

Rx

Bilastine & Montelukast Tablets

Bepozal[®] M

10 x10 Tablets



To be sold by retail on the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner only

1. Generic name

Bilastine 20mg and Montelukast 10mg Tablets

2. Qualitative and quantitative composition

Each film coated bilayered tablet contains:

Bilastine IP20 mg

Montelukast Sodium IP Equivalent to Montelukast 10 mg

Excipients q.s.

Colour: Erythrosine Lake (In montelukast Layer)

3. Dosage form(s) and strength(s)

Bepozal M (Bilastine 20 mg + Montelukast 10 mg) tablet for oral use

4. Clinical particulars

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

Bilastine 20 mg + Montelukast 10 mg tablet is indicated for the treatment of Allergic Rhinitis in adults.

4.2 Posology & method of administration

Adults

Bepozal M One tablet once daily or as directed by R.M.P.

Method of Administration

To be taken orally. The tablet should be taken one hour before or two hours after intake of food or fruit juice.

4.3 Contraindication

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients

4.4 Special warnings & precaution for use

Paediatric population

Efficacy and safety of bilastine in children under 2 years of age have not been established and there is little clinical experience in children aged 2 to 5 years, therefore bilastine should not be used in these age groups.

In patients with moderate or severe renal impairment co-administration of bilastine with P-glycoprotein inhibitors, such as e.g., ketoconazole, erythromycin, cyclosporine, ritonavir or diltiazem, may increase plasmatic levels of bilastine and therefore increase the risk of adverse effects of bilastine. Therefore, co-administration of bilastine and P-glycoprotein inhibitors should be avoided in patients with moderate or severe renal impairment.

Montelukast

Acute Asthma

Montelukast is not indicated for use in the reversal of bronchospasm in acute asthma attacks, including status asthmaticus. Patients should be advised to have appropriate rescue medication available. Therapy with montelukast can be continued during acute exacerbations of asthma. Patients who have exacerbations of asthma after exercise should have available for rescue a short-acting inhaled β -agonist.

Concomitant Corticosteroid Use

While the dose of inhaled corticosteroid may be reduced gradually under medical supervision, montelukast should not be abruptly substituted for inhaled or oral corticosteroids.

Aspirin Sensitivity

Patients with known aspirin sensitivity should continue avoidance of aspirin or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents while taking montelukast. Although montelukast is effective in improving airway function in asthmatics with documented aspirin sensitivity, it has not been shown to truncate bronchoconstrictor response to aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in aspirin-sensitive asthmatic patients.

Neuropsychiatric Events

Neuropsychiatric events have been reported in adult, adolescent, and pediatric patients taking montelukast. Post-marketing reports with montelukast use include agitation, aggressive behavior or hostility, anxiousness, depression, disorientation, dream abnormalities, hallucinations, insomnia, irritability, restlessness, somnambulism, suicidal thinking and behavior (including suicide), and tremor.

4.5 Drugs interactions

Bepozal M

Interaction studies have only been performed in adults and are summarised below.

Interaction with food: Food significantly reduces the oral bioavailability of bilastine by 30%.

Interaction with grapefruit juice: concomitant intake of bilastine 20 mg and grapefruit juice decreased bilastine bioavailability by 30%. This effect may also apply to other fruit juices. The degree of bioavailability decrease may vary between producers and fruits. The mechanism for this interaction is an inhibition of OATP1A2, an uptake transporter for which bilastine is a substrate (see section 5.2). Medicinal products that are substrates or inhibitors of OATP1A2, such as ritonavir or rifampicin, may likewise have the potential to decrease plasma concentrations of bilastine.

Interaction with ketoconazole or erythromycin: Concomitant intake of bilastine 20 mg o.d. and ketoconazole 400 mg o.d. or erythromycin 500 mg t.i.d. increased bilastine AUC 2-fold and C_{max} 2-3 fold. These changes can be explained by interaction with intestinal efflux transporters, since bilastine is substrate for P-gp and not metabolised (see section 5.2). These changes do not appear to affect the safety profile of bilastine and ketoconazole or erythromycin, respectively. Other medicinal products that are substrates or inhibitors of P-gp, such as cyclosporine, may likewise have the potential to increase plasma concentrations of bilastine.

Interaction with diltiazem: Concomitant intake of bilastine 20 mg o.d. and diltiazem 60 mg o.d. increased C_{max} of bilastine by 50%. This effect can be explained by interaction with intestinal efflux transporters, and does not appear to affect the safety profile of bilastine.

