulatory

There are marked variations among individuals with respect to phenytoin plasma levels where toxicity may occur. Nystagmus, on lateral gaze, usually appears at 20 mcg/mL, ataxia at 30 mcg/mL, dysarthria and lethargy appear when the plasma concentration is over 40 mcg/mL, but as high a concentration as 50 mcg/mL has been reported without evidence of toxicity. As much as 25 times the therapeutic dose has been taken to result in a serum concentration over 100 mcg/mL with complete recovery.

Treatment is nonspecific since there is no known antidote.

The adequacy of the respiratory and circulatory systems should be carefully observed and appropriate supportive measures employed. Hemodialysis can be considered since phenytoin is not completely bound to plasma proteins. Total exchange transfusion has been used in the treatment of severe

In acute overdosage the possibility of other CNS depressants, including alcohol, should be borne in mind.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serum concentrations should be monitored when switching a patient from the sodium salt to the free acid form.

Dilantin Capsules, Dilantin Parenteral, and Dilantin with Phenobarbital are formulated with the sodium salt of phenytoin. The free acid form of phenytoin is used in Dilantin-30 Pediatric and Dilantin-125 Suspensions and Dilantin Infatabs. Because there is approximately an 8% increase in drug content with the free acid form than the sodium salt, dosage adjustments and serum level monitoring may be necessary when switching from a product formulated with the free acid to a product formulated with the sodium salt and vice versa.

Dosage should be individualized to provide maximum benefit. In some cases, serum blood level determinations may be necessary for optimal dosage adjustments — the clinically effective serum level is usually 10 - 20 mcg/mL. Serum blood level determinations are especially helpful when possible drug interactions are suspected. With recommended dosage, a period of seven to ten days may be required to achieve therapeutic blood levels with Dilantin.

Patients who have received no previous treatment may be started on one 100 mg extended phenytoin sodium capsule three times daily, and the dose

then adjusted to suit individual requirements. For most adults, the satisfactory maintenance dosage will be three to four capsules (300-400 mg) daily. An increase to six capsules daily may be made, if necessary.

Pediatric Dose:

Initially, 5 mg/kg/day in two or three equally divided doses, with subsequent dosage individualized to a maximum of 300 mg daily. A recommended daily maintenance dosage is usually 4 to 8 mg/kg. Children over 6 years old may require the minimum adult dose (300 mg/day). Pediatric dosage forms available include a 30 mg extended phenytoin sodium capsule, a 50 mg palatably flavoured Infatab, or an oral suspension form containing 30 mg of Dilantin in each 5 mL.

Alternative Dose:

Once-a-day dosage for adults with 300 mg of extended phenytoin sodium capsules may be considered if seizure control is established with divided do of three 100 mg capsules daily. Studies comparing divided doses of 300 mg with a single daily dose of this quantity indicated that absorption, peak plasma levels, biologic half-life, difference between peak and minimum values, and urinary recovery were equivalent. Once-a-day dosage offers a convenience to the individual patient or to nursing personnel for institutionalized patients, and is intended only to be used for patients requiring this amount of drug daily. A major problem in motivating noncompliant patients may also be lessened when the patient can take all of his medication once a day. However, patients should be cautioned not to inadvertently miss a dose. Only extended phenytoin sodium capsules are recommended for once-a-day dosing.

HOW SUPPLIED

DILANTIN CAPSULES: (EXTENDED PHENYTOIN SODIUM CAPSULES USP): Each white capsule with pale pink cap contains: phenytoin sodium 30 mg. Bottles of 100 and 500.

Each white capsule with orange cap contains: phenytoin sodium 100 mg. Bottles of 100 and 1,000.

Also available as:

Dilantin Injection:

Ready mixed 2 and 5 mL ampoules containing phenytoin sodium 50 mg/mL with propylene glycol 40% and alcohol 10% in water for injection. Adjusted to pH 12. 2 mL ampoules are available in packages of 10 and 5 mL ampoutes in packages of 5.

Dilantin with Phenobarbital Capsules:

Each white capsule with garnet cap contains: phenytoin sodium 100 mg and phenobarbital 15 mg. Bottles of 100 and 500. Each white capsule with black cap contains: phenytoin sodium 100 mg

and phenobarbital 30 mg. Bottles of 100.

Dilantin Infatabs:

Each flavoured, triangular shaped, grooved tablet contains: phenytoin 50 mg. Bottles of 100.

Dilantin Suspensions:

Each 5 mL of flavoured, coloured suspension contains: phenytoin 30 mg (red, Dilantin-30) or 125 mg (orange, Dilantin-125). Bottles of 250 mL. Store at room temperature below 30°C (86°F). Protect from light and moisture.

Product Monograph available on request.

PARKE-DAVIS

Scarborough, Ontario M1L 2N3

*T.M. Warner-Lambert Company, Parke-Davis Division, Warner-Lambert Canada Inc. auth.user.

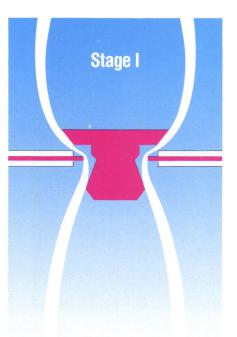


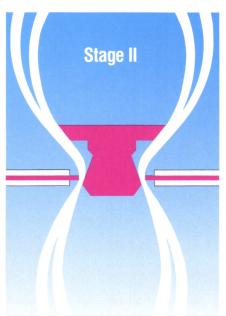
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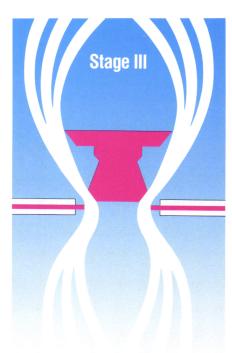
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The Orbis-Sigma™ Valve (OSV) from Cordis

- controls intraventricular pressure or flow depending upon conditions present.
- varies shunt resistance automatically.*







Low Resistance Differential Pressure (DP) Valve at Low DPs

The mechanism remains closed as long as DP is below the valve's opening pressure (<30 mm H₂O) When DP exceeds opening pressure, the OSV operates as a low resistance shunt with CSF flow rates up to 18 ml/hr.

