

CNS SPECTRUMS[®]

The International Journal of Neuropsychiatric Medicine



HIV and the Central Nervous System Part Two

Theory-Driven Interventions in Psychoneuroimmunology and HIV-1 Infection

*M. D. Tyll, K. Goodkin, N. T. Blaney, T. T. Baldewicz,
J. D. Hunt, and D. Asthana*

Cognitive Effects of HIV-1 Infection

*F. L. Wilkie, K. Goodkin, M. H. van Zuilen, M. D. Tyll,
R. Lecusay, and T. Edwin*

HIV-1 Infection, Neuroendocrine Abnormalities, and Clinical Outcomes

*M. Kumar, K. Goodkin, A. M. Kumar, T. T. Baldewicz,
R. Morgan, and C. Eisdorfer*

HIV-1-Associated Neuropathies

A. Verma and W. G. Bradley

In mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease

You see it as maintaining cognitive



* Individual responses to ARICEPT® may include improvement, stabilization, or decline.

† The most common adverse events leading to discontinuation in pivotal clinical trials with ARICEPT® (donepezil HCl) were nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting. Pivotal clinical trials of ARICEPT® have shown no increase, relative to placebo, in the incidence of either peptic ulcer disease or gastrointestinal bleeding. Nevertheless, cholinesterase inhibitors may be expected to increase gastric acid secretion. Therefore, patients (especially those at increased risk for developing ulcers—eg, having a history of ulcer disease, receiving concurrent nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) should be monitored closely for gastrointestinal bleeding. In pivotal clinical trials, syncopal episodes have been reported in association with ARICEPT® (2% vs 1% for placebo).

function.

She sees it as
a bedtime story.

ARICEPT®. Helping to make
a difference for people living
with Alzheimer's

- Slows the worsening of symptoms*
- Proven to maintain cognition
in placebo-controlled studies
- Well tolerated†
- Proven safety profile
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- 3 years of real-world use

ONCE - A - DAY
ARICEPT®
(donepezil HCl)
5-MG AND 10-MG TABLETS

THERAPY TO REMEMBER™

Please see brief summary of prescribing information on adjacent page.

EL208A99C

ARICEPT® (Donepezil Hydrochloride Tablets)

Brief Summary – see package insert for full prescribing information. **INDICATIONS AND USAGE** ARICEPT® is indicated for the treatment of mild to moderate dementia of the Alzheimer's type. **CONTRAINDICATIONS** ARICEPT® is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to donepezil hydrochloride or to piperidine derivatives. **WARNINGS** **Anesthesia:** ARICEPT®, as a cholinesterase inhibitor, is likely to exaggerate succinylcholine-type muscle relaxation during anesthesia. **Cardiovascular Conditions:** Because of their pharmacological action, cholinesterase inhibitors may have vagotonic effects on heart rate (e.g., bradycardia). The potential for this action may be particularly important to patients with "sick sinus syndrome" or other supraventricular cardiac conduction conditions. Syncope episodes have been reported in association with the use of ARICEPT®. **Gastrointestinal Conditions:** Through their primary action, cholinesterase inhibitors may be expected to increase gastric acid secretion due to increased cholinergic activity. Therefore, patients should be monitored closely for symptoms of active or occult gastrointestinal bleeding, especially those at increased risk for developing ulcers, e.g., those with a history of ulcer disease or those receiving concurrent nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Clinical studies of ARICEPT® have shown no increase, relative to placebo, in the incidence of either peptic ulcer disease or gastrointestinal bleeding. ARICEPT®, as a predictable consequence of its pharmacological properties, has been shown to produce diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. These effects, when they occur, appear more frequently with the 10 mg/day dose than with the 5 mg/day dose. In most cases, these effects have been mild and transient, sometimes lasting one to three weeks, and have resolved during continued use of ARICEPT®. **Genitourinary:** Although not observed in clinical trials of ARICEPT®, cholinomimetics may cause bladder outflow obstruction. **Neurological Conditions:** Seizures: Cholinomimetics are believed to have some potential to cause generalized convulsions. However, seizure activity also may be a manifestation of Alzheimer's Disease. **Pulmonary Conditions:** Because of their cholinomimetic actions, cholinesterase inhibitors should be prescribed with care to patients with a history of asthma or obstructive pulmonary disease. **PRECAUTIONS Drug-Drug Interactions** **Drugs Highly Bound to Plasma Proteins:** Drug displacement studies have been performed *in vitro* between this highly bound drug (96%) and other drugs such as furosemide, digoxin, and warfarin. ARICEPT® at concentrations of 0.3-10 µg/mL did not affect the binding of furosemide (5 µg/mL), digoxin (2 ng/mL), and warfarin (3 µg/mL) to human albumin. Similarly, the binding of ARICEPT® to human albumin was not affected by furosemide, digoxin, and warfarin. **Effect of ARICEPT® on the Metabolism of Other Drugs:** No *in vivo* clinical trials have investigated the effect of ARICEPT® on the clearance of drugs metabolized by CYP 3A4 (e.g., cisapride, terfenadine) or by CYP 2D6 (e.g., imipramine). However, *in vitro* studies show a low rate of binding to these enzymes (mean K_i about 50-130 µM), that, given the therapeutic plasma concentrations of donepezil (164 nM), indicates little likelihood of interference. Whether ARICEPT® has any potential for enzyme induction is not known. **Effect of Other Drugs on the Metabolism of ARICEPT®:** Ketoconazole and quinidine, inhibitors of CYP450, 3A4 and 2D6, respectively, inhibit donepezil metabolism *in vitro*. Whether there is a clinical effect of these inhibitors is not known. Inducers of CYP 2D6 and CYP 3A4 (e.g., phenytoin, carbamazepine, dexamethasone, rifampin, and phenobarbital) could increase the rate of elimination of ARICEPT®. **Use with Anticholinergics:** Because of their mechanism of action, cholinesterase inhibitors have the potential to interfere with the activity of anticholinergic medications. **Use with Cholinomimetics and Other Cholinesterase Inhibitors:** A synergistic effect may be expected when cholinesterase inhibitors are given concurrently with succinylcholine, similar neuromuscular blocking agents or cholinergic agonists such as bethanechol. **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility** Carcinogenicity studies of donepezil have not been completed. Donepezil was not mutagenic in the Ames reverse mutation assay in bacteria. In the chromosome aberration test in cultures of Chinese hamster lung (CHL) cells, some clastogenic effects were observed. Donepezil was not clastogenic in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. Donepezil had no effect on fertility in rats at doses up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 8 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis). **Pregnancy** **Pregnancy Category C:** Teratology studies conducted in pregnant rats at doses up to 16 mg/kg/day (approximately 13 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis) and in pregnant rabbits at doses up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 16 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis) did not disclose any evidence for a teratogenic potential of donepezil. However, in a study in which pregnant rats were given up to 10 mg/kg/day (approximately 8 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis) from day 17 of gestation through day 20 postpartum, there was a slight increase in still births and a slight decrease in pup survival through day 4 postpartum at this dose; the next lower dose tested was 3 mg/kg/day. There are no adequate or well-controlled studies in pregnant women. ARICEPT® should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. **Nursing Mothers** it is not known whether donepezil is excreted in human breast milk. ARICEPT® has no indication for use in nursing mothers. **Pediatric Use** There are no adequate and well-controlled trials to document the safety and efficacy of ARICEPT® in any illness occurring in children. **ADVERSE REACTIONS** **Adverse Events Leading to Discontinuation** The rates of discontinuation from controlled clinical trials of ARICEPT® due to adverse events for the ARICEPT® 5 mg/day treatment groups were comparable to those of placebo-treatment groups at approximately 5%. The rate of discontinuation of patients who received 7-day escalations from 5 mg/day to 10 mg/day, was higher at 13%. The most common adverse events leading to discontinuation, defined as those occurring in at least 2% of patients and at twice the incidence seen in placebo patients, are shown in Table 1.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Other Adverse Events Observed During Clinical Trials ARICEPT® has been administered to over 1700 individuals during clinical trials worldwide. Approximately 1200 of these patients have been treated for at least 3 months and more than 1000 patients have been treated for at least 6 months. Controlled and uncontrolled trials in the United States included approximately 900 patients. In regards to the highest dose of 10 mg/day, this population includes 650 patients treated for 3 months, 475 patients treated for 6 months and 116 patients treated for over 1 year. The range of patient exposure is from 1 to 1214 days. Treatment emergent signs and symptoms that occurred during 3 controlled clinical trials and two open-label trials in the United States were recorded as adverse events by the clinical investigators using terminology of their own choosing. To provide an overall estimate of the proportion of individuals having similar types of events, the events were grouped into a smaller number of standardized categories using a modified COSTART dictionary and event frequencies were calculated across all studies. These categories are used in the listing below. The frequencies represent the proportion of 900 patients from these trials who experienced that event while receiving ARICEPT®. All adverse events occurring at least twice are included, except for those already listed in Tables 2 or 3. COSTART terms too general to be informative, or events less likely to be drug caused. Events are classified by body system and listed using the following definitions:

Infrequent adverse events—those occurring in at least 1/100 patients; **Infrequent adverse events**—those occurring in 1/100 to 1/1000 patients. These adverse events are not necessarily related to ARICEPT® treatment and in most cases were observed at a similar frequency in placebo-treated patients in the controlled studies. No important additional adverse events were seen in studies conducted outside the United States. **Body as a Whole:** *Frequent:* influenza, chest pain, toothache; *Infrequent:* fever, edema face, periorbital edema, hernia hiatal, abscess, cellulitis, chills, generalized coldness, head fullness, listlessness. **Cardiovascular System:** *Frequent:* hypertension, vasodilation, atrial fibrillation, hot flashes, hypotension; *Infrequent:* angina pectoris, postural hypotension, myocardial infarction, AV block (first degree), congestive heart failure, arteritis, bradycardia, peripheral vascular disease, supraventricular tachycardia, deep vein thrombosis. **Digestive System:** *Frequent:* fecal incontinence, increased salivation, bloating, epigastric pain; *Infrequent:* eructation, gingivitis, increased appetite, flatulence, periorbital abscess, cholelithiasis, diverticulitis, drooling, dry mouth, fever, sore, gastritis, irritable colon, tongue edema, epigastric distress, gastroenteritis, increased transaminases, hemorrhoids, ileus, increased thirst, jaundice, melena, polydipsia, duodenal ulcer, stomach ulcer. **Endocrine System:** *Infrequent:* diabetes mellitus, goiter. **Hemic and Lymphatic System:** *Infrequent:* anemia, thrombocytopenia, thrombocytopenia, eosinophilia, erythrocytopenia. **Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders:** *Frequent:* dehydration; *Infrequent:* gout, hypokalemia, increased creatine kinase, hyperglycemia, weight increase, increased lactate dehydrogenase. **Musculoskeletal System:** *Frequent:* bone fracture; *Infrequent:* muscle weakness, muscle fasciculation. **Nervous System:** *Frequent:* delusions, tremor, irritability, paresthesia, aggression, vertigo, ataxia, increased libido, restlessness, abnormal crying, nervousness, aphasia; *Infrequent:* cerebrovascular accident, intracranial hemorrhage, transient ischemic attack, emotional lability, neuralgia, coldness (localized), muscle spasm, dysphoria, gait abnormality, hypertonia, hypokinesia, neurodermatitis, numbness (localized), paranoia, dysarthria, dysphasia, hostility, decreased libido, melancholia, emotional withdrawal, nystagmus, pacing. **Respiratory System:** *Frequent:* dyspnea, sore throat, bronchitis; *Infrequent:* epistaxis, post nasal drip, pneumonia, hyperventilation, pulmonary congestion, wheezing, hypoxia, pharyngitis, pleurisy, pulmonary collapse, sleep apnea, snoring. **Skin and Appendages:** *Frequent:* pruritus, diaphoresis, urticaria; *Infrequent:* dermatitis, erythema, skin discoloration, hyperkeratosis, alopecia, fungal dermatitis, herpes zoster, hirsutism, skin striae, night sweats, skin ulcer. **Special Senses:** *Frequent:* cataract, eye irritation, vision blurred; *Infrequent:* dry eyes, glaucoma, earache, tinnitus, blepharitis, decreased hearing, retinal hemorrhage, otitis externa, otitis media, bad taste, conjunctival hemorrhage, ear buzzing, motion sickness, spots before eyes. **Urogenital System:** *Frequent:* urinary incontinence, nocturia; *Infrequent:* dysuria, hematuria, urinary urgency, metrorrhagia, cystitis, enuresis, prostate hypertrophy, pyelonephritis, inability to empty bladder, breast fibroadenosis, fibrocystic breast, mastitis, pyuria, renal failure, vaginitis. **Postintroduction Reports** Voluntary reports of adverse events temporally associated with ARICEPT® that have been received since market introduction that are not listed above, and that there is inadequate data to determine the causal relationship with the drug include the following: abdominal pain, agitation, cholecystitis, confusion, convulsions, hallucinations, heart block (all types), hemolytic anemia, hepatitis, hyponatremia, pancreatitis, and rash. **OVERDOSAGE** Because strategies for the management of overdose are continuously evolving, it is advisable to contact a Poison Control Center to determine the latest recommendations for the management of an overdose of any drug. As in any case of overdose, general supportive measures should be utilized. Overdosage with cholinesterase inhibitors can result in cholinergic crisis characterized by severe nausea, vomiting, salivation, sweating, bradycardia, hypotension, respiratory depression, collapse and convulsions. Increasing muscle weakness is a possibility and may result in death if respiratory muscles are involved. Tertiary anticholinergics such as atropine may be used as an antidote for ARICEPT® overdose. Intravenous atropine sulfate titrated to effect is recommended: an initial dose of 1.0 to 2.0 mg IV with subsequent doses based upon clinical response. Atypical responses in blood pressure and heart rate have been reported with other cholinomimetics when co-administered with quaternary anticholinergics such as glycopyrrolate. It is not known whether ARICEPT® and/or its metabolites can be removed by dialysis (hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, or hemofiltration). Dose-related signs of toxicity in animals included reduced spontaneous movement, prone position, staggering gait, lacrimation, clonic convulsions, depressed respiration, salivation, miosis, tremors, fasciculation and lower body surface temperature. **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** The dosages of ARICEPT® shown to be effective in controlled clinical trials are 5 mg and 10 mg administered once per day. Controlled clinical trials indicated that the 10 mg dose, with a one week titration, is likely to be associated with a higher incidence of cholinergic adverse events than the 5 mg dose. Because steady state is not achieved for 15 days and because the incidence of such effects may be influenced by the rate of dose escalation, treatment with a dose of 10 mg should not be contemplated until patients have been on a daily dose of 5 mg for 4 to 6 weeks. Whether or not to employ a dose of 10 mg is a matter of prescriber and patient preference. ARICEPT® should be taken in the evening, just prior to retiring, and may be taken with or without food.