Interaction with alcohol: The psychomotor performance after concomitant intake of alcohol and 20 mg bilastine o.d. was similar to that observed after intake of alcohol and placebo.

Interaction with lorazepam: Concomitant intake of bilastine 20 mg o.d. and lorazepam 3 mg o.d. for 8 days did not potentiate the depressant CNS effects of lorazepam.

Paediatric population: Interaction studies have only been performed in adults. As there is no clinical experience regarding the interaction of bilastine with other medicinal products, food or fruit juices in children, the results obtained in adult interactions studies should be at present taken into consideration when prescribing bilastine to children. There are no clinical data in children to state whether changes to the AUC or C_{max} due to interactions affect the safety profile of bilastine.

Montelukast

No dose adjustment is needed when montelukast is co-administered with theophylline, prednisone, prednisolone, oral contraceptives, terfenadine, digoxin, warfarin, thyroid hormones, sedative hypnotics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, benzodiazepines, decongestants, and Cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzyme inducers.

4.6 Use in special populations

Pregnant women

There are no or limited amount of data from the use of bilastine in pregnant women. Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity, parturition or postnatal development.

Montelukast

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, montelukast should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

As a precautionary measure, it is preferable to avoid the use of bilastine + montelukast combination tablets during pregnancy.

Lactating women

It is unknown whether bilastine is excreted in human breast milk. The excretion of bilastine in milk has not been studied in animals. A decision on whether to discontinue/abstain from bilastine therapy must be made taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of bilastine therapy for the mother.

Montelukast

Studies in rats have shown that montelukast is excreted in milk. It is unknown whether

montelukast/metabolites are excreted in human milk. It is not known if montelukast is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when montelukast is given to a nursing mother.

Fertility

There are no or limited amount of clinical data. A study in rats did not indicate any negative effect on fertility with bilastine.

Paediatric patients

The safety and efficacy of bilastine 20mg tablets in children under 12 years of age have not been established therefore bilastine should not be used in these age groups.

Montelukast

The safety and efficacy of 10mg film coated tablets in children less than 15 years has not been established.

Also, the efficacy and safety of bilastine and montelukast combination in children under 15 years of age have not been established therefore bilastine and montelukast tablets should not be used in these age groups.

Geriatric patients

No dosage adjustments are required in elderly patients.

Montelukast

No dosage adjustment is necessary for the elderly.

Renal impairment

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with renal impairment.

Montelukast

No dosage adjustment is recommended in patients with renal insufficiency.

Hepatic impairment

There are no pharmacokinetic data in subjects with hepatic impairment. Bilastine is not metabolized in human. Since the results of the renal impairment study indicate renal elimination to be a major contributor in the elimination, biliary excretion is expected to be only marginally involved in the elimination of bilastine. Changes in liver function are not expected to have a clinically relevant influence on bilastine pharmacokinetics.

Montelukast

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with mild-to-moderate hepatic insufficiency.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive & use machines

A study performed in adults to assess the effects of bilastine on the ability to drive demonstrated that treatment with 20 mg did not affect the driving performance. However, as the individual response to the medicinal product may vary, patients should be advised not to drive or use machines until they have established their own response to bilastine.

Montelukast

Montelukast has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, individuals have reported drowsiness or dizziness.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of safety profile in adults and adolescent patients

The incidence of adverse events in patients suffering from allergic rhinoconjunctivitis or chronic idiopathic urticaria treated with 20 mg bilastine in clinical trials was comparable with the incidence in patients receiving placebo (12.7% versus 12.8%).

The phase II and III clinical trials performed during the clinical development included 2525 patients treated with different doses of bilastine, of which 1697 received bilastine 20 mg. In these trials 1362 patients received placebo. The ADRs most commonly reported by patients receiving 20 mg bilastine for the indication of allergic rhinoconjunctivitis or chronic idiopathic urticaria were headache, somnolence, dizziness, and fatigue. These adverse events occurred with a comparable frequency in patients receiving placebo.

Tabulated summary of adverse reactions in adult and adolescent patients

ADRs at least possibly related to bilastine and reported in more than 0.1% of the patients receiving 20 mg bilastine during the clinical development (N = 1697) are tabulated below.