High Resistance Flow Regulator Valve at Higher Rates of CSF Flow

When CSF flow exceeds 18 ml/hr, the valve's resistance *automatically* increases. CSF flow is maintained between 18 and 30 ml/hr over a wide DP range (120 to 300 mm H₂O) limiting the potential for overdrainage.

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With dramatic DP increases where DP exceeds 300 mm H₂O, the OSV becomes a low resistance shunt to rapidly increase flow, thus normalizing IVP. The valve's mechanism then reverts to Stage II or I operation, depending upon conditions.

Caution: In the USA, Federal law restricts this device to investigational use only.

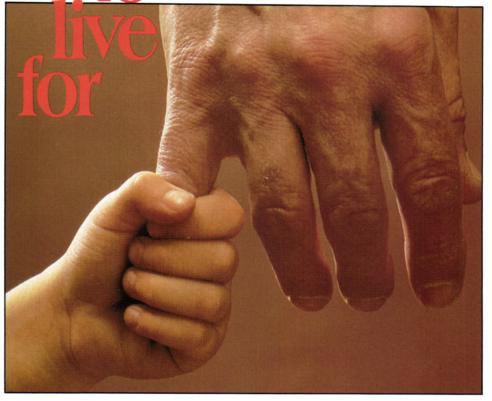
Prior to implantation, refer to the Instructions for Use supplied with the valve for indications, contraindications, suggested procedure, warnings, precautions and side effects.

*Sainte Rose C, et al. A new approach in the treatment of hydrocephalus. *J Neurosurg* 66:213-226, 1987. Cordis Canada 8108 Yonge Street Suite 212 Thornhill, Ontario L4J 1W4 Telephone: 416-731-0620 Fax: 416-764-5628

Cordis Corporation P.O. Box 025700 Miami, FL 33102-5700 USA Telephone: 305-824-2000 Fax: 305-824-2858



Something to



Parkinson's syndrome is an insidious assault on the lifestyles of more than 58,000 Canadians.

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- easy usage with levodopa and anticholinergics.
- simple dosage regimen; simple titration.



can help in Parkinson's Disease

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For brief prescribing information see page xx

Calendar of Events

- September 7-8, 1989. The Parkinson Foundation of Canada is holding its Annual General Meeting and Conference in Saint John, New Brunswick. Contact: Sheila Darrah, Saint John Chapter, The Parkinson Foundation of Canada, c/o Loch Lomond Villa Inc., 185 Loch Lomond Road, Saint John, NB, Canada E2J 3S3. Phone (506) 633-2675 ext. 640.
- September 18-21, 1989. Management of Neuromuscular Disease in the 1990's in conjunction with the Shaw festival will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Contact: Dr. W.F. Brown, Dept. of Neurology, University Hospital, P.O. Box 5339, London, Ontario N6A 5A5.
- September 24, 1989. Symposia on Etiology, Pathogenesis and Prevention of Parkinson's Disease and Hyperkinetic Movement Disorders. The Movement Disorder Society and the Parkinson Study Group are jointly sponsoring two half-day symposia, preceding the annual meeting of the American Neurological Association in New Orleans. Contact: Dr. Stanley Fahn, Neurological Institute, 710 West 168th Street, New York, NY USA 10032. Phone (212) 305-5277.
- September 24-26, 1989. A Symposium on Microbial Metabolites as Sources of New Drugs will be held in Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. Contact: Dr. John C. Emmett, Dialog in Science, The Studio, 12 High Street, Wheathampstead, Herts, England AL4 8AA UK. Phone (058) 283-4117.
- October 2-4, 1989. Neuropeptides and Immunopeptides: Messengers in a Neuroimmune Axis meeting, sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences will be held in New York City. Deadline for submission of abstracts is June 1, 1989. For further information contact: Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, NY 10021, USA. Phone (212) 838-0230.
- October 1989, XIVth International Symposium of the Fulton Society on "The Neurobiology of Brain Implants" will be held in New Delhi along with the XIVth World congress of Neurology. Contact: Prof. Dr. Victor Soriano, Calle Buenos Aires 363, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- October 2-6, 1989. Clinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging Course will be held in San Francisco, USA. Contact: Radiology Postgraduate Education UCSF, 531 Parnassus Avenue, Rm. C-324, San Francisco, CA USA 94143. Phone: (415) 476-5731.
- October 21-22, 1989. The International Merritt-Putnam Symposium entitled "Epilepsy: Delivery of Quality Care with Limited Resources" will be held in New Delhi, India in conjunction with the 18th International Epilepsy Congress and the XIV World Congress of Neurology. For further information contact: Epilepsy Canada, 2099 Alexandre de Sève, #27, P.O. Box 1560, Stn. C, Montréal, PQ H2L 4K8. Phone (514) 876-7455.

- November 30 December 3, 1989. American Back Society Fall Symposium on Back Pain will be held in Las Vegas, USA. Contact: American Back Society, 2647 East 14th Street, Suite 401, Oakland, CA USA 94601. Phone (415) 536-9929.
- December 1-2, 1989. Genes, Brain and Behavior meeting will be held in New York City, USA. Contact: Ivan Bodis-Wollner, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer, ARNMD, Box 1052, Mt. Sinai Hospital, I Gustave Levy Place, New York, NY, USA 10029. Phone (212) 348-8133.
- December 4-6, 1989. Presynaptic Receptors An Examination of Different Views meeting, sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences will be held in Philadelphia, USA. Deadline for abstracts is September 1, 1989. Contact: Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, NY, USA 10021. Phone: (212) 838-0230.
- January 14-19, 1990. XII International Congress of Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Contact: General Secretariat, Robert Low, SHIN, QL 2, conj. 11, casa 14, 71.500 Brasilia, DF, Brasil.
- January 21-27, 1990. Advances in Neurology course will be held in Islamorado, Florida, USA. Contact: Millie F. Walden, Executive Secretary, 3425 S.W. 2nd Avenue, #153, Gainesville, Florida USA 32607. Phone: (904) 374-6058 or 373-9765.
- February 1-3, 1990. 13th Annual course: Neurology for Non-Neurologists will be held in San Diego, USA. Contact: Edith S. Bookstein/NNN, P.O. Box 2586, La Jolla, CA USA 92038. Phone: (619) 454-3212.
- February 14-16, 1990. 23rd Annual Recent Advances in Neurology will be held in San Francisco, USA. Contact: (415) 476-4251.
- April 2-4, 1990. Central and Peripheral Significance of Neuropeptide Y and its Related Peptides meeting will be held in Baltimore, USA. Contact: Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, NY USA 10021. Phone (212) 838-0230.
- April 1-8, 1990. Pathophysiological and Compensatory Events during Cerebral Ischemia and Post-Ischemic Edema course will be held in Erice-Trapani-Italy. Contact: Prof. Carlo Alvisi, Cattedra di Neurochirurgia, Istituto di Neurologia, Via Foscolo 7, 40123, Bologna, Italy. Phone: 0039/51/585158.
- June 26-30, 1990. The Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences will hold its XXVth Annual Meeting in Banff, Alberta. For further information contact: The Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences, Secretariat Office, P.O. Box 4220, Station C, Calgary, AB Canada T2T 5N1. Phone: (403) 229-9544.