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Eisai Inc.
Teaneck, NJ 07666



Pfizer U.S. Pharmaceuticals
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ADDING TO THE THERAPEUTIC ARMAMENTARIUM

page 25

“Controlling for baseline antiretroviral medication use, prophylaxis against lethal complications, CD4 cell count, viral load, and CDC clinical disease stage, the authors observed a significant effect on the number of copies of plasma HIV-1 RNA in the seropositive participants. The relative mean change before and after intervention was 0.78 log₁₀, which is greater than the minimum change required to establish the efficacy of an antiretroviral medication. Finally, a significant reduction in the number of health care visits over 6 months was achieved both in the seronegative and seropositive groups, demonstrating that these immunologic changes may be clinically relevant. Based on these findings, it may be suggested that a bereavement support-group intervention can offer psychological benefits that yield a positive neuroendocrine effect on plasma cortisol levels. This effect in turn has a positive immunologic effect on CD4 cell count, NK cells, and the lymphocyte proliferative response to PHA, resulting in a decreased viral load and increased clinical health benefits.”

COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT: A PREVALENT PROBLEM IN HIV-1 INFECTION

page 33

“The nature of the memory impairment observed in HIV-1 infection resembles that seen in Huntington’s disease, a subcortical brain disease with a pattern of memory impairment different from that of cortical dementias, such as Alzheimer disease. Specifically, individuals with either subcortical or cortical brain disease have difficulty during the acquisition and recall of verbal information. Differences between individuals with subcortical and individuals with cortical brain disease, however, are observed in cued recall and especially in recognition memory. Individuals with HIV-1 infection as well as those with Huntington’s disease are significantly aided by a cued or recognition format, suggesting that their impairment is primarily one of retrieval of information from memory. In contrast, patients with Alzheimer disease perform just as poorly with a cued or recognition test format as with free recall, suggesting that their memory deficits extend to encoding and storage of information. The subcortical type of verbal memory impairment described above is more likely to occur in individuals with AIDS than in those at earlier stages of the infection. Of interest was the finding that patients with Huntington’s disease had impaired performance on a Rotary Pursuit learning task, while those with HIV-1 infection were able to perform as well as the normal control group on this task, which includes a motor component. Therefore, the similarity between Huntington’s disease and HIV-1 infection may be in the nature of the memory impairment and not in the decrements in motor skills associated with the distinctive motor changes characterizing these two diseases.”

A LEADING ROLE IN THE CLINICAL PROGRESSION OF THE DISEASE PROCESS?

page 55

“The etiology and pathogenesis of HIV-1 infection is complicated. Immediately after contracting HIV-1 infection, although patients remain seronegative for a variable time period, viral infection may induce intense internal physiological distress characterized by possibly heightened cortisol levels. Unfortunately, systematic studies during the window period from viral exposure to seroconversion are of limited feasibility, since most individuals are typically not aware of viral exposure or that a flu-like syndrome they may have experienced is referable to acute HIV-1 infection. Nevertheless, early studies showed a significant increase in levels of cortisol in recently diagnosed subjects and in the bereaved. It is very likely that a higher cortisol concentration immediately after contracting HIV-1 infection and in response to bereavement is the result of heightened levels of CRH. Chronically, as described above, this phenomenon will down-regulate the CRH receptors and decrease the sensitivity of the corticotrophs, leading to attenuated ACTH and cortisol responses. Recent experimental studies have investigated central HPA activity under conditions of acute and chronic stressor exposure. It has been observed in acute stressor exposure that CRH is mainly responsible for stimulating the activity of ACTH. In contrast, with chronic or repeated stressor exposure, arginine vasopressin (AVP) is the main secretagogue. Since parvocellular neurons that secrete only AVP, in contrast to those that secrete both CRH and AVP, are devoid of glucocorticoid receptors, AVP production is relatively independent of the cortisol-mediated negative feedback system.”

PERIPHERAL NERVE INVOLVEMENT: TAILORED NEUROPATHIES

page 66

“Although direct HIV-1 infection may not be the principal pathogenetic mechanism, DSP occurs invariably in a setting of chronic productive HIV-1 infection and progressive immunodeficiency with or without opportunistic infections. It is, therefore, possible that DSP is virus driven—perhaps resulting from some indirect mechanism(s) in HIV-1 infection. Recent research has focused on the action of cytokines on the PNS in AIDS patients. Tumor necrosis factor- α , several interleukins, transforming growth factor- α , and nitric oxide have all been identified in the peripheral nerves or in the dorsal root ganglia of HIV-1-infected patients. The glycoprotein 120 subunit of HIV-1 may be a cofactor. In addition, certain HIV-1 strains, host factors, and cytokine interaction with nerve growth factors have also been speculated in DSP pathogenesis. Finally, the contributory role, if any, of concurrent CMV infection, malnutrition, and/or AIDS wasting in the etiology of DSP is tantalizing.”



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References: 1. Elie R, Rüther E, Farr I, et al. Sleep latency is shortened during 4 weeks of treatment with zaleplon, a novel nonbenzodiazepine hypnotic. *J Clin Psychiatry.* 1999;60:536-544.
2. SONATA® (zaleplon) Prescribing Information, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, Philadelphia, Pa.



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Please see brief summary of Prescribing Information on adjacent page.

Brief Summary

Sonata[®] (zaleplon) Capsules
See package insert for full prescribing information.

Contraindications: None known.

Warnings: Because sleep disturbances may be the presenting manifestation of a physical and/or psychiatric disorder, symptomatic treatment of insomnia should be initiated only after a careful evaluation of the patient. The failure of insomnia to remit after 7 to 10 days of treatment may indicate the presence of a primary psychiatric and/or medical illness that should be evaluated. Worsening of insomnia or the emergence of new thinking or behavior abnormalities may be the consequence of an unrecognized psychiatric or physical disorder. Such findings have emerged during the course of treatment with sedative/hypnotic drugs, including Sonata. Because some of the important adverse effects of Sonata appear to be dose-related, it is important to use the lowest possible effective dose, especially in the elderly. A variety of abnormal thinking and behavior changes have been reported to occur in association with the use of sedative/hypnotics. Some of these changes may be characterized by decreased inhibition (eg, aggressiveness and extroversion that seem out of character), similar to effects produced by alcohol and other CNS depressants. Other reported behavior changes have included bizarre behavior, agitation, hallucinations, and depersonalization. Amnesia and other neuropsychiatric symptoms may occur unpredictably. In primarily depressed patients, worsening of depression, including suicidal thinking, has been reported in association with the use of sedative/hypnotics. It can rarely be determined with certainty whether a particular instance of the abnormal behaviors listed above are drug induced, spontaneous in origin, or a result of an underlying psychiatric or physical disorder. Nonetheless, the emergence of any new behavioral sign or symptom of concern requires careful and immediate evaluation. Following rapid dose decrease or abrupt discontinuation of the use of sedative/hypnotics, there have been reports of signs and symptoms similar to those associated with withdrawal from other CNS-depressant drugs (see **Drug Abuse and Dependence**). Sonata, like other hypnotics, has CNS-depressant effects. Because of the rapid onset of action, Sonata should only be ingested immediately prior to going to bed or after the patient has gone to bed and has experienced difficulty falling asleep. Patients receiving Sonata should be cautioned against engaging in hazardous occupations requiring complete mental alertness or motor coordination (eg, operating machinery or driving a motor vehicle) after ingesting the drug, including potential impairment of the performance of such activities that may occur the day following ingestion of Sonata. Sonata, as well as other hypnotics, may produce additive CNS depressant effects when coadministered with other psychotropic medications, anticonvulsants, antihistamines, ethanol, and other drugs that themselves produce CNS depression. Sonata should not be taken with alcohol. Dosage adjustment may be necessary when Sonata is administered with other CNS depressant agents because of the potentially additive effects.

Precautions: GENERAL—Timing of Drug Administration: Sonata should be taken immediately before bedtime or after the patient has gone to bed and has experienced difficulty falling asleep. As with all sedative/hypnotics, taking Sonata while still up and about may result in short-term memory impairment, hallucinations, impaired coordination, dizziness, and lightheadedness. **Use in the elderly and/or debilitated patients:** Impaired motor and/or cognitive performance after repeated exposure or unusual sensitivity to sedative/hypnotic drugs is a concern in the treatment of elderly and/or debilitated patients. A dose of 5 mg is recommended for elderly patients to decrease the possibility of side effects. Elderly and/or debilitated patients should be monitored closely. **Use in patients with concomitant illness:** Clinical experience with Sonata in patients with concomitant systemic illness is limited. Sonata should be used with caution in patients with diseases or conditions that could affect metabolism or hemodynamic responses. Although preliminary studies did not reveal respiratory depressant effects at hypnotic doses of Sonata in normal subjects, caution should be observed if Sonata is prescribed to patients with compromised respiratory function, because sedative/hypnotics have the capacity to depress respiratory drive. Controlled trials of acute administration of Sonata 10 mg in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or moderate obstructive sleep apnea showed no evidence of alterations in blood gases or apnea-hypopnea index, respectively. However, patients with compromised respiration due to preexisting illness should be monitored carefully. The dose of Sonata should be reduced to 5 mg in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. It is not recommended for use in patients with severe hepatic impairment. No dose adjustment is necessary in patients with mild to moderate renal impairment. Sonata has not been adequately studied in patients with severe renal impairment. **Use in patients with depression:** As with other sedative/hypnotic drugs, Sonata should be administered with caution to patients exhibiting signs or symptoms of depression. Suicidal tendencies may be present in such patients and protective measures may be required. Intentional overdosage is more common in this group of patients (see **OVERDOSAGE**); therefore, the least amount of drug that is feasible should be prescribed for the patient at any one time.