Frequencies are assigned as follows:

Very common ($\geq 1/10$)

Common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$)

Uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$)

Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$)

Very rare ($< 1/10,000$)

Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)

Rare, very rare and reactions with unknown frequency have not been included in the table.

System Organ Class		Bilastine 20 mg N = 1697	All Bilastine Doses N = 2525	Placebo N = 1362
Frequency	Adverse reaction			
Infections and infestations				
Uncommon	Oral herpes	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	0 (0.0%)
Metabolism and nutrition disorders				
Uncommon	Increased appetite	10 (0.59%)	10 (0.59%)	10 (0.59%)
Psychiatric disorders				
Uncommon	Anxiety	6 (0.35%)	8 (0.32%)	0 (0.0%)
	Insomnia	2 (0.12%)	4 (0.16%)	0 (0.0%)
Nervous system disorders				
Common	Somnolence	52 (3.06%)	82 (3.25%)	39 (2.86%)
	Headache	68 (4.01%)	90 (3.56%)	46 (3.38%)
Uncommon	Dizziness	14 (0.83%)	23 (0.91%)	8 (0.59%)
Ear and labyrinth disorders				
Uncommon	Tinnitus	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	0 (0.0%)
	Vertigo	3 (0.18%)	3 (0.12%)	0 (0.0%)
Cardiac disorders				
Uncommon	Right bundle branch block	4 (0.24%)	5 (0.20%)	3 (0.22%)
	Sinus arrhythmia	5 (0.30%)	5 (0.20%)	1 (0.07%)
	Electrocardiogram QT prolonged	9 (0.53%)	10 (0.40%)	5 (0.37%)
	Other ECG abnormalities	7 (0.41%)	11 (0.44%)	2 (0.15%)
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders				
Uncommon	Dyspnoea	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	0 (0.0%)
	Nasal discomfort	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	0 (0.0%)
	Nasal dryness	3 (0.18%)	6 (0.24%)	4 (0.29%)
Gastrointestinal disorders				
Uncommon	Upper abdominal pain	11 (0.65%)	14 (0.55%)	6 (0.44%)
	Abdominal pain	5 (0.30%)	5 (0.20%)	4 (0.29%)
	Nausea	7 (0.41%)	10 (0.40%)	14 (1.03%)
	Stomach discomfort	3 (0.18%)	4 (0.16%)	0 (0.0%)
	Diarrhoea	4 (0.24%)	6 (0.24%)	3 (0.22%)
	Dry mouth	2 (0.12%)	6 (0.24%)	5 (0.37%)
	Dyspepsia	2 (0.12%)	4 (0.16%)	4 (0.29%)
	Gastritis	4 (0.24%)	4 (0.16%)	0 (0.0%)
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders				
Uncommon	Pruritus	2 (0.12%)	4 (0.16%)	2 (0.15%)
General disorders and administration site conditions				
Uncommon	Fatigue	14 (0.83%)	19 (0.75%)	18 (1.32%)
	Thirst	3 (0.18%)	4 (0.16%)	1 (0.07%)
	Improved pre existing condition	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	1 (0.07%)
	Pyrexia	2 (0.12%)	3 (0.12%)	1 (0.07%)
	Asthenia	3 (0.18%)	4 (0.16%)	5 (0.37%)
Investigations				
Uncommon	Increased gamma glutamyltransferase	7 (0.41%)	8 (0.32%)	2 (0.15%)
	Alanine aminotransferase increased	5 (0.30%)	5 (0.20%)	3 (0.22%)
	Aspartate aminotransferase increased	3 (0.18%)	3 (0.12%)	3 (0.22%)
	Blood creatinine increased	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	0 (0.0%)
	Blood triglycerides increased	2 (0.12%)	2 (0.08%)	3 (0.22%)
	Increased weight	8 (0.47%)	12 (0.48%)	2 (0.15%)

Frequency not known (cannot be estimated from the available data): Palpitations, tachycardia, hypersensitivity reactions (such as anaphylaxis, angioedema, dyspnoea, rash, localised oedema/local swelling, and erythema), and vomiting have been observed during the post-marketing period.

Description of selected adverse reactions in adult and adolescent patients:

Somnolence, headache, dizziness and fatigue were observed either in patients treated with bilastine 20 mg or with placebo. The frequency reported was 3.06 % vs. 2.86% for somnolence; 4.01% vs. 3.38% for headache; 0.83% vs. 0.59% for dizziness, and 0.83% vs. 1.32% for fatigue.