Information for Authors

The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences publishes original articles in the clinical and basic neurosciences. Manuscripts are considered for publication with the understanding that, except for identified review articles, they have not been published elsewhere except in abstract form and are not under simultaneous consideration by another publication. Manuscripts should be submitted to:

The Editor

Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences

P.O. Box 4220

Station C

Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5N1

Manuscripts and all illustrations should be submtted in triplicate. Papers will be accepted in English or French. All papers should be accompanied by an abstract or a résumé of approximately 150 words on a separate page, preferably in both languages, although the Journal will provide the translation if requested. All manuscripts should be double spaced throughout, including references and legends for illustrations. Margins of at least 25 mm should be left on all sides.

For detailed instructions regarding style and layout, authors should refer to "Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals". Copies of this document may be obtained by writing to the Journal office, but the main points will be summarized here. Articles should be subdivided under conventional headings of "introduction", "methods and materials", "results" and "discussion" but other headings and subheadings will be considered if more suitable for a particular manuscript. A title page should identify the title of the article, authors, name of institution(s) from which the work originated, and the address and telephone number of the author to whom communications should be addressed. Pages of text should be numbered consecutively. Acknowledgements, including recognition of financial support, should be typed on a separate page at the end of the text.

References are to be numbered in the order of citation in the text. Those cited only in tables or in legends for illustrations are numbered in accordance with a sequence established by the first identification in the text of a particular table or illustration. Titles of journals should be abbreviated according to the style used in Index Medicus. References should be complete including the names of the first three authors followed by "et al" if there are more than three authors, full title, year of publication, volume number, and inclusive pagination for journal articles. Book or chapter references should also include the place of publication and name of the publisher. Examples of correct forms of references follow:

Iournals

Poirier LJ, Filion M, Larochelle L, et al. Physipathology of experimental parkinsonism in the monkey. Can J Neurol Sci 1975; 2: 255-263.

McGeer PL, McGeer EG. Amino acid neurotransmitters. In: Siegel GJ, Albers RW, Agranoff BW, Katzman R, eds. Basic Neurochemistry. Boston: Little, Brown & Co, 1981: 233-254.

Illustrations should be high quality glossy black-and-white photographic prints, preferably 127 x 173 mm (5 x 7"). Original artwork and radiographs should not be submitted. The additional cost of colour illustration must be borne by the author; quotations are available upon request from the Journal office. All figures should be identified on the back with the author's name and figure number. Letters and arrows applied to the figures to identify particular findings should be professional appliques suitable for publication. Photomicrographs should include a calibration bar with the scale indicated on the figure or in the legend. Legends for illustrations should be typed on a separate page from the illustrations themselves.

Tables should each be on a separate page and be identified with the title or heading. Particular care should be taken in the preparation of tables to ensure that the data are presented in the most clear and precise format. Each column should have a short or abbreviated heading. Place explanatory matter in footnotes, not in the heading. Do not submit tables as photographs.

The SI system (système international d'unités) should be used in reporting all laboratory data, even if originally reported in another system. Temperatures are reported in degrees Celsius. Other measurements should be reported in the metric system. English language text may use either British or American spelling, but should be consistent throughout.

Review articles on selected topics also are published by the Journal. These are usually invited, but unsolicited reviews will be considered. It is suggested that authors intending to submit reviews contact the Editor in advance.

Letters to the Editor are welcome. These should be limited to two double-spaced pages and may include one illustration and a maximum of four references.

Information aux auteurs

Le journal Canadien des Sciences Neurologiques publie des articles originaux dans les sciences neurologiques, cliniques et fondamentales. Les manuscrits ne sont considérés pour publication qu'à la condition expresse, à l'exception des articles de revue clairement identifiés comme tel, qu'ils n'aient pas été publiés ailleurs, sauf sous forme de résumé et qu'ils ne soient pas sous considération simultanée par un autre journal. Les manuscrits doivent être soumis à:

L'Editeur

Journal Canadien des Sciences Neurologiques,

P.O. Box 4220,

Station C.

Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5N1

Les manuscrits et toutes les illustrations doivent être soumis en triplicata. Les articles seront acceptés en français ou en anglais. Tous les articles doivent être accompagnés d'un résumé d'environ 150 mots, sur page séparée, préférablement dans les deux langues, quoique le Journal puisse fournir cette traduction sur requête. Les manuscrits doivent être dactylographiés complètement à double interligne y compris les références et les légendes pour illustrations. Des marges d'au moins 25 mm doivent être laissées de tous les côtés.