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS: Patient information is printed in the complete prescribing information. **LABORATORY TESTS:** There are no specific laboratory tests recommended. **DRUG INTERACTIONS: CNS-active Drugs—Ethanol:** Sonata potentiated the CNS-impaired effects of ethanol. The potentiation resulted from a CNS pharmacodynamic interaction; zaleplon did not affect the pharmacokinetics of ethanol. **Imipramine/Thioridazine:** The administration of single doses of Sonata 20 mg and imipramine 75 mg or thioridazine 50 mg produced no additive effects on decreased alertness and impaired psychomotor performance for 2 to 4 hours after administration. The interaction was pharmacodynamic with no alteration of the pharmacokinetics of either drug. **Paroxetine:** Coadministration of a single dose of Sonata 20 mg and paroxetine 20 mg daily for 7 days did not produce any interaction on psychomotor performance. Additionally, paroxetine did not alter the pharmacokinetics of Sonata, reflecting the absence of a role of CYP2D6 in zaleplon's metabolism. **Drugs that Induce CYP3A4—Rifampin:** Multiple-dose administration of the potent CYP3A4 inducer rifampin (600 mg every 24 hours, q24h, for 14 days), reduced zaleplon C_{max} and AUC by approximately 80%. The coadministration of a potent CYP3A4 enzyme inducer, although not posing a safety concern, thus could lead to ineffectiveness of zaleplon. **Drugs that Inhibit CYP3A4—The coadministration of a potent, selective CYP3A4 inhibitor is not expected to produce a clinically important pharmacokinetic interaction with zaleplon; however, there are no clinical studies specifically addressing this question. **Drugs that Inhibit Aldehyde Oxidase—Diphenhydramine:** Diphenhydramine is reported to be a weak inhibitor of aldehyde oxidase in rat liver. There is no pharmacokinetic interaction between zaleplon and diphenhydramine following the administration of a single dose (10 mg and 50 mg, respectively) of each drug. However, because both of these compounds have CNS effects, an additive pharmacodynamic effect is possible. **Drugs that Inhibit Both Aldehyde Oxidase and CYP3A4—Cimetidine:** Cimetidine inhibits both aldehyde oxidase (in vitro) and CYP3A4 (in vitro and in vivo), the primary and secondary enzymes, respectively, responsible for zaleplon metabolism. Concomitant administration of Sonata (10 mg) and cimetidine (800 mg) produced an 85% increase in the mean C_{max} and AUC of zaleplon. An initial dose of 5 mg should be given to patients who are concomitantly being treated with cimetidine. **Drugs Highly Bound to Plasma Protein:** Zaleplon is not highly bound to plasma proteins (fraction bound 60%–15%); therefore, the disposition of zaleplon is not expected to be sensitive to alterations in protein binding. In addition, administration of Sonata to a patient taking another drug that is highly protein bound should not cause transient increase in free concentrations of the other drug. **Drugs with a Narrow Therapeutic Index—Digoxin:** Sonata (10 mg) did not affect the pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic profile of digoxin (0.375 mg q24h for 8 days). **Warfarin:** Multiple oral doses of Sonata (20 mg q24h for 13 days) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of warfarin (R+)- or (S)-enantiomers or the pharmacodynamics (prothrombin time) following a single 25 mg oral dose of warfarin. **Drugs that Alter Renal Clearance:** There was no apparent pharmacokinetic interaction between zaleplon and ibuprofen following single dose administration (10 mg and 600 mg, respectively) of each drug. This was expected because zaleplon is primarily metabolized, and renal excretion of unchanged zaleplon accounts for less than 1% of the administered dose. **CARCINOGENESIS, MUTAGENESIS, AND IMPAIRMENT OF FERTILITY—Carcinogenesis:** Mice received doses equivalent to 6-49 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 20 mg on a mg/m² basis. There was a significant increase in the incidence of hepatocellular adenomas in female mice in the high dose group. Rats received doses equivalent to 0.5-10 times the MRHD. Zaleplon was not carcinogenic in rats. **Mutagenesis:** Zaleplon was clastogenic when tested for chromosomal aberrations in the *in vitro* Chinese hamster ovary cell assay. In the *in vitro* human lymphocyte assay, zaleplon caused numerical but not structural aberrations, only in the presence of metabolic activation at the highest concentrations tested. Zaleplon was not mutagenic in the Ames bacterial gene mutation assay or the Chinese hamster ovary HGPRT gene mutation assay. Zaleplon was not clastogenic in two *in vivo* assays, the mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay and the rat bone marrow chromosomal aberration assay, and did not cause DNA damage in the rat hepatocyte unscheduled DNA synthesis assay. **Impairment of Fertility:** In a study in rats, mortality and decreased fertility were associated with administration of an oral dose of zaleplon 100 mg/kg/day to males and females prior to and during mating. Follow-up studies indicated that impaired fertility was due to an effect on the female. **PREGNANCY—Pregnancy Category C:** Oral administration of up to 100 and 50 mg/kg/day, respectively, to pregnant animals (rats and rabbits) throughout organogenesis produced no evidence of teratogenicity. In rats, pre- and postnatal growth was reduced in the offspring of dams receiving 100 mg/kg/day. This dose was also maternally toxic, as evidenced by clinical signs and decreased maternal body weight gain during gestation. The no-effect dose for rat offspring growth reduction was 10 mg/kg (8 dose equivalent to 5 times the MRHD of 20 mg on a mg/m² basis). No adverse effects on embryofetal development were observed in rabbits at the doses examined. In a pre- and postnatal development study in rats, increased stillbirth and postnatal mortality, and decreased growth and physical development, were observed in the offspring of females treated with doses of 7 mg/kg/day or greater during the latter part of gestation and throughout lactation. There was no evidence of maternal toxicity at this dose. The no-effect dose for offspring development was 1 mg/kg/day. When the adverse effects on offspring viability and growth were examined in a cross-fostering study, they appeared to result from both *in utero* and lactational exposure to the drug. There are no studies of zaleplon in pregnant women; therefore, Sonata is not recommended for use in women during pregnancy. **LABOR AND DELIVERY:** Sonata has no established use in labor and delivery. **NURSING MOTHERS:** A study in lactating mothers indicated that the clearance and half-life of zaleplon is similar to that in young normal subjects. A small amount of zaleplon is excreted in breast milk, with the highest excreted amount occurring during a feeding at approximately 1 hour after Sonata administration. Since the small amount of the drug from breast milk may result in potentially important concentrations in infants, and because the effects of zaleplon on a nursing infant are not known, it is recommended that nursing mothers not take Sonata. **PEDIATRIC USE:** The safety and effectiveness of Sonata in pediatric patients have not been established. **GERIATRIC USE:** A total of 628 patients in double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group clinical trials who received Sonata were at least 65 years of age; of these, 311 received 5 mg and 317 received 10 mg. In both sleep laboratory and outpatient studies, elderly patients with insomnia responded to a 5-mg dose with a reduced sleep latency, and thus 5 mg is the recommended dose in this population. During short-term treatment (14 night studies) of elderly patients with Sonata, no adverse event with a frequency of at least 1% occurred at a significantly higher rate with either 5 mg or 10 mg Sonata than with placebo. **Adverse Reactions: ADVERSE FINDINGS OBSERVED IN SHORT-TERM, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIALS—Adverse Events Associated with Discontinuation of Treatment:** In premarketing placebo-controlled, parallel-group phase 2-3 clinical trials, 3.1% of 744 patients who received placebo and 3.5% of 2,069 patients who received Sonata discontinued treatment because of an adverse clinical event. This difference was not statistically significant. No event that resulted in discontinuation occurred at a rate of $\geq 1\%$. **Adverse Events Occurring at an Incidence of 1% or More Among Sonata 20 Mg-treated Patients:** Table 1 enumerates, for a pool of three placebo-controlled 28-night studies of Sonata at doses of 5 or 10 and 20 mg, the incidence of treatment emergent adverse events. The table includes only those events that occurred in 1% or more of patients treated with Sonata 20 mg where the incidence in patients treated with Sonata 20 mg was greater than the incidence in placebo-treated patients.**

Canada, and Europe including approximately 2800 patients. All reported events are included except those already listed in Table 1 or elsewhere in labeling, and those events for which a drug cause was remote, and those event terms which were so general as to be uninformative. It is important to emphasize that, although the events reported occurred during treatment with Sonata, they were not necessarily caused by it. Events are further categorized by body system and listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the following definitions: **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring on one or more occasions in at least 1/100 patients; **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring in less than 1/100 patients but at least 1/1,000 patients; **rare** events are those occurring in fewer than 1/1,000 patients. **Body as a whole - Frequent:** back pain, chest pain; **Infrequent:** chest pain substernal, chills, face edema, generalized edema, hanger effect, neck rigidity. **Cardiovascular system - Frequent:** migraine, **Infrequent:** angina pectoris, bundle branch block, hypertension, hypotension, palpitation, syncope, tachycardia, vasodilation, ventricular extrasystoles; **Rare:** bigeminy, cerebral ischemia, cyanosis, pericardial effusion, postural hypotension, pulmonary embolus, sinus bradycardia, thrombophlebitis, ventricular tachycardia. **Digestive system - Frequent:** constipation, dry mouth; **Infrequent:** eructation, esophagitis, flatulence, gastritis, gastroenteritis, gingivitis, glossitis, increased appetite, melena, mouth ulceration, rectal hemorrhage, stomatitis; **Rare:** aphthous stomatitis, biliary pain, bruxism, cardiospasm, cheilitis, cholelithiasis, duodenal ulcer, dysphagia, enteritis, gum hemorrhage, increased salivation, intestinal obstruction, liver function tests abnormal, peptic ulcer, tongue discoloration, tongue edema, ulcerative stomatitis. **Endocrine system - Rare:** diabetes mellitus, goiter, hypothyroidism. **Hemic and lymphatic system - Infrequent:** anemia, ecchymosis, lymphadenopathy; **Rare:** eosinophilia, leukocytosis, lymphocytosis, purpura. **Metabolic and nutritional - Infrequent:** edema, gout, hypercholesterolemia, thirst, weight gain; **Rare:** bilirubinemia, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia, hypoglycemic reaction, ketosis, SGOT increased, SGPT increased, weight loss. **Musculoskeletal system - Frequent:** arthralgia; **Infrequent:** arthrosis, bursitis, joint disorder (mainly swelling, stiffness, and pain), myasthenia, tenosynovitis; **Rare:** myositis, osteoporosis. **Nervous system - Frequent:** depression, hypertonía, nervousness, thinking abnormal (mainly difficulty concentrating); **Infrequent:** abnormal gait, agitation, apathy, ataxia, circumoral paresthesia, confusion, emotional lability, euphoria, hyperesthesia, hyperkinesia, hypotonia, incoordination, insomnia, libido decreased, neuralgia, nystagmus; **Rare:** CNS stimulation, delusions, dysarthria, dystonia, facial paralysis, hostility, hypokinesia, myoclonus, neuropathy, psychomotor retardation, ptosis, reflexes decreased, reflexes increased, sleep talking, sleep walking, slurred speech, stupor, trismus. **Respiratory system - Frequent:** bronchitis; **Infrequent:** asthma, dyspnea, laryngitis, pneumonia, snoring, voice alteration; **Rare:** apnea, hiccup, hyperventilation, pleural effusion, sputum increased. **Skin and appendages - Frequent:** pruritus, rash; **Infrequent:** acne, alopecia, contact dermatitis, dry skin, eczema, maculopapular rash, skin hypertrophy, sweating, urticaria, vesiculopustular rash; **Rare:** melanosis, psoriasis, pustular rash, skin discoloration. **Special senses - Frequent:** conjunctivitis; **Infrequent:** diplopia, dry eyes, photophobia, tinnitus, watery eyes; **Rare:** abnormality of accommodation, blepharitis, cataract speckled, corneal erosion, deafness, eye hemorrhage, glaucoma, labyrinthitis, retinal detachment, taste loss, visual field defect. **Urogenital system - Infrequent:** bladder pain, breast pain, cystitis, decreased urine stream, dysuria, hematuria, impotence, kidney calculus, kidney pain, menorrhagia, metrorrhagia, urinary frequency, urinary incontinence, urinary urgency, vaginitis; **Rare:** albuminuria, delayed menstrual period, leukorrhea, menopause, urethritis, urinary retention, vaginal hemorrhage.