The information collected during the post-marketing surveillance has confirmed the safety profile observed during the clinical development.

Montelukast

Adverse Drug Reaction Overview

Montelukast has been generally well tolerated. Side effects, which usually were mild,

generally did not require discontinuation of therapy. The overall incidence of side effects reported with montelukast was comparable to placebo.

Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions

Adults 15 Years of Age and Older with Asthma

Montelukast has been evaluated for safety in approximately 2600 adult patients 15 years of age and older in clinical studies. In two similarly designed, 12-week placebo-controlled clinical studies, the only adverse experiences reported as drug-related in $\geq 1\%$ of patients treated with montelukast and at a greater incidence than in patients treated with placebo were abdominal pain and headache. The incidences of these events were not significantly different in the two treatment groups.

Pediatric Patients 6 to 14 Years of Age with Asthma

Montelukast has been evaluated for safety in approximately 475 pediatric patients 6 to 14 years of age. Cumulatively, 263 pediatric patients 6 to 14 years of age were treated with montelukast for at least 3 months, 164 for 6 months or longer in clinical trials. The safety profile in pediatric patients is generally similar to the adult safety profile and to placebo. With prolonged treatment, the adverse experience profile did not change.

In a 56-week double-blind study evaluating growth rate in pediatric patients 6 to 8 years of age receiving montelukast, the following events not previously observed with the use of montelukast occurred with a frequency $\geq 2\%$ and more frequently than in pediatric patients who received placebo, regardless of causality assessment: atopic dermatitis, myopia, rhinitis (infective), skin infection, tooth infection, headache, varicella, gastroenteritis and acute bronchitis.

Pediatric Patients 2 to 5 Years of Age with Asthma

Montelukast has been evaluated for safety in 573 pediatric patients 2 to 5 years of age. In a 12-week, placebo-controlled clinical study, the only adverse experience reported as drug-related in $>1\%$ of patients treated with montelukast and at a greater incidence than in patients treated with placebo was thirst. The incidence of thirst was not significantly different in the two treatment groups. Cumulatively, 363 patients 2 to 5 years of age were treated with montelukast. Of these, 338 were continuously treated for at least 6 months and 256 for >1 year. The safety profile of montelukast in pediatric patients 2 to 5 years of age is generally similar to the safety profiles in adults 15 years of age and older in pediatric patients 6 to 14 years of age, and to placebo. With prolonged treatment, the adverse experience profile did not change.

Pediatric Patients 6 Months to 2 Years of Age with Asthma

Montelukast has been evaluated in 175 pediatric patients 6 months to 2 years of age. In a 6-week, placebo-controlled clinical study, the adverse experiences reported as drug related in $>1\%$ of patients treated with montelukast and at a greater incidence than in patients treated with placebo were diarrhea, hyperkinesia, asthma, eczematous dermatitis and rash. The incidences of these adverse experiences were not significantly different in the two treatment groups.

Adults 15 Years of Age and Older with Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis

Montelukast has been evaluated in 1751 adult patients 15 years of age and older for the treatment of seasonal allergic rhinitis in clinical studies. Montelukast administered once daily at bedtime was generally well tolerated with a safety profile similar to that of placebo. In similar designed, 2-week, placebo-controlled, clinical studies, no adverse experience reported as drug related in $\geq 1\%$ of patients treated with montelukast and at a greater incidence than in patients treated with placebo were observed. The incidence of somnolence was similar to that of placebo.

Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions

The following adverse drug reactions have been reported very rarely ($<1/10,000$) in post-marketing use of montelukast. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Infections and Infestations: upper respiratory infection

Blood and lymphatic system disorders: increased bleeding tendency, thrombocytopenia.

Immune system disorders: hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis, and very rarely, hepatic eosinophilic infiltration.

Psychiatric disorders: agitation including aggressive behavior or hostility (including temper tantrums in pediatric patients), very rarely reported as serious; anxiousness, depression, disorientation, disturbance in attention, irritability, memory impairment, restlessness, somnambulism, sleep disorders including dream abnormalities and insomnia, suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality), tremor, and visual hallucinations.