Pour les conseils plus détaillés sur le style et la présentation du texte, les auteurs doivent se référer au texte intitulé "Règlements uniformes pour les manuscrits soumis aux journaux biomédicaux". On peut obtenir une copie de ce document en écrivant au bureau du Journal, mais en voici les principaux points: Les articles doivent être présentés selon le plan habituel: "Introduction", "Matériel et méthodes", "Résultats" et "Discussion", mais il est possible d'employer d'autres titres ou sous-titres si nécessaire pour un manuscrit en particulier. Sur une page titre séparée on doit identifier le titre de l'article, les auteurs, les institutions d'où origine le travail, ainsi que l'adresse et le numéro de téléphone de l'auteur à qui devront être adressées les communications. Les remerciements, incluant ceux pour l'appui financier, doivent être dactylographiés sur page séparée à la fin du texte. Les références doivent être numérotées dans l'ordre où elles sont citées dans le texte. Celles qui sont citées seulement dans les tableaux ou légendes d'illustrations sont numérotées selon la séquence établie par la première identification dans le texte de ces tableaux ou illustrations particulières. Les titres des Journaux doivent être abrégés selon le style utilisé dans Index Medicus. Les références doivent être complètes, incluant le nom des trois premiers auteurs suivis de "et al", s'il y a plus de trois auteurs, le titre complet, l'année de publication, le numéro du volume et les premières et dernières pages de l'article. Les références aux livres et chapitres de livres doivent aussi inclure le lieu de la publication et le nom de la maison d'édition. Les exemples suivants peuvent être utilisés:

Iournaux

Poirier LJ, Filion M, Larochelle L, et al. Physiopathology of experimental parkinsonism in the monkey. Can J Neurol Sci 1975; 2: 255-263.

Chapitre de livre

McGeer PL, McGeer EG, Amino acid neurotransmitters. In: Siegel GJ, Albers RW, Agranoff BW, Katzman R, eds. Basic Neurochemistry. Boston: Little, Brown & Co, 1981: 233-254.

Les illustrations doivent être sur papier brillant de haute qualité et imprimées en blanc et noir, préférablement 127 x 173 mm (5 x 7"). Les illustrations et photographies originales ne doivent pas être soumises. Le coût supplémentaire des illustrations en couleur revient entièrement à l'auteur; les coûts détaillés peuvent être obtenus directement au bureau du Journal. Il faut identifier toutes illustrations en inscrivant au dos le nom de l'auteur et le numéro. Toutes lettres ou flèches appliquées aux illustrations pour identifier un aspect particulier doivent être de qualité professionnelle. Les photomicrographies doivent inclure une barre de calibration dont l'échelle est mentionée dans la légende. Les légendes des illustrations doivent être dactylographiées sur une page séparée de celles-ci.

Les tableaux doivent être sur des pages séparées et être identifiés avec titre. On doit prendre un soin particulier dans la préparation de ces tableaux afin d'assurer que les données soient présentées avec le format le plus clair et le plus précis possible. Chaque colonne doit avoir un court titre. Les explications doivent être placées en dessous du tableau et non en sous-titre. Un tableau ne doit pas être soumis sous forme de photographie.

On doit employer le système international d'unités (SI) pour toutes données de laboratoire, même si celles-ci sont originelement présentées dans un autre système. Les températures doivent être citées en degrés celcius. Les autres données doivent utiliser le système métrique. Les textes en anglais peuvent utiliser l'orthographe anglais ou américain, mais cet usage doit être constant.

Le Journal publie également des articles de revue sur des sujets sélectionnés. Ces articles sont généralement sur invitation, mais, à l'occasion, une revue non sollicitée peut être acceptée. Il serait préférable que les auteurs ayant l'intention de soumettre une telle revue contactent d'abord l'Editeur

Nous accueillons les lettres à l'Editeur. Celles-ci doivent se limiter à deux pages, double interligne et peuvent contenir une seule illustration et ne doivent citer qu'un maximum de quatre références.



PARLODEL® Because quality of life is the issue

ACTIONS Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) is a dopaminomimetic ergot derivate with D2 type dopamine receptor agonist activity, and has also D₁ dopamine receptor antagonist properties. The dopaminomimetic activity of bromocriptine in the striatum is considered responsible for the clinical benefits seen in selected patients with Parkinson's disease, when low doses of the drug are gradually added to levodopa therapy in patients on long-term treatment who develop late side effects of levodopa or no longer respond to the medication. Excessive dopaminomimetic drive may, however, provoke psychotic and other adverse reactions.

The extreme variability in G.1. tract absorption and the extensive and individually variable first-pass metabolism are responsible for the broad variability in plasma concentrations of bromocriptine and, in part, for the variability in

INDICATIONS* Parkinson's Disease: Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) has been found to be clinically useful as an adjunct to levodopa (usually with a decarboxylase inhibitor), in the symptomatic management of selected patients with Parkinson's disease who experience prominent dyskinesia or wearing off reactions on long-term levodopa therapy.

Patients on long-term treatment who are beginning to deteriorate on levodopa therapy may be controlled by reducing the dose of levodopa and adjusting the frequency and schedule of drug administration. Patients maintained on optimal dosages of levodopa who still experience prominent dyskinesia and/or end-of-dose failure may benefit from the concomitant use of Parlodel, by decreasing the occurrence and/or severity of these manifestations. Since rapid escalation of bromocriptine doses causes severe adverse reactions, it is recommended to combine a slow increase of Parlodel, usually with a concomitant, gradual and limited reduction of levodopa dosage. Continued efficacy of bromocriptine for more than two years has not been established and there is some evidence that its efficacy tends to wane. Evidence available indicates that there is no consistent benefit from bromocriptine in patients who have not responded previously to levodopa, and studies have shown significantly more adverse reactions in bromocriptine-treated patients than in patients treated with levodopa. Parlodel is not recommended in the treatment of newly diagnosed patients or as the sole medication in Parkinson's disease.

CONTRAINDICATIONS Other than sensitivity to ergot alkaloids, no absolute contraindications to treatment with Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) are known. For procedure during pregnancy see "Use in Pregnancy" under Precautions.

WARNINGS Long-term treatment (6-36 months) with Parlodel in doses of 20 to 100 mg/day has been associated with pulmonary infiltrates, pleural effusion and thickening of the pleura in a few patients. Where Parlodel was discontinued, these changes slowly reverted to normal.

PRECAUTIONS Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) may cause hypotension, primarily postural; periodic monitoring of the blood pressure, particularly during the first days of therapy, is advisable. In some patients dizziness (vertigo) may occur with Parlodel; patients should therefore be cautioned against activities requiring rapid and precise responses, such as driving an automobile or operating dangerous machinery, until their response has been determined.

Care should be exercised when administering Parlodel concomitantly with phenothiazines or antihypertensive agents. Due to drug interaction at the receptor site, dosage should be adjusted accordingly.