Drug Abuse and Dependence—CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CLASS: Sonata is classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance by federal regulation. **ABUSE, DEPENDENCE, AND TOLERANCE—Abuse—**Two studies assessed the abuse liability of Sonata at doses of 25, 50, and 75 mg in subjects with known histories of sedative drug abuse. The results of these studies indicate that Sonata has an abuse potential similar to benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine-like hypnotics. **Dependence:** The potential for developing physical dependence on Sonata and a subsequent withdrawal syndrome was assessed in controlled studies of 14- and 28-day durations and in open-label studies of 6- and 12-month durations by examining for the emergence of rebound insomnia following drug discontinuation. Some patients (mostly those treated with 20 mg) experienced a mild rebound insomnia on the first night following withdrawal that appeared to be resolved by the second night. The use of the Benzodiazepine Withdrawal Symptom Questionnaire and examination for any other withdrawal emergent events did not detect any other evidence for a withdrawal syndrome following abrupt discontinuation of Sonata therapy in pre-marketing studies. However, available data cannot provide a reliable estimate of the incidence of dependence during treatment at recommended doses of Sonata. Other sedative/hypnotics have been associated with various signs and symptoms following abrupt discontinuation, ranging from mild dysphoria and insomnia to a withdrawal syndrome that may include abdominal and muscle cramps, vomiting, sweating, tremors, and convulsions. Seizures have been observed in two patients, one of whom had a prior seizure, in clinical trials with Sonata. Seizures and death have been seen following the withdrawal of zaleplon from animals at doses many times higher than those proposed for human use. Because individuals with a history of addiction to, or abuse of, drugs or alcohol are at risk of habituation and dependence, they should be under careful surveillance when receiving Sonata or any other hypnotic. **Tolerance:** Possible tolerance to the hypnotic effects of Sonata 10 and 20 mg was assessed by evaluating time to sleep onset with Sonata compared with placebo in two placebo-controlled 28-day studies. No development of tolerance to Sonata was observed for time to sleep onset over 4 weeks. **OVERDOSAGE:** There is limited pre-marketing clinical experience with the effects of an overdose of Sonata. Two cases of overdose were reported. One was the accidental ingestion by a 2 1/2-year old boy of 20-40 mg of zaleplon. The second was a 20-year old man who took 100 mg zaleplon plus 2.25 mg of triazolam. Both were treated and recovered uneventfully.

Signs and Symptoms: Signs and symptoms of overdose effects of CNS depressants can be expected to present as exaggerations of the pharmacological effects noted in preclinical testing. Overdose is usually manifested by degrees of central nervous system depression ranging from drowsiness to coma. In mild cases, symptoms include drowsiness, mental confusion, and lethargy; in more serious cases, symptoms may include ataxia, hypotonia, hypotension, respiratory depression, rarely coma, and very rarely death. **Recommended Treatment:** General symptomatic and supportive measures should be used along with immediate gastric lavage where appropriate. Intravenous fluids should be administered as needed. Animal studies suggest that flumazenil is an antagonist to zaleplon. However, there is no premarketing clinical experience with the use of flumazenil as an antidote to a Sonata overdose. As in all cases of drug overdose, respiration, pulse, blood pressure, and other appropriate signs should be monitored and general supportive measures employed. Hypotension and CNS depression should be monitored and treated by appropriate medical intervention. **Poison Control Center:** As with the management of all overdosage, the possibility of multiple drug ingestion should be considered. The physician may wish to consider contacting a poison control center for up-to-date information on the management of hypnotic drug product overdosage. Based on Sonata CI 6001-1 issued August 13, 1999

Table 1: Incidence (%) of Treatment-emergent Adverse Events in Long-term (28 Nights) Placebo-controlled Clinical Trials of Sonata¹

Body system	Placebo (n=277)	Sonata 5 or 10 mg (n=513)	Sonata 20 mg (n=273)
Body as a whole			
Abdominal pain	4	5	6
Asthenia	5	8	8
Fever	1	2	2
Headache	31	28	38
Malaise	1	<1	2
Photosensitivity reaction	<1	<1	1
Digestive system			
Anorexia	<1	<1	2
Colitis	0	0	1
Dyspepsia	5	4	7
Nausea	7	7	8
Metabolic and nutritional			
Peripheral edema	<1	<1	1
Musculoskeletal system			
Myalgia	4	7	5
Nervous system			
Amnesia	1	2	4
Anxiety	2	<1	3
Depersonalization	<1	<1	2
Dizziness	7	7	8
Hallucinations	<1	<1	1
Hypesthesia	0	<1	2
Paresthesia	1	3	3
Somnolence	3	5	5
Tremor	1	2	2
Vertigo	<1	<1	1
Respiratory system			
Epistaxis	0	<1	1
Special senses			
Abnormal vision	<1	<1	2
Ear pain	<1	<1	1
Eye pain	3	4	4
Hyperacusis	1	2	2
Parosmia	1	<1	2
Urogenital system			
Dysmenorrhea	2	2	4

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OTHER ADVERSE EVENTS OBSERVED DURING THE PREMARKETING EVALUATION OF SONATA: Following is a list of COSTART terms that reflect treatment-emergent adverse events as defined in the introduction to the **Adverse Reactions** section reported by patients treated with Sonata at doses in a range of 5 to 20 mg/day during premarketing phase 2 and 3 clinical trials throughout the United States,

Canada, and Europe including approximately 2800 patients. All reported events are included except those already listed in Table 1 or elsewhere in labeling, and those events for which a drug cause was remote, and those event terms which were so general as to be uninformative. It is important to emphasize that, although the events reported occurred during treatment with Sonata, they were not necessarily caused by it. Events are further categorized by body system and listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the following definitions: **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring on one or more occasions in at least 1/100 patients; **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring in less than 1/100 patients but at least 1/1,000 patients; **rare** events are those occurring in fewer than 1/1,000 patients. **Body as a whole - Frequent:** back pain, chest pain; **Infrequent:** chest pain substernal, chills, face edema, generalized edema, hanger effect, neck rigidity. **Cardiovascular system - Frequent:** migraine, **Infrequent:** angina pectoris, bundle branch block, hypertension, hypotension, palpitation, syncope, tachycardia, vasodilation, ventricular extrasystoles; **Rare:** bigeminy, cerebral ischemia, cyanosis, pericardial effusion, postural hypotension, pulmonary embolus, sinus bradycardia, thrombophlebitis, ventricular tachycardia. **Digestive system - Frequent:** constipation, dry mouth; **Infrequent:** eructation, esophagitis, flatulence, gastritis, gastroenteritis, gingivitis, glossitis, increased appetite, melena, mouth ulceration, rectal hemorrhage, stomatitis; **Rare:** aphthous stomatitis, biliary pain, bruxism, cardiospasm, cheilitis, cholelithiasis, duodenal ulcer, dysphagia, enteritis, gum hemorrhage, increased salivation, intestinal obstruction, liver function tests abnormal, peptic ulcer, tongue discoloration, tongue edema, ulcerative stomatitis. **Endocrine system - Rare:** diabetes mellitus, goiter, hypothyroidism. **Hemic and lymphatic system - Infrequent:** anemia, ecchymosis, lymphadenopathy; **Rare:** eosinophilia, leukocytosis, lymphocytosis, purpura. **Metabolic and nutritional - Infrequent:** edema, gout, hypercholesterolemia, thirst, weight gain; **Rare:** bilirubinemia, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia, hypoglycemic reaction, ketosis, SGOT increased, SGPT increased, weight loss. **Musculoskeletal system - Frequent:** arthralgia; **Infrequent:** arthrosis, bursitis, joint disorder (mainly swelling, stiffness, and pain), myasthenia, tenosynovitis; **Rare:** myositis, osteoporosis. **Nervous system - Frequent:** depression, hypertonía, nervousness, thinking abnormal (mainly difficulty concentrating); **Infrequent:** abnormal gait, agitation, apathy, ataxia, circumoral paresthesia, confusion, emotional lability, euphoria, hyperesthesia, hyperkinesia, hypotonia, incoordination, insomnia, libido decreased, neuralgia, nystagmus; **Rare:** CNS stimulation, delusions, dysarthria, dystonia, facial paralysis, hostility, hypokinesia, myoclonus, neuropathy, psychomotor retardation, ptosis, reflexes decreased, reflexes increased, sleep talking, sleep walking, slurred speech, stupor, trismus. **Respiratory system - Frequent:** bronchitis; **Infrequent:** asthma, dyspnea, laryngitis, pneumonia, snoring, voice alteration; **Rare:** apnea, hiccup, hyperventilation, pleural effusion, sputum increased. **Skin and appendages - Frequent:** pruritus, rash; **Infrequent:** acne, alopecia, contact dermatitis, dry skin, eczema, maculopapular rash, skin hypertrophy, sweating, urticaria, vesiculopustular rash; **Rare:** melanosis, psoriasis, pustular rash, skin discoloration. **Special senses - Frequent:** conjunctivitis; **Infrequent:** diplopia, dry eyes, photophobia, tinnitus, watery eyes; **Rare:** abnormality of accommodation, blepharitis, cataract speckled, corneal erosion, deafness, eye hemorrhage, glaucoma, labyrinthitis, retinal detachment, taste loss, visual field defect. **Urogenital system - Infrequent:** bladder pain, breast pain, cystitis, decreased urine stream, dysuria, hematuria, impotence, kidney calculus, kidney pain, menorrhagia, metrorrhagia, urinary frequency, urinary incontinence, urinary urgency, vaginitis; **Rare:** albuminuria, delayed menstrual period, leukorrhea, menopause, urethritis, urinary retention, vaginal hemorrhage.

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Hallucinations	<1	<1	1
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Paresthesia	1	3	3
Somnolence	3	5	5
Tremor	1	2	2
Vertigo	<1	<1	1
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Epistaxis	0	<1	1
Special senses			
Abnormal vision	<1	<1	2
Ear pain	<1	<1	1
Eye pain	3	4	4
Hyperacusis	1	2	2
Parosmia	1	<1	2
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1: Events for which the incidence for Sonata 20 mg-treated patients was at least 1% and greater than the incidence among placebo-treated patients. Incidence greater than 1% has been rounded to the nearest whole number.

OTHER ADVERSE EVENTS OBSERVED DURING THE PREMARKETING EVALUATION OF SONATA: Following is a list of COSTART terms that reflect treatment-emergent adverse events as defined in the introduction to the **Adverse Reactions** section reported by patients treated with Sonata at doses in a range of 5 to 20 mg/day during premarketing phase 2 and 3 clinical trials throughout the United States,