Nervous system disorders: dizziness, drowsiness, paraesthesia/hypoesthesia, and very rarely seizure

Cardiac disorders: palpitations

Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders: epistaxis, pulmonary eosinophilia

Gastrointestinal disorders: diarrhea, dyspepsia, nausea, vomiting

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders: angioedema, bruising, erythema multiforme, erythema nodosum, pruritus, rash, urticarial

Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders: arthralgia, myalgia including muscle cramps

Hepato-biliary disorders: increased ALT, AST, and isolated cases of hepatitis, (including cholestatic, hepatocellular, and mixed-pattern liver injury). In post-marketing surveillance, elevations in serum transaminases have been reported in patients who were treated with montelukast. These events were usually asymptomatic and transient. Serious hepatic adverse events such as jaundice have been reported although no deaths or liver transplantations have been attributed to the use of montelukast.

Renal and urinary disorders: enuresis in children

General disorders: asthenia/fatigue, edema, pyrexia

Eosinophilic Conditions

In rare cases, patients with asthma on therapy with montelukast may present with systemic eosinophilia, sometimes presenting with clinical features of vasculitis consistent with Churg-Strauss syndrome, a condition which is often treated with systemic corticosteroid therapy. These events have been reported as occurring both with and without steroid withdrawal or reduction. Physicians should be alert to eosinophilia, vasculitic rash, arthralgia, worsening pulmonary symptoms, cardiac complications, and/or neuropathy presenting in their patients. A causal association between montelukast and these underlying conditions has not been established.

4.9 Overdose

Information regarding acute overdose of bilastine is retrieved from the experience of clinical trials conducted during the development and the post-marketing surveillance. In clinical trials, after administration of bilastine at doses 10 to 11 times the therapeutic dose (220 mg as single dose; or 200 mg/day for 7 days) to healthy volunteers frequency of treatment emergent adverse events was two times higher than with placebo. The adverse reactions most frequently reported were dizziness, headache and nausea. No serious adverse events and no significant prolongation in the QTc interval were reported. The information collected in the post-marketing surveillance is consistent with that reported in clinical trials.

Critical evaluation of bilastine's multiple dose (100 mg x4 days) effect on ventricular repolarization by a "thorough QT/QTc cross-over study" involving 30 healthy volunteers did not show significant QTc prolongation.

In the event of overdose symptomatic and supportive treatment is recommended. There is no known specific antidote to bilastine.

Montelukast

No specific information is available on the treatment of overdosage with Montelukast. In chronic asthma studies, montelukast has been administered at doses up to 200 mg/day to adult patients for 22 weeks and in short term studies, up to 900 mg/day to patients for approximately one week without clinically important adverse experiences.

There have been reports of acute overdose in post-marketing experience and clinical studies with montelukast. These include reports in adults and children with a dose as high as 1000 mg (approximately 61 mg/kg in a 42month old child). The clinical and laboratory findings observed were consistent with the safety profile in adults and paediatric patients. There were no adverse experiences in the majority of overdose reports.

Symptoms of overdose

The most frequently occurring adverse experiences were consistent with the safety profile of montelukast and included abdominal pain, somnolence, thirst, headache, vomiting, and psychomotor hyperactivity.

Management of overdose

No specific information is available on the treatment of overdose with montelukast. It is not known whether montelukast is dialysable by peritoneal or haemodialysis.

5. Pharmacological properties

5.1 Mechanism of action

Bilastine is a non-sedating, long-acting histamine antagonist with selective peripheral H1 receptor antagonist affinity and no affinity for muscarinic receptors. Bilastine inhibited histamine-induced wheal and flare skin reactions for 24 hours following single doses.

Montelukast

Montelukast is an orally active compound which binds with high affinity and selectivity to the CysLT1 receptor. Cysteinyl leukotriene (CysLT) receptors have been correlated with the pathophysiology of asthma and allergic rhinitis. In allergic rhinitis, CysLTs receptors are released from the nasal mucosa after allergen exposure during both early- and late-phase reactions and are associated with symptoms of allergic rhinitis. Intranasal challenge with CysLTs has been shown to increase nasal airway resistance and symptoms of nasal obstruction.

5.2 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antihistamines for systemic use, other antihistamines for systemic use. ATC code R06AX29.

Bilastine is a non-sedating, long-acting histamine antagonist with selective peripheral H1 receptor antagonist affinity.

In clinical trials performed in adult and adolescent patients with allergic rhinoconjunctivitis (seasonal and perennial), bilastine 20 mg, administered once daily for 14-28 days, was effective in relieving symptoms such as sneezing, nasal discharge, nasal itching, nasal congestion, ocular itching, tearing and ocular redness. Bilastine effectively controlled symptoms for 24 hours.