Alcohol should be avoided during treatment with Parlodel. In some patients, the concomitant use of Parlodel and alcohol has given rise to alcohol intolerance and an increase in the severity and incidence of Parlodel's possible adverse

Parlodel should always be taken with food. In cases

where severe adverse effects, such as nausea, vomiting, vertigo or headaches are severe or persisting, the therapeutic dosage of Parlodel should be reduced to half of one tablet daily (1.25 mg) and increased gradually to that recommended. The dopamine antagonist domperidone may be useful in the control of severe gastrointestinal side effects in parkinsonian patients receiving Parlodel (see Drug Interactions).

As with all medication, Parlodel should be kept safely out of the reach of children.

Use in Pregnancy: If the patient wishes to become pregnant, Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) should be stopped as soon as possible after conception is suspected. In this event immunological confirmation should be done immediately. When pregnancy is confirmed, Parlodel, like all other drugs, should be discontinued unless, in the opinion of the treating physician, the possible benefit to the patient outweighs the notential risk to the fetus.

In human studies with Parlodel (reviewed by Turkalj, 1.), there were 1410 reported pregnancies, which yielded 1236 live and 5 stillborn infants from women who took Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) during early pregnancy. Among the 1241 infants, 43 cases (31 minor and 12 major) of congenital anomalies were reported. The incidence (3.46%) and type of congenital malformations and the incidence of spontaneous abortions (11.13%) in this group of pregnancies does not exceed that generally reported for such occurrences in the population at large.

Use in Parkinson's Disease: Use of Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate), particularly in high doses, may be associated with mental confusion and mental disturbances. Since patients with Parkinson's disease may manifest varying degrees of dementia, caution should be exercised when treating such patients with Parlodel.

Parlodel administered alone or concomitantly with levodopa may cause visual or auditory hallucinations. These usually resolve with dosage reduction, but discontinuation of Parlodel may be required in some cases. Rarely, after high doses, hallucinations have persisted for several weeks following discontinuation of Parlodel. Caution should be exercised when administering Parlodel to patients with a history of myocardial infarction, particularly if they have a residual atrial, nodal or ventricular arrhythmia.

Symptomatic hypotension can occur and, therefore, caution should be exercised when administering Parlodel, particularly in patients receiving antihypertensive medication. Periodic evaluation of hepatic, hematopoietic, cardiovascular and renal function is recommended.

Drug Interactions: The concomitant use of erythromycin may increase bromocriptine plasma levels.

Domperidone, a dopamine antagonist, may cause increases in serum prolactin. In so doing, domperidone may antagonise the therapeutically relevant prolactin lowering effect of Parlodel. It is possible that the antitumorigenic effect of Parlodel in patients with prolactinomas may be partially blocked by domperidone administration.

ADVERSE REACTIONS The most frequently observed adverse reactions are nausea, vomiting, headache and gastrointestinal side effects such as abdominal pain, diarrhea and constipation. All these effects may be minimized or even prevented by giving small initial doses of bromocriptine and by taking it with food.

Postural hypotension which can, on rare occasions, lead to fainting and "shock-like" syndromes has been reported in sensitive patients. This is most likely to occur during the first few days of Parlodel treatment.

When bromocriptine is added to levodopa therapy, the incidence of adverse reactions may increase. The most common newly appearing adverse reactions in combination therapy were: nausea, abnormal involuntary movements, hallucinations, confusion, "on-off" phenomenon, dizziness, drowsiness, faintness, fainting, vomiting, asthenia, abdominal discomfort, visual disturbance, ataxia, insomnia, depression, hypotension, shortness of breath, constipation and vertigo.

Less common adverse reactions include anorexia, anxiety, blepharospasm, dry mouth, dysphagia, edema of the feet and ankles, erythromelalgia, epileptiform seizures, fatigue, headache, lethargia, mottling of skin, nasal stuffiness, nervousness, nightmares, parethesia, skin rash, urinary frequency, urinary incontinence, unnary retention and rarely signs or symptoms of ergotism such as tingling of fingers, cold feet, numbness, muscle cramps of feet and legs or exacerbation of Raynaud's syndrome.

Abnormalities in laboratory tests may include elevation of blood urea nitrogen, SGOT, SGPT, GGPT, CPK, alkaline phosphatase and uric acid, which are usually transient and not of clinical significance.

The occurrence of adverse reactions may be lessened by temporarily reducing dosage to one-half tablet two or three

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF OVERDOSE There have been several reports of acute overdosage with Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) in children and adults. No life threatening reactions have occurred. Symptoms reported included nausea, vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness, hypotension, sweating and hallucinations. Management is largely symptomatic; the cardiovascular system should be monitored. Metoclopramide can be used to antagonize the emesis and hallucinations in patients who have taken high doses

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) should always be taken with food.

Although Parlodel (bromocriptine mesylate) has been found clinically useful in decreasing the severity and frequency of "on-off" fluctuations of late levodopa therapy, the decision to use bromocriptine as adjunctive treatment and the selection of dosage must be individualized in each case. A low dose is recommended. The initial dose of Parlodel is one half of a 2.5 mg tablet (1.25 mg) at bedtime with food to establish initial tolerance. Thereafter, the recommended dosage is 2.5 mg daily in two divided doses, with meals, (half a 2.5 mg tablet twice daily). The dosage may be increased very gradually, if necessary, by adding an additional 2.5 mg per day, once every 2 to 4 weeks, to be taken always in divided doses with meals. Increments should usually not exceed 2.5 mg. Clinical assessments are recommended at two week intervals or less during dosage titration, to ensure that the lowest effective dosage is not exceeded. The usual dosage range is from a few milligrams to 40 mg daily in two or three divided doses with meals. The median dose varies with the experience of individual investigators, but can be around 10 mg daily or higher. During initial titration it is recommended that the dosage of levodopa should be maintained, if possible. Subsequently, it might be desirable to combine a slow increase of bromocriptine with a concomitant, limited and gradual reduction of levodopa.

AVAILABILITY

TABLETS each containing 2.5 mg bromocriptine, as mesylate, available in bottles of 100.

CAPSULES each containing 5 mg bromocriptine, as mesylate, available in bottles of 100.