Canada, and Europe including approximately 2800 patients. All reported events are included except those already listed in Table 1 or elsewhere in labeling, and those events for which a drug cause was remote, and those event terms which were so general as to be uninformative. It is important to emphasize that, although the events reported occurred during treatment with Sonata, they were not necessarily caused by it. Events are further categorized by body system and listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the following definitions: **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring on one or more occasions in at least 1/100 patients; **Infrequent** adverse events are those occurring in less than 1/100 patients but at least 1/1,000 patients; **rare** events are those occurring in fewer than 1/1,000 patients. **Body as a whole - Frequent:** back pain, chest pain; **Infrequent:** chest pain substernal, chills, face edema, generalized edema, hanger effect, neck rigidity. **Cardiovascular system - Frequent:** migraine, **Infrequent:** angina pectoris, bundle branch block, hypertension, hypotension, palpitation, syncope, tachycardia, vasodilation, ventricular extrasystoles; **Rare:** bigeminy, cerebral ischemia, cyanosis, pericardial effusion, postural hypotension, pulmonary embolus, sinus bradycardia, thrombophlebitis, ventricular tachycardia. **Digestive system - Frequent:** constipation, dry mouth; **Infrequent:** eructation, esophagitis, flatulence, gastritis, gastroenteritis, gingivitis, glossitis, increased appetite, melena, mouth ulceration, rectal hemorrhage, stomatitis; **Rare:** aphthous stomatitis, biliary pain, bruxism, cardiospasm, cheilitis, cholelithiasis, duodenal ulcer, dysphagia, enteritis, gum hemorrhage, increased salivation, intestinal obstruction, liver function tests abnormal, peptic ulcer, tongue discoloration, tongue edema, ulcerative stomatitis. **Endocrine system - Rare:** diabetes mellitus, goiter, hypothyroidism. **Hemic and lymphatic system - Infrequent:** anemia, ecchymosis, lymphadenopathy; **Rare:** eosinophilia, leukocytosis, lymphocytosis, purpura. **Metabolic and nutritional - Infrequent:** edema, gout, hypercholesterolemia, thirst, weight gain; **Rare:** bilirubinemia, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, hypoglycemia, hypoglycemic reaction, ketosis, SGOT increased, SGPT increased, weight loss. **Musculoskeletal system - Frequent:** arthralgia; **Infrequent:** arthrosis, bursitis, joint disorder (mainly swelling, stiffness, and pain), myasthenia, tenosynovitis; **Rare:** myositis, osteoporosis. **Nervous system - Frequent:** depression, hypertonía, nervousness, thinking abnormal (mainly difficulty concentrating); **Infrequent:** abnormal gait, agitation, apathy, ataxia, circumoral paresthesia, confusion, emotional lability, euphoria, hyperesthesia, hyperkinesia, hypotonia, incoordination, insomnia, libido decreased, neuralgia, nystagmus; **Rare:** CNS stimulation, delusions, dysarthria, dystonia, facial paralysis, hostility, hypokinesia, myoclonus, neuropathy, psychomotor retardation, ptosis, reflexes decreased, reflexes increased, sleep talking, sleep walking, slurred speech, stupor, trismus. **Respiratory system - Frequent:** bronchitis; **Infrequent:** asthma, dyspnea, laryngitis, pneumonia, snoring, voice alteration; **Rare:** apnea, hiccup, hyperventilation, pleural effusion, sputum increased. **Skin and appendages - Frequent:** pruritus, rash; **Infrequent:** acne, alopecia, contact dermatitis, dry skin, eczema, maculopapular rash, skin hypertrophy, sweating, urticaria, vesiculopustular rash; **Rare:** melanosis, psoriasis, pustular rash, skin discoloration. **Special senses - Frequent:** conjunctivitis; **Infrequent:** diplopia, dry eyes, photophobia, tinnitus, watery eyes; **Rare:** abnormality of accommodation, blepharitis, cataract speckled, corneal erosion, deafness, eye hemorrhage, glaucoma, labyrinthitis, retinal detachment, taste loss, visual field defect. **Urogenital system - Infrequent:** bladder pain, breast pain, cystitis, decreased urine stream, dysuria, hematuria, impotence, kidney calculus, kidney pain, menorrhagia, metrorrhagia, urinary frequency, urinary incontinence, urinary urgency, vaginitis; **Rare:** albuminuria, delayed menstrual period, leukorrhea, menopause, urethritis, urinary retention, vaginal hemorrhage.

Drug Abuse and Dependence—CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CLASS: Sonata is classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance by federal regulation. **ABUSE, DEPENDENCE, AND TOLERANCE—Abuse—**Two studies assessed the abuse liability of Sonata at doses of 25, 50, and 75 mg in subjects with known histories of sedative drug abuse. The results of these studies indicate that Sonata has an abuse potential similar to benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine-like hypnotics. **Dependence:** The potential for developing physical dependence on Sonata and a subsequent withdrawal syndrome was assessed in controlled studies of 14- and 28

In the medical management of ADHD...

FIVE clinically *sound* reasons to *consider* ADDERALL[®] for the ADHD *patients* in *your* practice...



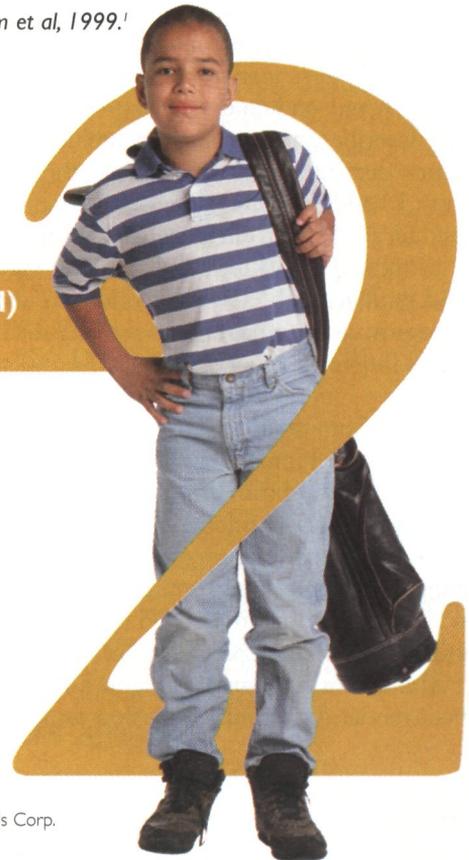
On average, ADDERALL is more effective than Ritalin[®] ($p < 0.001$)¹

ADDERALL is favored 3 to 1 compared to Ritalin[®] by clinical staff for continued medication¹

ADDERALL produced significantly more improvement in most measures of behavior as compared to Ritalin ($p < 0.05$)^{*1}

Both drugs produced low and comparable levels of clinically significant side effects¹

Pelham et al, 1999.¹



ADDERALL achieved better scores than methylphenidate (MPH) in reducing inattentive and hyperactive symptoms ($p < 0.05$)²

ADDERALL scored better than MPH ($p < 0.05$) on Clinical Global Impression (CGI) improvement²

Children who obtained a CGI-improvement score of 1 or 2 were defined as "responders"—and there were significantly more responders in the ADDERALL group as compared to the MPH group ($p < 0.01$)²

Side effects were no different than placebo²

Pliszka et al, 2000.²

^{*}Except for complaining and positive peer behaviors, in which cases the degree of improvement with ADDERALL was equal to that of Ritalin.

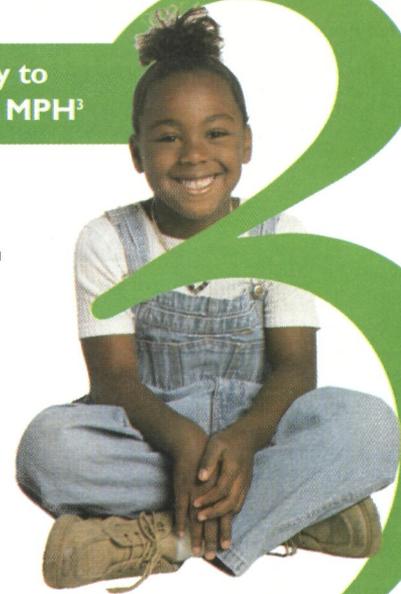
ADDERALL is a registered trademark of Shire Richwood Inc. Ritalin is a registered trademark of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. Please see adjacent pages for references and summary prescribing information.

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Children initially treated with **ADDERALL** were 4 times less likely to require a medication switch in the first 6 months compared with MPH³

Patients receiving **ADDERALL** remained on therapy significantly longer than those receiving MPH—average length of time on initial medication was 153 days for **ADDERALL** ($p < 0.001$) and 130 days for MPH ($p = 0.0003$)³

Grcevich et al, 1999.³



Single-dose treatments of **ADDERALL** (average 10.6 mg/day) appear to be as effective as 2 daily doses of MPH (average 19.5 mg/day)⁴

87% of MPH failures were successfully treated with **ADDERALL**⁴

Analysis of side effects data revealed no differences between placebo and best dose. Few children experienced any serious side effects their best dose week⁴

Manos et al, 1999.⁴

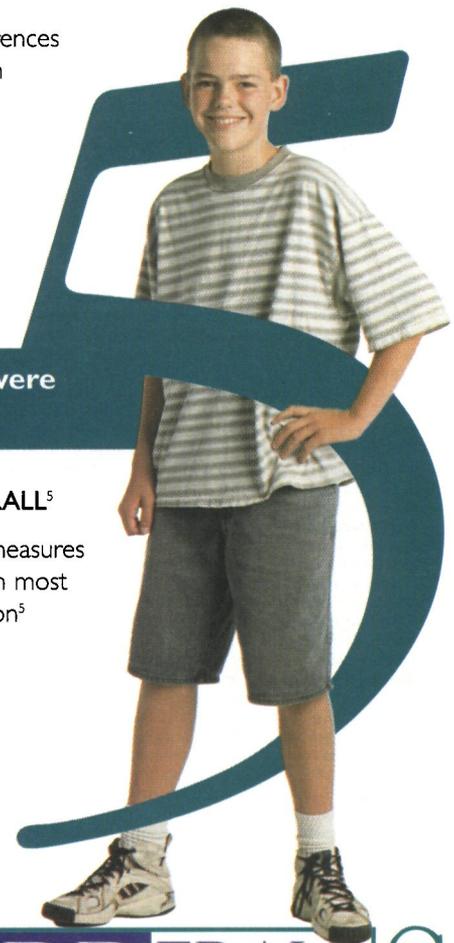


Overall effects of **ADDERALL** on attention and deportment were significant ($p < 0.0001$)⁵

Duration of action increases with dose of **ADDERALL**⁵

No serious or unusual side effects were noted—measures of side effects were no more frequent or severe in most medication conditions than in the placebo condition⁵

Swanson et al, 1998.⁵



Adderall is generally well tolerated—adverse reactions have seldom been reported (most frequently reported adverse reactions include anorexia, insomnia, stomach pain, headache, irritability, and weight loss).

As with most psychostimulants indicated for ADHD, the possibility of growth suppression and the potential for precipitating motor tics and Tourette's syndrome exist with Adderall treatment and, in rare cases, exacerbations of psychosis have been reported. Since amphetamines have a high potential for abuse, Adderall should only be prescribed as part of an overall multimodal treatment program for ADHD, with close physician supervision.



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

References: 1. Pelham WE, Aronoff HR, Midlam JK, et al. A comparison of Ritalin and Adderall: efficacy and time-course in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *Pediatrics* [serial online]. 1999;103:e43. Available at: <http://www.pediatrics.org/>. 2. Pliszka S, Browne RG, Wynne SK, et al. Comparing Adderall and methylphenidate in ADHD. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2000. In press. 3. Grcevich S, Rowane WA, Marcellino B, et al. Assessing the clinical practice of prescribing Adderall vs. methylphenidate to children with attention-deficit disorder. APA Annual Meeting, May 15-20, 1999, Washington DC. 4. Manos M, Short EJ, Findling RL. Differential effectiveness of methylphenidate and Adderall® in school-age youths with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 1999;38(7):813-819. 5. Swanson J, Wigal S, Greenhill L, et al. Analog classroom assessment of Adderall in children with ADHD. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 1998;37(5):519-525.