No clinically relevant prolongation of QTc interval or any other cardiovascular effect has been observed in the clinical trials performed with bilastine, even at doses of 200 mg daily (10 times the clinical dose) for 7 days in 9 subjects, or even when co-administered with P-gp inhibitors, such as ketoconazole (24 subjects) and erythromycin (24 subjects). Additionally, a thorough QT study including 30 volunteers has been performed.

In controlled clinical trials at the recommended dose of 20 mg once daily, the CNS safety profile of bilastine was similar to placebo and the incidence of somnolence was not statistically different from placebo. Bilastine at doses of up to 40 mg q.d. did not affect psychomotor performance in clinical trials and did not affect driving performance in a standard driving test.

Elderly patients (≥ 65 years) included in phase II and III studies showed no difference in efficacy or safety with respect to younger patients. A post- authorisation study in 146 elderly patients showed no differences in the safety profile with respect to the adult population.

Montelukast

Montelukast causes inhibition of airway cysteinyl leukotriene receptors as demonstrated by the ability to inhibit bronchoconstriction due to inhaled LTD4 in asthmatics. Doses as low as 5 mg cause substantial blockage of LTD4-induced bronchoconstriction. In a placebo-controlled, crossover study (n=12), montelukast inhibited early- and late-phase bronchoconstriction due to antigen challenge by 75% and 57%, respectively.

The effect of montelukast on eosinophils in the peripheral blood was examined in clinical trials. In patients with asthma aged 2 years and older who received montelukast, a decrease in mean peripheral blood eosinophil counts ranging from 9% to 15% was noted, compared with placebo, over the double-blind treatment periods. In patients with seasonal allergic rhinitis aged 15 years and older who received montelukast, a mean increase of 0.2% in peripheral blood eosinophil counts was noted, compared with a mean increase of 12.5% in placebo-treated patients, over the double-blind treatment periods; this reflects a mean difference of 12.3% in favor of montelukast. The relationship between these observations and the clinical benefits of montelukast noted in the clinical trials is not known.

5.3 Pharmacokinetics properties

Absorption

Bilastine is rapidly absorbed after oral administration with a time to maximum plasma concentration of around 1.3 hours. No accumulation was observed. The mean value of bilastine oral bioavailability is 61%.

Distribution

In vitro and in vivo studies have shown that bilastine is a substrate of P-gp (see section 4.5 "Interaction with ketoconazole, erythromycin and diltiazem") and OATP (see section 4.5 "Interaction with grapefruit juice"). Bilastine does not appear to be a substrate of the transporter BCRP or renal transporters OCT2, OAT1 and OAT3. Based on in vitro studies, bilastine is not expected to inhibit the following transporters in the systemic circulation: P-gp, MRP2, BCRP, BSEP, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OATP2B1, OAT1, OAT3, OCT1, OCT2, and Ntcp, since only mild inhibition was detected for P-gp, OATP2B1 and OCT1, with an estimated IC50 ≥ 300 μ M, much higher than the calculated clinical plasma Cmax and therefore these interactions will not be clinically relevant. However, based on these results inhibition by bilastine of transporters present in the intestinal mucosa, e.g. P-gp, cannot be excluded.

At therapeutic doses bilastine is 84-90% bound to plasma proteins.

Metabolism

Bilastine did not induce or inhibit activity of CYP450 isoenzymes in in vitro studies.

Excretion

In a mass balance study performed in healthy adult volunteers, after administration of a single dose of 20 mg 14C-bilastine, almost 95% of the administered dose was recovered in urine (28.3%) and faeces (66.5%) as unchanged bilastine, confirming that bilastine is not significantly metabolized in humans. The mean elimination half-life calculated in healthy volunteers was 14.5 h.

Linearity

Bilastine presents linear pharmacokinetics in the dose range studied (5 to 220 mg), with a low interindividual variability.