*For information on other approved indications, please consult the Parlodel product monograph, available to physicians and pharmacists on request.



see pages ifc, i

BLIORESAL®

(baclofen) Muscle relaxant Antispastic agent

INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USES

Alleviation of signs and symptoms of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis. Spina cord injuries and other spinal cord diseases.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to LIORESAL.

WARNINGS

Abrupt Drug Withdrawal: Except for serious adverse reactions, the dose should be reduced slowly when the drug is discontinued to prevent visual and auditory hallucinations, confusion, anxiety with tachycardia and sweating, and worsening of spasticity

Impaired Renal Function: Caution is advised in these patients and reduction in dosage may be necessary.

Stroke: Has not been of benefit and patients have shown poor tolerability to the drug.

Pregnancy and Lactation: Not recommended as safety has not been established. High doses in rats and rabbits are associated with an increase of abdominal hernias and ossification defects in the fetuses.

PRECAUTIONS

Not recommended in children under 12 as safety has not been established.

Because sedation may occur, caution patients regarding the operation of automobiles or dangerous machinery, activities made hazardous by decreased alertness, and use of alcohol and other CNS depressants.

Use with caution in spasticity that is utilized to sustain upright posture and balance in locomotion, or whenever spasticity is utilized to obtain increased function, epilepsy or history of convulsive disorders (clinical state and EEG should be monitored), peptic ulceration, severe psychiatric disorders, elderly patients with cerebrovascular disorders, and patients receiving antihypertensive therapy.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions are transient drowsiness; dizziness, weakness and fatigue. Others reported:

Neuropsychiatric: Headache, insomnia, euphoria, excitement, depression, confusion, hallucinations, paresthesia, muscle pain, tinnitus, slurred speech, coordination disorder, tremor, rigidity, dystonia, ataxia, blurred vision, nystagmus, strabismus, miosis, mydriasis, diplopia, dysarthria, epileptic seizures.

Cardiovascular: Hypotension, dyspnea, palpitation, chest pain, syncope.

Gastrointestinal: Nausea, constipation, dry mouth, anorexia, taste disorder, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, and positive test for occult blood in stool.

Genitourinary: Urinary frequency, enuresis, urinary retention, dysuria, impotence, inability to ejaculate, nocturia, hematuria.

Other: Rash, pruritus, ankle edema, excessive perspiration, weight gain, nasal congestion.

Some of the CNS and genitourinary symptoms reported may be related to the underlying disease rather than to drug therapy.

The following laboratory tests have been found to be abnormal in a few patients receiving LIORESAL: SGOT, alkaline phosphatase and blood sugar (all elevated).

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF OVERDOSAGE

Signs and Symptoms: Vomiting, muscular hypotonia, hypotension, drowsiness, accommodation disorders, coma, respiratory depression, and seizures.

Co-administration of alcohol, diazepam, tricyclic anti-depressants, etc., may aggravate the symptoms.

Treatment: Treatment is symptomatic. In the alert patient, empty the stomach (induce emesis followed by lavage). In the obtunded patient, secure the airway with a cuffed endotracheal tube before beginning lavage (do not induce emesis).

Maintain adequate respiratory exchange; do not use respiratory stimulants. Muscular hypotonia may involve the respiratory muscles and require assisted respiration. Maintain high urinary output. Dialysis is indicated in severe poisoning associated with renal failure.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Optimal dosage of LIORESAL requires individual titration. Start therapy at a low dosage and increase gradually until optimum effect is achieved (usually 40-80 mg daily).

The following dosage titration schedule is suggested:

5 mg t.i.d. for 3 days

10 mg t.i.d. for 3 days

15 mg t.i.d. for 3 days

20 mg t.i.d. for 3 days Total daily dose should not exceed a maximum of 20 mg q.i.d.

The lowest dose compatible with an optimal response is recommended. If benefits are not evident after a reasonable trial period, patients should be slowly withdrawn from the drug (see Warnings).

AVAILABILITY

LIORESAL (baclofen) 10 mg tablets: White to off-white flat-faced, oval tablets with GEIGY monogram on one side and the identification code 23 below the monogram. Fully bisected on the reverse side.

LIORESAL D.S. 20 mg tablet: White to off-white capsule-shaped, biconvex tablets. Engraved GEIGY on one side and GW with bisect on the other.

Available in bottles of 100 tablets.

Product Monograph supplied on request.

References:

- 1. Cartlidge, N.E.F., Hudgson, P., Weightman, D.: A comparison of baclofen and diazepam in the treatment of spasticity. J Neurol, Sci. 23: 17-24 (1974).
- Young, R., Delwaide, P.: Spasticity. New England Journal of Medicine 304: 28-33 & 96-99 (1981).
- From, A., Heltberg, A.: A double blind trial with baclofen and diazepam in spasticity due to multiple sclerosis. Acta Neurol. Scandinav. 51: 158-166, (1975).





See page ii

Prolopa® (levodopa/benserazide)

Antiparkinsonism Agent

Indications Treatment of Parkinson's syndrome when not druginduced

Contraindications Known hypersensitivity to levodopa or benserazide; in patients in whom sympathomimetic amines are contra-indicated; concomitantly with, or within 2 weeks of, MAOI administration; uncompensated cardiovascular, endocrine, renal, hepatic, hematologic or pulmonary disease; narrow-angle glaucoma.

Warnings Discontinue levodopa at least 12 hours before initiating

'Prolopa'. See Dosage section for substitution recommendations Not indicated in intention tremor, Huntington's chorea or druginduced Parkinsonism.

Increase dosage gradually to avoid CNS side effects (involuntary movements). Observe patients for signs of depression with suicidal tendencies or other serious behavioural changes. Caution in patients with history of psychotic disorders or receiving psychotherapeutic agents.

in patients with atrial, nodal or ventricular arrhythmias or history of myocardial infarction initiate treatment cautiously in hospital. Caution in patients with history of melanoma or suspicious undiagnosed skin lesions.

Safety in patients under 18 years has not been established. In women who are or may become pregnant, weigh benefits against possible hazards to mother and fetus. Not recommended for nursing mothers. Precautions Monitor cardiovascular, hepatic, hematopoietic and renal function during extended therapy. Caution in patients with history of convulsive disorders. Upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage possible in patients with a history of peptic ulcer.