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

ADDERALL® TABLETS **II** BRIEF SUMMARY

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

INDICATIONS: Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity: ADDERALL is indicated as an integral part of a total treatment program which typically includes other remedial measures (psychological, educational, social) for a stabilizing effect in children with behavioral syndrome characterized by the following group of developmentally inappropriate symptoms: moderate to severe distractibility, short attention span, hyperactivity, emotional lability, and impulsivity. The diagnosis of this syndrome should not be made with finality when these symptoms are only of comparatively recent origin. Nonlocalizing (soft) neurological signs, learning disability and abnormal EEG may or may not be present, and a diagnosis of central nervous system dysfunction may or may not be warranted. **In Narcolepsy: CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Advanced arteriosclerosis, symptomatic cardiovascular disease, moderate to severe hypertension, hyperthyroidism, known hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to the sympathomimetic amines, glaucoma, agitated states. Patients with a history of drug abuse. During or within 14 days following the administration of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (hypertensive crises may result). **WARNINGS:** Clinical experience suggests that in psychotic children, administration of amphetamine may exacerbate symptoms of behavior disturbance and thought disorder. Data are inadequate to determine whether chronic administration of amphetamine may be associated with growth inhibition; therefore, growth should be monitored during treatment. **Usage in Nursing Mothers:** Amphetamines are excreted in human milk. Mothers taking amphetamines should be advised to refrain from nursing. **PRECAUTIONS: General:** Caution is to be exercised in prescribing amphetamines for patients with even mild hypertension. The least amount feasible should be prescribed or dispensed at one time in order to minimize the possibility of overdosage. **Information for Patients:** Amphetamines may impair the ability of the patient to engage in potentially hazardous activities such as operating machinery or vehicles; the patient should therefore be cautioned accordingly. **Drug Interactions: Acidifying agents -** Gastrointestinal acidifying agents (guanethidine, reserpine, glutamic acid HCl, ascorbic acid, fruit juices, etc.) lower absorption of amphetamines. **Urinary acidifying agents -** (ammonium chloride, sodium acid phosphate, etc.) increase the concentration of the ionized species of the amphetamine molecule, thereby increasing urinary excretion. Both groups of agents lower blood levels and efficacy of amphetamines. **Adrenergic blockers -** Adrenergic blockers are inhibited by amphetamines. **Alkalinizing agents -** Gastrointestinal alkalinizing agents (sodium bicarbonate, etc.) increase absorption of amphetamines. **Urinary alkalinizing agents (acetazolamide, some thiazides) increase the concentration of the non-ionized species of the amphetamine molecule, thereby decreasing urinary excretion. Both groups of agents increase blood levels and therefore potentiate the actions of amphetamines. Antidepressants, tricyclic -** Amphetamines may enhance the activity of tricyclic or sympathomimetic agents; d-amphetamine with desipramine or protriptyline and possibly other tricyclics cause striking and sustained increases in the concentration of d-amphetamine in the brain; cardiovascular effects can be potentiated. **MAO inhibitors -** MAO antidepressants, as well as a metabolite of furazolidone, slow amphetamine metabolism. This slowing potentiates amphetamines, increasing their effect on the release of norepinephrine and other monoamines from adrenergic nerve endings; this can cause headaches and other signs of hypertensive crisis. A variety of neurological toxic effects and malignant hyperpyrexia can occur, sometimes with fatal results. **Antihistamines -** Amphetamines may counteract the sedative effect of antihistamines. **Antihypertensives -** Amphetamines may antagonize the hypotensive effects of antihypertensives. **Chlorpromazine -** Chlorpromazine blocks dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake, thus inhibiting the central stimulant effects of amphetamines, and can be used to treat amphetamine poisoning. **Ethosuximide -** Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of ethosuximide. **Haloperidol -** Haloperidol blocks dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake, thus inhibiting the central stimulant effects of amphetamines. **Lithium carbonate -** The anorectic and stimulatory effects of amphetamines may be inhibited by lithium carbonate. **Meperidine -** Amphetamines potentiate the analgesic effect of meperidine. **Methamphetamine therapy -** Urinary excretion of amphetamines is increased, and efficacy is reduced, by acidifying agents used in methamphetamine therapy. **Norepinephrine -** Amphetamines enhance the adrenergic effect of norepinephrine. **Phenobarbital -** Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of phenobarbital; co-administration of phenobarbital may produce a synergistic anticonvulsant action. **Phenytin -** Amphetamines may delay intestinal absorption of phenytin; co-administration of phenytin may produce a synergistic anticonvulsant action. **Propoxyphene -** In cases of propoxyphene overdosage, amphetamine CNS stimulation is potentiated and fatal convulsions can occur. **Veratrum alkaloids -** Amphetamines inhibit the hypotensive effect of veratrum alkaloids. **Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions:** • Amphetamines can cause a significant elevation in plasma corticosteroid levels. This increase is greatest in the evening. • Amphetamines may interfere with urinary steroid determinations. **Carcinogenesis/Mutagenesis:** Mutagenicity studies and long-term studies in animals to determine the carcinogenic potential of amphetamine, have not been performed. **Pregnancy - Teratogenic Effects:** Pregnancy Category C. Amphetamine has been shown to have embryotoxic and teratogenic effects when administered to A/Jax mice and C57BL mice in doses approximately 41 times the maximum human dose. Embryotoxic effects were not seen in New Zealand white rabbits given the drug in doses 7 times the human dose nor in rats given 12.5 times the maximum human dose. While there are no

adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women, there has been one report of severe congenital bony deformity, tracheoesophageal fistula, and anal atresia (vater association) in a baby born to a woman who took dextroamphetamine sulfate with lovastatin during the first trimester of pregnancy. Amphetamines should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. **Nonteratogenic Effects:** Infants born to mothers dependent on amphetamines have an increased risk of premature delivery and low birth weight. Also, these infants may experience symptoms of withdrawal as demonstrated by dysphoria, including agitation, and significant lassitude. **Pediatric Use:** Long-term effects of amphetamines in children have not been well established. Amphetamines are not recommended for use in children under 3 years of age with Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity described under INDICATIONS AND USAGE. Amphetamines have been reported to exacerbate motor and phonic tics and Tourette's syndrome. Therefore, clinical evaluation for tics and Tourette's syndrome in children and their families should precede use of stimulant medications. Drug treatment is not indicated in all cases of Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity and should be considered only in light of the complete history and evaluation of the child. The decision to prescribe amphetamines should depend on the physician's assessment of the chronicity and severity of the child's symptoms and their appropriateness for his/her age. Prescription should not depend solely on the presence of one or more of the behavioral characteristics. When these symptoms are associated with acute stress reactions, treatment with amphetamines is usually not indicated. **ADVERSE REACTIONS: Cardiovascular:** Palpitations, tachycardia, elevation of blood pressure. There have been isolated reports of cardiomyopathy associated with chronic amphetamine use. **Central Nervous System:** Psychotic episodes at recommended doses (rare), overstimulation, restlessness, dizziness, insomnia, euphoria, dyskinesia, dysphoria, tremor, headache, exacerbation of motor and phonic tics and Tourette's syndrome. **Gastrointestinal:** Dryness of the mouth, unpleasant taste, diarrhea, constipation, other gastrointestinal disturbances. Anorexia and weight loss may occur as undesirable effects when amphetamines are used for other than the anorectic effect. **Allergic:** Urticaria. **Endocrine:** Impotence, changes in libido. **DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE:** Dextroamphetamine sulfate is a Schedule II controlled substance. Amphetamines have been extensively abused. Tolerance, extreme psychological dependence, and severe social disability have occurred. There are reports of patients who have increased the dosage to many times that recommended. Abrupt cessation following prolonged high dosage administration results in extreme fatigue and mental depression; changes are also noted on the sleep EEG. Manifestations of chronic intoxication with amphetamines include severe dermatoses, marked insomnia, irritability, hyperactivity, and personality changes. The most severe manifestation of chronic intoxication is psychosis, often clinically indistinguishable from schizophrenia. This is rare with oral amphetamines. **OVERDOSAGE:** Individual patient response to amphetamines varies widely. While toxic symptoms occasionally occur as an idiosyncrasy at doses as low as 2 mg, they are rare with doses of less than 15 mg; 30 mg can produce severe reactions, yet doses of 400 to 500 mg are not necessarily fatal. In rats, the oral LD₅₀ of dextroamphetamine sulfate is 96.8 mg/kg. **Symptoms:** Manifestations of acute overdosage with amphetamines include restlessness, tremor, hyperreflexia, rapid respiration, confusion, assaultiveness, hallucinations, panic states, hyperpyrexia and rhabdomyolysis. Fatigue and depression usually follow the central stimulation. Cardiovascular effects include arrhythmias, hypertension or hypotension and circulatory collapse. Gastrointestinal symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Fatal poisoning is usually preceded by convulsions and coma. **Treatment:** Consult with a Certified Poison Control Center for up to date guidance and advice. Management of acute amphetamine intoxication is largely symptomatic and includes gastric lavage, administration of activated charcoal, administration of a cathartic and sedation. Experience with hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis is inadequate to permit recommendation in this regard. Acidification of the urine increases amphetamine excretion, but is believed to increase risk of acute renal failure if myoglobinuria is present. If acute, severe hypertension complicates amphetamine overdosage, administration of intravenous phentolamine (Regitine®, Novartis) has been suggested. However, a gradual drop in blood pressure will usually result when sufficient sedation has been achieved. Chlorpromazine antagonizes the central stimulant effects of amphetamines and can be used to treat amphetamine intoxication. **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Regardless of indication, amphetamines should be administered at the lowest effective dosage and dosage should be individually adjusted. Late evening doses should be avoided because of the resulting insomnia. **Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity:** Not recommended for children under 3 years of age. In children from 3 to 5 years of age, start with 2.5 mg daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 2.5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. In children 6 years of age and older, start with 5 mg once or twice daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. Only in rare cases will it be necessary to exceed a total of 40 mg per day. Give first dose on awakening; additional doses (1 or 2) at intervals of 4 to 6 hours. Where possible, drug administration should be interrupted occasionally to determine if there is a recurrence of behavioral symptoms sufficient to require continued therapy. **Narcolepsy:** Usual dose 5 mg to 60 mg per day in divided doses, depending on the individual patient response. Narcolepsy seldom occurs in children under 12 years of age; however, when it does, dextroamphetamine sulfate may be used. The suggested initial dose for patients aged 6-12 is 5 mg daily; daily dose may be raised in increments of 5 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. In patients 12 years of age and older, start with 10 mg daily; daily dosage may be raised in increments of 10 mg at weekly intervals until optimal response is obtained. If bothersome adverse reactions appear (e.g., insomnia or anorexia), dosage should be reduced. Give first dose on awakening; additional doses (1 or 2) at intervals of 4 to 6 hours. **Rx only.**

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Revised: June 1998

Florence, KY 41042



Smooth, slow release of lithium carbonate for initial or maintenance treatment of mania associated with bipolar disorder

Brief Summary (For full Prescribing Information and Patient Information, refer to package insert.)

WARNING

Lithium toxicity is closely related to serum lithium levels, and can occur at doses close to therapeutic levels. Facilities for prompt and accurate serum lithium determinations should be available before initiating therapy (see **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

INDICATIONS

Lithium is indicated in the treatment of manic episodes of manic-depressive illness. Maintenance therapy prevents or diminishes the intensity of subsequent episodes in those manic-depressive patients with a history of mania.

Typical symptoms: of mania include pressure of speech, motor hyperactivity, reduced need for sleep, flight of ideas, grandiosity, elation, poor judgment, aggressiveness, and possibly hostility. When given to a patient experiencing a manic episode, lithium may produce a normalization of symptomatology within 1 to 3 weeks.

WARNINGS

Lithium should generally not be given to patients with significant renal or cardiovascular disease, severe debilitation, dehydration, sodium depletion, and to patients receiving diuretics, or angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, since the risk of lithium toxicity is very high in such patients. If the psychiatric indication is life threatening, and if such a patient fails to respond to other measures, lithium treatment may be undertaken with extreme caution, including daily serum lithium determinations and adjustment to the usually low doses ordinarily tolerated by these individuals. In such instances, hospitalization is a necessity.

Chronic lithium therapy may be associated with diminution of renal concentrating ability, occasionally presenting as nephrogenic diabetes insipidus, with polyuria and polydipsia. Such patients should be carefully managed to avoid dehydration with resulting lithium retention and toxicity. This condition is usually reversible when lithium is discontinued. Morphologic changes with glomerular and interstitial fibrosis and nephron atrophy have been reported in patients on chronic lithium therapy. Morphologic changes have also been seen in manic-depressive patients never exposed to lithium. The relationship between renal function and morphologic changes and their association with lithium therapy have not been established.

Kidney function should be assessed prior to and during lithium therapy. Routine urinalysis and other tests may be used to evaluate tubular function (e.g., urine specific gravity or osmolality following a period of water deprivation, or 24-hour urine volume) and glomerular function (e.g., serum creatinine or creatinine clearance). During lithium therapy, progressive or sudden changes in renal function, even within the normal range, indicate the need for reevaluation of treatment. An encephalopathic syndrome (characterized by weakness, lethargy, fever, tremulousness and confusion, extrapyramidal symptoms, leukocytosis, elevated serum enzymes, BUN and FBS) has occurred in a few patients treated with lithium plus a neuroleptic, most notably haloperidol. In some instances, the syndrome was followed by irreversible brain damage. Because of a possible causal relationship between these events and the concomitant administration of lithium and neuroleptic drugs, patients receiving such combined therapy or patients with organic brain syndrome or other CNS impairment should be monitored closely for early evidence of neurologic toxicity and treatment discontinued promptly if such signs appear. This encephalopathic syndrome may be similar to or the same as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS).

Lithium toxicity is closely related to serum lithium concentrations and can occur at doses close to the therapeutic concentrations (see **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Outpatients and their families should be warned that the patient must discontinue lithium therapy and contact his physician if such clinical signs of lithium toxicity as diarrhea, vomiting, tremor, mild ataxia, drowsiness, or muscular weakness occur.

Lithium may prolong the effects of neuromuscular blocking agents. Therefore, neuromuscular blocking agents should be given with caution to patients receiving lithium.