Renal impairment

In a study in subjects with renal impairment the mean (SD) AUC_{0-∞} increased from 737.4 (± 260.8) ng x hr/mL in subjects without impairment (GFR: > 80 mL/min/1.73 m²) to: 967.4 (± 140.2) ng x hr/mL in subjects with mild impairment (GFR: 50-80 mL/min/1.73 m²), 1384.2 (± 263.23) ng x hr/mL in subjects with moderate impairment (GFR: 30 - <50 mL/min/1.73 m²), and 1708.5 (± 699.0) ng x hr/mL in subjects with severe impairment (GFR: < 30 mL/min/1.73 m²). Mean (SD) half-life of bilastine was 9.3 h (± 2.8) in subjects without impairment, 15.1 h (± 7.7) in subjects with mild impairment, 10.5 h (± 2.3) in subjects with moderate impairment and 18.4 h (± 11.4) in subjects with severe impairment. Urinary excretion of bilastine was essentially complete after 48 -72 h in all subjects. These pharmacokinetic changes are not expected to have a clinically relevant influence on the safety of bilastine, since bilastine plasma levels in patients with renal impairment are still within the safety range of bilastine.

Hepatic impairment

There are no pharmacokinetic data in subjects with hepatic impairment. Bilastine is not metabolized in human. Since the results of the renal impairment study indicate renal elimination to be a major contributor in the elimination, biliary excretion is expected to be only marginally involved in the elimination of bilastine. Changes in liver function are not expected to have a clinically relevant influence on bilastine pharmacokinetics.

Elderly

Only limited pharmacokinetic data are available in subjects older than 65 years. No statistically significant differences have been observed with regard to PK of bilastine in elderly aged over 65 years compared to adult population aged between 18 and 35 years.

Montelukast

Absorption

Montelukast is rapidly absorbed following oral administration. For the 10-mg film-coated tablet, the mean peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) is achieved 3 hours (T_{max}) after administration in adults in the fasted state. The mean oral bioavailability is 64%. The oral bioavailability and C_{max} are not influenced by a standard meal. Safety and efficacy were demonstrated in clinical trials where the 10-mg film-coated tablet was administered without regard to the timing of food ingestion.

For the 5-mg chewable tablet, the C_{max} is achieved in 2 hours after administration in adults in the fasted state. The mean oral bioavailability is 73% and is decreased to 63% by a standard meal.

Distribution

Montelukast is more than 99% bound to plasma proteins. The steady-state volume of distribution of montelukast averages 8-11 litres. Studies in rats with radio-labelled montelukast indicate minimal distribution across the blood-brain barrier. In addition, concentrations of radio-labelled material at 24 hours' post-dose were minimal in all other tissues.

Metabolism

Montelukast is extensively metabolised. In studies with therapeutic doses, plasma concentrations of metabolites of montelukast are undetectable at steady state in adults and children.

Cytochrome P450 2C8 is the major enzyme in the metabolism of montelukast. Additionally CYP 3A4 and 2C9 may have a minor contribution, although itraconazole, an inhibitor of CYP 3A4, was shown not to change pharmacokinetic variables of montelukast in healthy subjects that received 10-mg montelukast daily. Based on in vitro results in human liver microsomes, therapeutic plasma concentrations of montelukast do not inhibit cytochromes P450 3A4, 2C9, 1A2, 2A6, 2C19, or 2D6. The contribution of metabolites to the therapeutic effect of montelukast is minimal.

Excretion

The plasma clearance of montelukast averages 45 ml/min in healthy adults. Following

an oral dose of radio-labelled montelukast, 86% of the radioactivity was recovered in 5-day faecal collections and <0.2% was recovered in urine. Coupled with estimates of montelukast oral bioavailability, this indicates that montelukast and its metabolites are excreted almost exclusively via the bile.

6. Non-clinical properties

6.1 Animal toxicology or pharmacology

Non-clinical data with bilastine reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity and carcinogenic potential.

In reproduction toxicity studies effects of bilastine on the foetus (pre-and post-implantation loss in rats and incomplete ossification of cranial bones, sternbrae and limbs in rabbits) were only observed at maternal toxic doses. The exposure levels at the NOAELs are sufficiently in excess (> 30 fold) to the human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose.

In a lactation study, bilastine was identified in the milk of nursing rats administered a single oral dose (20 mg/kg). Concentrations of bilastine in milk were about half of those in maternal plasma. The relevance of those results for humans is unknown.

In a fertility study in rats, bilastine administered orally up to 1000 mg/kg/day did not induce any effect on female and male reproductive organs. Mating, fertility and pregnancy indices were not affected.

As seen in a distribution study in rats with determination of drug concentrations by autoradiography, bilastine does not accumulate in the CNS.