Normal activity should be resumed gradually to avoid risk of injury. Monitor intraocular pressure in patients with chronic wide-angle glaucoma. Pupillary dilation and activation of Horner's syndrome have been reported rarely. Exercise caution and monitor blood pressure in patients on antihypertensive medication. 'Prolopa' can be discontinued 12 hours prior to anesthesia. Observe patients on concomitant psychoactive drugs for unusual reactions.

Adverse Reactions Most common are abnormal involuntary move-ments, usually dose dependent, which necessitate dosage reduction. Other serious reactions are periodic oscillations in performance (end of dose akinesia, on-off phenomenon and akinesia paradoxica) after prolonged therapy, psychiatric disturbances (including paranoia, psychosis, depression, dementia, increased libido, euphoria, sedation and stimulation), and cardiovascular effects (including arrhythmias, orthostatic hypotension, hypertension, ECG changes and angina pectoris).

Neurologic, intellectual, gastrointestinal, dermatologic, hematologic, musculoskeletal, respiratory, genitourinary and ophthalmologic reactions have also been reported. Consult Product Monograph for complete list.

Dosage Individualize therapy and titrate in small steps to maximize benefit without dyskinesias. Do not exceed the recommended dosage range.

Initially, one capsule 'Prolopa' 100-25 once or twice daily, increased carefully by one capsule every third or fourth day (slower in post-encephalitic Parkinsonism) until optimum therapeutic effect obtained without dyskinesias. At upper limits of dosage, increment slowly at 2-4 week intervals. Administer with food. Optimal dosage is usually 4-8 'Prolopa' 100-25 capsules daily, in

4-6 divided doses.

'Prolopa' 200-50 capsules are intended for maintenance therapy once optimal dosage has been determined using 'Prolopa' 100.25 capsules. No patient should receive more than 1000-1200~mglevodopa daily during the first year of treatment. 'Prolopa' 50-12.5 capsules should be used when frequent dosing is required to minimize adverse effects.

For patients previously treated with levodopa, allow at least 12 hours to elapse and initiate 'Prolopa' at 15% of previous levodopa dosage. During maintenance, reduce dosage slowly, if possible, to a maximum of 600 mg levodopa daily.

Supply 'Prolopa' 50-12.5 capsules containing 50 mg levodopa and 12.5 mg benserazide.

'Prolopa' 100-25 capsules containing 100 mg levodopa and 25 mg

'Prolopa' 200-50 capsules containing 200 mg levodopa and 50 mg benserazide.

Bottles of 100

Product Monograph available on request.

References: 1. Rondot P. Advantages of a Low Dosage of The Levodopa-Benserazide Combination in the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease. Med. et Hyg., 1981;39:3832-3835. 2. Data on file. 3. Mondal BK, Mondal KN, Parkinson's Disease in the Elderly: A Long-Term Efficacy Study of Levodopa/Benserazide Combination Therapy. Pharmather., 1986;4(9):571-576. 4. Ontario Drug Benefits Plan, December, 1986.

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Original Research in Medicine and Chemistry

■SYMMETREL® (Armantadine HCI) Antiparkinsonian Agent

INDICATIONS: The treatment of Parkinson's syndrome and in the short-term management of drug-induced extrapyramidal symptoms.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Patients with known hypersensitivity to the drug.

WARNINGS: Patients with a history of epilepsy or other "seizures" should be observed closely for possible untoward central nervous system effects. Patients with a history of congestive heart faiture or peripheral edema should be followed closely as there are patients who developed congestive heart faiture while receiving SYMMETREL[®]. Safety of use in pregnancy has not been established. SYMMETREL[®] should not be used in women of childbearing potential, unless the expected benefit to the patient outweighs the possible risk to the fetus.

SYMMETREL® is secreted in the milk and should not be administered to nursing mothers

PRECAUTIONS: The dose may need careful adjustment in patients with renal impairment, congestive heart failure, peripheral edema or orthostatic hypotension. Since SYMMETREL® is not metabolized and is mainly excreted in the urine, it may accumulate when renal function is inadequate.

Care should be exercised when administering to patients with liver disease, a history of recurrent eczematoid rash, psychosis, or severe psychoneurosis not controlled by chemotherapeutic agents. Careful observation is required when administered concurrently with central nervous system stimulants.

Patients with Parkinson's syndrome improving on SYMMETRELE should resume normal activities gradually and cautiously, consistent with other medical considerations, such as the presence of osteoporosis or phlebothrombosis. Patients receiving SYMMETRELE who note central nervous system effects or blurring of vision should be cautioned against driving or working in situations where alertness is important. SYMMETRELE should not be discontinued abruptly since a few patients with Parkinson's syndrome experienced a parkinsonian crisis, i.e., sudden marked clinical deterioration, when this medication was suddenly stopped.

The dose of anticholinergic drugs or of SYMMETREL® should be reduced if atropine-like effects appear when these drugs are used concurrently.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Adverse reactions have occurred in patients white receiving SYMMETREL® alone or in combination with anticholinergic antiparkinson drugs and/or levodopa.

Important adverse reactions are orthostatic hypotensive episodes, congestive heart failure, depression, psychosis and urinary retention; and rarely convulsions, reversible leukopenia and neutropenia, and abnormal liver function test results.

Adverse reactions of less importance are: anorexia, anxiety, ataxia, confusion, hallucinations, constipation, dizziness (light-headedness), dry mouth, headache, insomnia, livedo rebicularis, nausea, peripheral edema, drowsiness, dyspnea, fatigue, hyperkinesia, irritability, nightmares, rash, slurred speech, visual disturbance, vomiting and weakness; and very rarely eczematoid dermatitis and oculogyric episodes. Some side effects were transient and disappeared even with continued administration of the drug.

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF OVERDOSAGE: Limited data are available concerning clinical effects and management of SYMMETREL[®] overdosage. An elderly patient with Parkinson's syndrome who took an overdose of 2.8 g of SYMMETREL[®] in a suicidal attempt, developed acute toxic psychosis, urinary retention, and a mixed acid-base disturbance. The toxic psychosis was marifested by disorientation, confusion, visual hallucinations and aggressive behaviour. Convulsions did not occur, possibly because the patient had been receiving phenytoin prior to the acute ingestion of SYMMETREL[®].