Usage in Pregnancy: Adverse effects on nidation in rats, embryo viability in mice, and metabolism in vitro of rat testis and human spermatozoa have been attributed to lithium, as have teratogenicity in submammalian species and cleft palate in mice.

In humans, lithium may cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Data from lithium birth registries suggest an increase in cardiac and other anomalies especially Ebstein's anomaly. If this drug is used in women of childbearing potential, or during pregnancy, or if a patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, the patient should be apprised by their physician of the potential hazard to the fetus.

Usage in Nursing Mothers: Lithium is excreted in human milk. Nursing should not be undertaken during lithium therapy except in rare and unusual circumstances where, in the view of the physician, the potential benefits to the mother outweigh possible hazard to the infant or neonate. Signs and symptoms of lithium toxicity such as hypertonia, hypothermia, cyanosis and ECG changes have been reported in some infants and neonates.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients under 12 years of age have not been determined; its use in these patients is not recommended.

There has been a report of transient syndrome of acute dystonia and hyperreflexia occurring in a 15 kg pediatric patient who ingested 300 mg of lithium carbonate.

PRECAUTIONS

The ability to tolerate lithium is greater during the acute manic phase and decreases when manic symptoms subside (see **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

The distribution space of lithium approximates that of total body water. Lithium is primarily excreted in urine with insignificant excretion in feces. Renal excretion of lithium is proportional to its plasma concentration. The elimination half-life of lithium is approximately 24 hours. Lithium decreases sodium reabsorption by the renal tubules which could lead to sodium depletion. Therefore, it is essential for the patient to maintain a normal diet, including salt, and an adequate fluid intake (2500-3500 mL) at least during the initial stabilization period. Decreased tolerance to lithium has been reported to ensue from protracted sweating or diarrhea and, if such occur, supplemental fluid and salt should be administered under careful medical supervision and lithium intake reduced or suspended until the condition is resolved. In addition to sweating and diarrhea, concomitant infection with elevated temperatures may also necessitate a temporary reduction or cessation of medication.

Previously existing thyroid disorders do not necessarily constitute a contraindication to lithium treatment. Where hypothyroidism preexists, careful monitoring of thyroid function during lithium stabilization and maintenance allows for correction of changing thyroid parameters and/or adjustment of lithium doses, if any. If hypothyroidism occurs during lithium stabilization and maintenance, supplemental thyroid treatment may be used.

In general, the concomitant use of diuretics or angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors with lithium carbonate should be avoided. In those cases where concomitant use is necessary, extreme caution is advised since sodium loss from these drugs may reduce the renal clearance of lithium resulting in increased serum lithium concentrations with the risk of lithium toxicity. When such combinations are used, the lithium dosage may need to be decreased, and more frequent monitoring of lithium serum concentrations is recommended. See **WARNINGS** for additional caution information. Concomitant administration of carbamazepine and lithium may increase the risk of neurotoxic side effects.

The following drugs can lower serum lithium concentrations by increasing urinary lithium excretion: acetazolamide, urea, xanthine preparations and alkalinizing agents such as sodium bicarbonate.

Concomitant extended use of iodide preparations, especially potassium iodide, with lithium may produce hypothyroidism. Indomethacin and procainamide have been reported to significantly increase steady state serum lithium concentrations. In some cases lithium toxicity has resulted from such interactions. There is also some evidence that other nonsteroidal, anti-inflammatory agents may have a similar effect. When such combinations are used, increased serum lithium concentration monitoring is recommended.

Concurrent use of calcium channel blocking agents with lithium may increase the risk of neurotoxicity in the form of ataxia, tremors, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and/or tinnitus. Concurrent use of metronidazole with lithium may provoke lithium toxicity due to reduced renal clearance. Patients receiving such combined therapy should be monitored closely.

Concurrent use of fluoxetine with lithium has resulted in both increased and decreased serum lithium concentrations. Patients receiving such combined therapy should be monitored closely.

Lithium may impair mental and/or physical abilities. Patients should be cautioned about activities requiring alertness (e.g., operating vehicles or machinery).

Usage in Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category D. (see **WARNINGS**).

Usage in Nursing Mothers: Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants and neonates from lithium, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother (see **WARNINGS**).

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 12 have not been established (see **WARNINGS**).

Usage in the Elderly: Elderly patients often require lower lithium dosages to achieve therapeutic serum concentrations. They may also exhibit adverse reactions at serum concentrations ordinarily tolerated by younger patients. Additionally, patients with renal impairment may also require lower lithium doses (see **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The occurrence and severity of adverse reactions are generally directly related to serum lithium concentrations and to individual patient sensitivity to lithium. They generally occur more frequently and with greater severity at higher concentrations.

Adverse reactions may be encountered at serum lithium concentrations below 1.5 mEq/L. Mild to moderate adverse reactions may occur at concentrations from 1.5-2.5 mEq/L, and moderate to severe reactions may be seen at concentrations from 2.0 mEq/L and above.

Fine hand tremor, polyuria and mild thirst may occur during initial therapy for the acute manic phase, and may persist throughout treatment. Transient and mild nausea and general discomfort may also appear during the first few days of lithium administration.

These side effects usually subside with continued treatment or with a temporary reduction or cessation of dosage. If persistent, a cessation of lithium therapy may be required. Diarrhea, vomiting, drowsiness, muscular weakness and lack of coordination may be early signs of lithium intoxication, and can occur at lithium concentrations below 2.0 mEq/L. At higher concentrations giddiness, ataxia, blurred vision, tinnitus and a large output of dilute urine may be seen. Serum lithium concentrations above 3.0 mEq/L may produce a complex clinical picture involving multiple organs and organ systems. Serum lithium concentrations should not be permitted to exceed 2.0 mEq/L during the acute treatment phase.

The following reactions have been reported and appear to be related to serum lithium concentrations, including concentrations within the therapeutic range:

Central Nervous System: tremor, muscle hyperirritability (fasciculations, twitching, clonic movements of whole limbs), hyperreflexia, ataxia, choreoathetotic movements, hyperactive deep tendon reflex, extrapyramidal symptoms including acute dystonia, cogwheel rigidity, blackout spells, epileptiform seizures, slurred speech, dizziness, vertigo, drowsy nystagmus, incontinence of urine or feces, somnolence, psychomotor retardation, restlessness, confusion, stupor, coma, tongue movements, tics, tinnitus, hallucinations, poor memory, slowed intellectual functioning, startled response, worsening of organic brain syndromes. Cases of Pseudotumor Cerebri (increased intracranial pressure and papilledema) have been reported with lithium use. If undetected, this condition may result in enlargement of the blind spot, constriction of visual fields and eventual blindness due to optic atrophy. Lithium should be discontinued, if clinically possible, if this syndrome occurs. **Cardiovascular:** cardiac arrhythmia, hypotension, peripheral circulatory collapse, bradycardia, sinus node dysfunction with severe bradycardia (which may result in syncope); **Gastrointestinal:** anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, gastritis, salivary gland swelling, abdominal pain, excessive salivation, flatulence, indigestion; **Genitourinary:** glycosuria, decreased creatinine clearance, albuminuria, oliguria, and symptoms of nephrogenic diabetes insipidus including polyuria, thirst and polydipsia; **Dermatologic:** drying and thinning of hair, alopecia, anesthesia of skin, acne, chronic folliculitis, xerosis cutis, psoriasis or its exacerbation, generalized pruritus with or without rash, cutaneous ulcers, angioedema; **Autonomic Nervous System:** blurred vision, dry mouth, impotence/sexual dysfunction; **Thyroid Abnormalities:** euthyroid goiter and/or hypothyroidism (including myxedema) accompanied by lower T₃ and T₄. ¹³¹Iodine uptake may be elevated (see **PRECAUTIONS**). Paradoxically, rare cases of hyperthyroidism have been reported. **EEG Changes:** diffuse slowing, widening of frequency spectrum, potentiation and disorganization of background rhythm. **EKG Changes:** reversible flattening, isoelectricity or inversion of T-waves. **Miscellaneous:** Fatigue, lethargy, transient scotomata, exophthalmos, dehydration, weight loss, leukocytosis, headache, transient hyperglycemia, hypercalcemia, hyperparathyroidism, albuminuria, excessive weight gain, edematous swelling of ankles or wrists, metallic taste, dysgeusia/taste distortion, salty taste, thirst, swollen lips, tightness in chest, swollen and/or painful joints, fever, polyarthralgia, and dental caries.

Some reports of nephrogenic diabetes insipidus, hyperparathyroidism and hypothyroidism which persist after lithium discontinuation have been received.

A few reports have been received of the development of painful discoloration of fingers and toes and coldness of the extremities within one day of starting lithium treatment. The mechanism through which these symptoms (resembling Raynaud's Syndrome) developed is not known. Recovery followed discontinuation.

OVERDOSAGE

The toxic concentrations for lithium (≥1.5 mEq/L) are close to the therapeutic concentrations (0.6-1.2 mEq/L). It is therefore important that patients and their families be cautioned to watch for early toxic symptoms and to discontinue the drug and inform the physician should they occur. (Toxic symptoms are listed in detail under **ADVERSE REACTIONS**.)

Treatment: No specific antidote for lithium poisoning is known. Treatment is supportive. Early symptoms of lithium toxicity can usually be treated by reduction or cessation of dosage of the drug and resumption of the treatment at a lower dose after 24 to 48 hours. In severe cases of lithium poisoning, the first and foremost goal of treatment consists of elimination of this ion from the patient.

Treatment is essentially the same as that used in barbiturate poisoning: 1) gastric lavage, 2) correction of fluid and electrolyte imbalance and, 3) regulation of kidney functioning. Urea, mannitol, and aminophylline all produce significant increases in lithium excretion. Hemodialysis is an effective and rapid means of removing the ion from the severely toxic patient. However, patient recovery may be slow.

Infection prophylaxis, regular chest X-rays, and preservation of adequate respiration are essential.

DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION

Acute Mania: Optimal patient response can usually be established with 1800 mg/day in the following dosages:

LITHOBID[®] Slow-Release Tablets: Morning dose of 3 tabs (900 mg); Nighttime dose of 3 tabs (900 mg)

*Can also be administered on 600 mg t.i.d. recommended dosing interval.

Such doses will normally produce an effective serum lithium concentration ranging between 1.0 and 1.5 mEq/L. Dosage must be individualized according to serum concentrations and clinical response. Regular monitoring of the patient's clinical state and of serum lithium concentrations is necessary. Serum concentrations should be determined twice per week during the acute phase, and until the serum concentrations and clinical condition of the patient have been stabilized.

Long-Term Control: Desirable serum lithium concentrations are 0.6 to 1.2 mEq/L, which can usually be achieved with 900-1200 mg/day. Dosage will vary from one individual to another, but generally the following dosages will maintain this concentration.

LITHOBID[®] Slow-Release Tablets: Morning dose of 2 tabs (600 mg); Nighttime dose of 2 tabs (600 mg)

*Can be administered on t.i.d. recommended dosing interval up to 1200 mg/day.

Serum lithium concentrations in uncomplicated cases receiving maintenance therapy during remission should be monitored at least every two months. Patients abnormally sensitive to lithium may exhibit toxic signs at serum concentrations of 1.0 to 1.5 mEq/L. Elderly patients often respond to reduced dosage, and may exhibit signs of toxicity at serum concentrations ordinarily tolerated by other patients.

N.B.: Blood samples for serum lithium determinations should be drawn immediately prior to the next dose when lithium concentrations are relatively stable (i.e., 8-12 hours after previous dose). Total reliance must not be placed on serum concentrations alone. Accurate patient evaluation requires both clinical and laboratory analysis. LITHOBID[®] Slow-Release Tablets must be swallowed whole and never chewed or crushed.

Solvay Pharmaceuticals
Marietta, GA 30062

Rev 4/98 (1E-1)

Reference: 1. Kirkwood CK, Wilson SK, Hayes PE, et al. Single-dose bioavailability of two extended-release lithium carbonate products. *Am J Hosp Pharm.* 1994;51:486-489.