Montelukast

No evidence of tumorigenicity was seen in carcinogenicity studies of either 2 years in Sprague-Dawley rats or 92 weeks in mice at oral gavage doses up to 200 mg/kg/day or 100 mg/kg/day, respectively. The estimated exposure in rats was approximately 120 and 75 times the AUC for adults and children, respectively, at the maximum recommended daily oral dose. The estimated exposure in mice was approximately 45 and 25 times the AUC for adults and children, respectively, at the maximum recommended daily oral dose.

Montelukast demonstrated no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic activity in the following assays: the microbial mutagenesis assay, the V-79 mammalian cell mutagenesis assay, the alkaline elution assay in rat hepatocytes, the chromosomal aberration assay in Chinese hamster ovary cells, and in the in vivo mouse bone marrow chromosomal aberration assay.

In fertility studies in female rats, montelukast produced reductions in fertility and fecundity indices at an oral dose of 200 mg/kg (estimated exposure was approximately 70 times the AUC for adults at the maximum recommended daily oral dose). No effects on female fertility or fecundity were observed at an oral dose of 100 mg/kg (estimated exposure was approximately 20 times the AUC for adults at the maximum recommended daily oral dose). Montelukast had no effects on fertility in male rats at oral doses up to 800 mg/kg (estimated exposure was approximately 160 times the AUC for adults at the maximum recommended daily oral dose).

No teratogenicity was observed at oral doses up to 400 mg/kg/day and 300 mg/kg/day in rats and rabbits, respectively. These doses were approximately 100 and 110 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults, respectively, based on AUCs. Montelukast crosses the placenta following oral dosing in rats and rabbits

7. Description

Bilastine is a second generation H1-antihistamine, indicated for the treatment of allergic rhinitis. Bilastine is known chemically as 2-[4-(2-[4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)-1h-benzimidazol-2-yl] piperidin-1-yl] ethyl) phenyl]-2-methylpropanoic acid; 2-[4-[2-[4-[1-(2-ethoxyethyl) benzimidazol-2-yl] piperidin-1-yl] ethyl] phenyl]-2-methylpropanoic acid. Its empirical formula is C₂₈H₃₇N₃O₃ and the molecular weight is 463.61168 g/mol.

Montelukast is a leukotriene receptor antagonist which inhibits physiologic actions of LTD₄ at the CysLT₁ receptor without any agonist activity. Montelukast is chemically known as [R-(E)]-1-[[[1-[3-[2-(7-chloro-2quinolinyl) ethenyl] phenyl]-3-[2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl) phenyl] propyl] thio] methyl] cyclopropane acetic acid. Its empirical formula is C₃₅H₃₅ClNO₃S and the molecular weight is 586.183.

8. Pharmaceutical particulars

8.1 Incompatibilities

Not applicable

8.2 Shelf life

Refer pack

8.3 Packaging information

Each box contains 10x10 tablets in Alu-Alu blister pack.

8.4 Storage & handling instruction

Store protected from light and moisture at a temperature not exceeding 30°C

9. Patient counselling information

- If you have allergy to drug bilastine or montelukast or any of the other ingredients of this
- Talk to your doctor or HCP before using bilastine + montelukast Tablet if patient have moderate or severe renal impairment
- Please discuss with your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines before starting Bilastine Tablet:
 - Ketoconazole (an antifungal medicine)
 - Erythromycin (an antibiotic)
 - Diltiazem (to treat angina)
 - Cyclosporine (to reduce the activity of your immune system, thus avoiding transplant rejection or reducing disease activity in autoimmune and allergic disorders, such as psoriasis, atopic dermatitis or rheumatoid arthritis)
 - Ritonavir (to treat AIDS)
 - Rifampicin (an antibiotic)
 - Phenobarbital (used for treatment of epilepsy)
 - Phenytoin (used for treatment of epilepsy)
 - Rifampicin (used to treat tuberculosis and some other infections)
 - Gemfibrozil (used for treatment of high lipid levels in plasma).

10. Details of manufacturers

Synokem Pharmaceuticals Ltd.,
Plot No. 56-57, Sector-6A, I.I.E. (SIDCUL), Ranipur,
(BHEL), Haridwar-249 403 (Uttarakhand)

11. Details of permission or licence number with date

27/UA/2018

12. Marketed by:

Tricos Dermatologics Pvt. Ltd.,
4, Ground Floor, Print World Industrial,
Complex, Mankoli Village Road, Vehele,
Bhiwandi, Thane-421302.

13. Revision Date

November 2025