There is no specific antidote. For acute overdosing, general supportive measures should be employed, along with immediate gastric lavage or induction of emesis. Fluids should be forced, and if necessary, giver I.V. The pH of the urine has been reported to influence the excretion rate of SYMMETREL[®]. Since the excretion rate of SYMMETREL[®] increases rapidly when the urine is acidic, the administration of urine acidifying fluids may increase the elimination of the drug from the body. Blood pressure, pulse, respiration and temperature should be monitored. The patient should be observed for possible development of arrhythmias, hypotension, hyperactivity, and convolsions; if required, appropriate therapy should be administered. Blood electrolytes, urine pH and urinary output therapy should be monitored. If there is no record of recent voiding, catheterization should be done. The possibility of multiple drug ingestion by the patient should be considered.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Parkinson's Syndrome: Initial dose is 100 mg daily for patients with serious associated medical illnesses or who are receiving high doses of other antiparkinson drugs. After one to several weeks at 100 mg once daily, the dose may be increased to 100 mg twice daily. When SYMMETREL² and levodopa are initiated concurrently, SYMMETREL² should be held constant at 100 mg daily or twice daily while the daily dose of levodopa is gradually increased to optimal dose. When used alone, the usual dose of SYMMETREL² is 100 mg twice a day.

Patients whose responses are not optimal with SYMMETRELS at 200 mg daily may benefit from an increase to 300 mg daily in divided doses. Patients who experience a fall-off of effectiveness may regain benefit by increasing the dose to 300 mg daily; such patients should be supervised closely by their physicians.

DOSAGE FORMS: Capsules: (bottles of 100) – each red, soft gelatin capsule contains 100 mg of amantadine HCI. Syrup: (500 mL) – each 5 mL (1 teaspoonful) of clear colorless syrup contains 50 mg of amantadine HCI.

References:

1. Schwab RS, Poskanzer DC, England AC Jr., Young RR: Amantadine in Parkinson's disease. JAMA 1972;227:7.

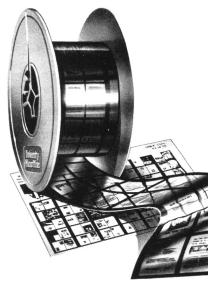
Product monograph available on request.



Du Pont Pharmaceuticals Mississauga, Ontario L5M 2J4

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Zostrix

DESCRIPTION

Zostrix "cream contains capsaicin 0.025% in an emollient base. Capsaicin is a naturally occurring substance derived from plants of the Solanaceae family with the chemical name trans-8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonenamide. Capsaicin is a white crystalline powder with a molecular weight of 305.4.1 is practically insoluble in water but very soluble in alcohol, ether and chloroform.

ACTION AND INDICATIONS

Although the precise mechanism of action of capsaicin is not fully understood, current evidence suggests that capsaicin renders skin insensitive to pain by depleting and preventing reaccumulation of substance P in peripheral sensory neurons. Substance P is thought to be the principal chemomediator of pain impulses from the periphery to the central nervous system. Zostrix "cream is indicated for the temporary relief of the pain (neuralgia) associated with and following episodes of Herpes Zoster infections after open skin lesions have healed.

WARNINGS

For external use only, Avoid contact with eyes and broken or irritated skin. Do not bandage tightly. If condition worsens, or if symptoms persist for more than 14 days or clear up and occur again within a few days, discontinue use of this product and consult your physician. Keep this and all drugs out of the reach of children.

DIRECTIONS

Adults and children 2 years of age or older: Apply Zostrix" to affected area not more than 3 or 4 times daily. Zostrix " may cause transient burning on application. This burning is observed more frequently when application schedules of less than 3 or 4 times daily are utilized. After Zostrix" is applied with the fingers, the hands should be washed immediately.

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR USE

Patient compliance is vital to successful therapy. Patients should be instructed to apply Zostrix." to the affected area three or four times daily. Optimal response should be achieved within 14 to 28 days. Continued application of Zostrix." three or four times daily is necessary to sustain its clinical effect.

HOW SUPPLIED

42.5 g tubes (DIN 740306)

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

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The Centre is located in the core of the University/Hospital complex in close proximity to more than 150 scientists with programs in molecular and neurobiology research.

The University of Toronto encourages both men and women to apply for positions.

Enquiries and curriculum vitae should be directed to D.R. McLachlan, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Room 3318, Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle, Toronto, Canada M5S 1A8. Application deadline: September 15, 1989.

In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

NEURO-ONCOLOGY FELLOWSHIP

A clinical fellowship in neuro-oncology is available for neurologists and neuro-surgeons at the LRCC and UWO teaching hospitals. The program offers post-residency training in the treatment of primary brain tumour, neurological complications of cancer and cancer pain and experience in the design and conduct of clinical trials. Please correspond with:

J. Gregory Cairncross, M.D., The London Regional Cancer Centre, 790 Commissioners Road East, London, Ontario N6A 4L6 Canada

NEUROLOGY RESIDENCY McGILL UNIVERSITY: QUEBEC

Vacancies for July 1, 1990 for a three-year training program in neurology and the neurosciences leading to FRCP certification. Applicants must be Canadian graduates with two years of training in internal medicine, and currently residing outside Quebec. The core three-year program consists of 27 months of clinical training (adult and child neurology, epilepsy/EEG, neuromuscular disease/EMG); 6 months of basic neuroscience research: 3 months of electives. The emphasis is on contemporary basic neuroscience and excellent clinical training. Trainees have an option to pursue a fourth year of training in EEG, EMG, or other clinically related subspecialty areas. McGill University particularly encourages further research training toward a PhD degree and a career as a clinician-scientist.

Telephone inquiries to: Mrs. Adele D'Amato (514) 398-1904. Apply to: Dr. John D. Stewart, Program Director, Montreal Neurological Institute, 3801 University Street, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2B4.

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References: 1, CDTI 2, Goodman and Gilman, Sixth Edition.



*Reg. T.M. Parke, Davis & Company, Parke-Davis Canada Inc., auth. user



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