Solvay Pharmaceuticals



Slow Release *for* Lower Peaks

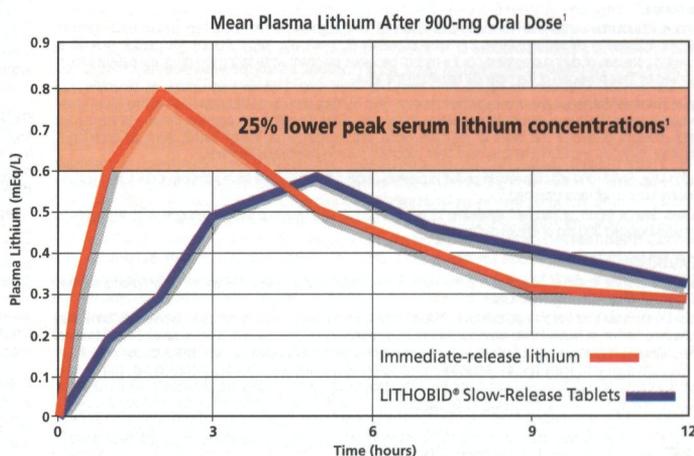
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(Lithium Carbonate, USP)

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*Smoother blood levels than immediate-release lithium may reduce side effects that deter compliance*¹

- Sustained-release formulation helps minimize peak-to-trough variations in serum lithium concentrations¹



*Comparable bioavailability to immediate-release lithium*¹

Small tablet size for easy swallowing



Actual size

Common side effects of LITHOBID[®] Slow-Release Tablets during initial therapy include fine hand tremor, polyuria, mild thirst, and transient and mild nausea. These side effects usually subside with continued treatment, temporary reduction of dosage, or cessation of therapy.

Warning: Lithium toxicity is closely related to serum lithium levels, and can occur at doses close to therapeutic levels. Facilities for prompt and accurate serum lithium determinations should be available before initiating therapy. Treatment must be individualized according to serum concentrations and clinical response.

Please see brief summary of prescribing information on adjacent page.

Table of Contents

Feature Articles

- 23 Introduction—An Update on the Neuropsychiatric Aspects of HIV-1 Infection**
By Karl Goodkin, MD, PhD, FAPA
- 25 Theory-Driven Interventions in Psychoneuroimmunology and HIV-1 Infection**
By Mary D. Tyll, PhD, Karl Goodkin, MD, PhD, FAPA, Nancy T. Blaney, PhD, Teri T. Baldewicz, PhD, Jodi Dee Hunt, and Deshratn Asthana, PhD
- 33 Cognitive Effects of HIV-1 Infection**
By Frances L. Wilkie, PhD, Karl Goodkin, MD, PhD, FAPA, M. H. van Zuilen, Mary D. Tyll, PhD, Robert Lecusay, and Tony Edwin, MD
- 55 HIV-1 Infection, Neuroendocrine Abnormalities, and Clinical Outcomes**
By Mahendra Kumar, PhD, Karl Goodkin, MD, PhD, FAPA, Adarsh M. Kumar, PHD, Teri T. Baldewicz, PhD, Robert Morgan, PhD, and Carl Eisdorfer, PhD
- 66 HIV-1–Associated Neuropathies**
By Ashok Verma, MD, DM, and Walter G. Bradley, DM, FRCP

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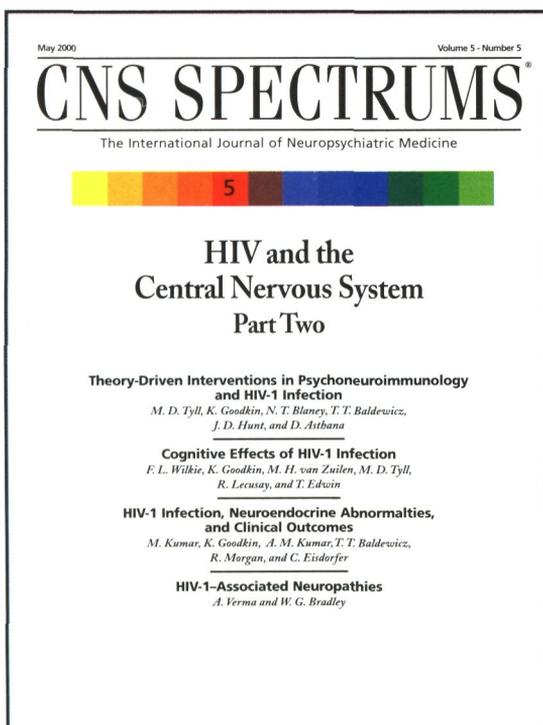


Table of Contents

Departments/Monthly Columns

POINT & COMMENTARY

- 9** **HIV and the Brain: Part Two**
By Eric Hollander, MD

FIRST PERSON

- 19** **New Vistas in Drug Abuse Research**
By Alan I. Leshner, PhD

CNS NEWS

- 24** **Briefs from the Fields of Neurology & Neuropsychiatry**

TEACHING MONOGRAPH

- 35** **Current Treatments of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder**
By Steven Pliszka, MD, William W. Dodson, MD,
and Thomas J. Spencer, MD

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

- 75** **This continuing medical education series gives the reader the opportunity to test his/her understanding and recall of clinical material presented in this issue. Approved for 3.0 credit hours in Category 1.**

INDICES

- 78** **By subject and author**

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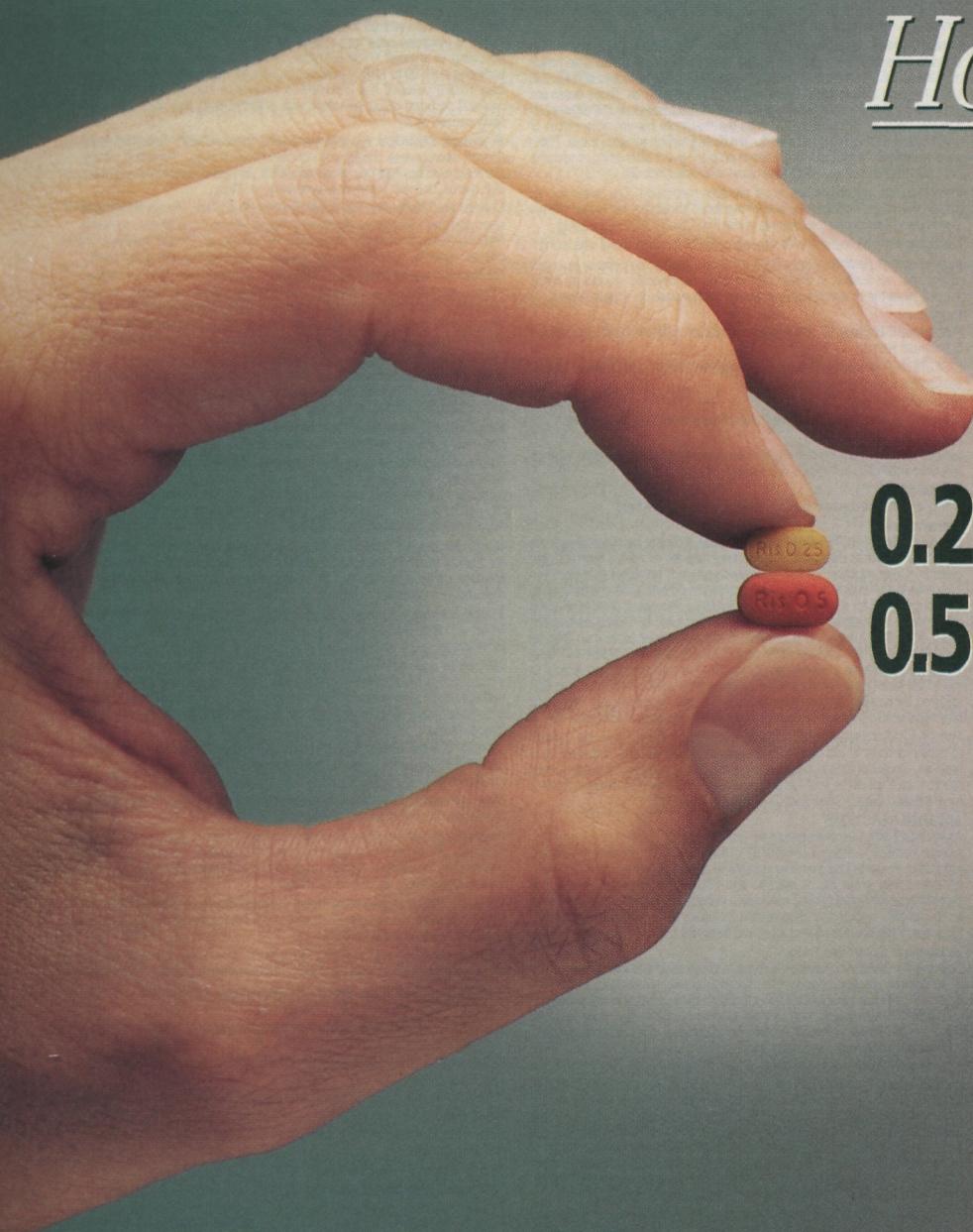
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01-RS-584R March 2000

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tablets and
oral solution 1 mg/mL

RISPERIDONE



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

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

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

CONTRAINDICATIONS

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

WARNINGS

Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS)

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

Tardive Dyskinesia

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

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

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

PRECAUTIONS

General

Orthostatic Hypotension: RISPERDAL® (risperidone) may induce orthostatic hypotension associated with dizziness, tachycardia, and in some patients, syncope, especially during the initial dose-titration period, probably reflecting its alpha-adrenergic antagonistic properties. Syncope was reported in 0.2% (6/2607) of RISPERDAL® treated patients in phase 2-3 studies. The risk of orthostatic hypotension and syncope may be minimized by limiting the initial dose to 2 mg total (either QD or 1 mg BID) in normal adults and 0.5 mg BID in the elderly and patients with renal or hepatic impairment (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Monitoring of orthostatic vital signs should be considered in patients for whom this is of concern. A dose reduction should be considered if hypotension occurs. RISPERDAL® should be used with particular caution in patients with known cardiovascular disease (history of myocardial infarction or ischemia, heart failure, or conduction abnormalities), cerebrovascular disease, and conditions which would predispose patients to hypotension (e.g., dehydration and hypovolemia). Clinically significant hypotension has been observed with concomitant use of RISPERDAL® and antihypertensive medication.

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

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

Hyperserotonemia: As with other drugs that antagonize dopamine D₂ receptors, risperidone elevates prolactin levels and the elevation persists during chronic administration. Neither clinical studies nor epidemiologic studies conducted to date have shown an association between chronic administration of this class of drugs and tumorigenesis in humans; the available evidence is considered too limited to be conclusive at this time.

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

Priapism: Rare cases of priapism have been reported.

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

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

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

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

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

Because of the risks of orthostatic hypotension and QT prolongation, caution should be observed in cardiac patients (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS). Increased plasma concentrations of risperidone and 9-hydroxyrisperidone occur in patients with severe renal impairment and in patients with severe hepatic impairment. A lower starting dose should be used in such patients.

Information for Patients

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

Drug Interactions

The interactions of RISPERDAL® and other drugs have not been systematically evaluated. Given the primary CNS effects of risperidone, caution should be used when RISPERDAL® is taken in combination with other centrally acting drugs and alcohol. RISPERDAL® may antagonize the effects of levodopa and dopamine agonists. Chronic administration of carbamazepine with risperidone may increase the clearance of risperidone. Chronic administration of clozapine with risperidone may decrease the clearance of risperidone.

Fluoxetine may increase the plasma concentration of the anti-psychotic fraction (risperidone plus 9-hydroxyrisperidone) by raising the concentration of risperidone, although not the active metabolite, 9-hydroxyrisperidone.

Drugs that Inhibit Cytochrome P₂IID, and Other P₂ Isozymes: Risperidone is metabolized to 9-hydroxyrisperidone by cytochrome P₂IID, an enzyme that is polymorphic in the population and that can be inhibited by a variety of psychotropic and other drugs (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). Drug interactions that reduce the metabolism of risperidone to 9-hydroxyrisperidone would increase the plasma concentrations of risperidone and lower the concentrations of 9-hydroxyrisperidone. Analysis of clinical studies involving a modest number of poor metabolizers (n=70) does not suggest that poor and extensive metabolizers have different rates of adverse effects. No comparison of effectiveness in the two groups has been made.

In vitro studies showed that drugs metabolized by other P₂ isozymes, including 1A2, 1A2, 1C9, 1P, and 11A4, are only weak inhibitors of risperidone metabolism.

Drugs Metabolized by Cytochrome P₂IID: In vitro studies indicate that risperidone is a relatively weak inhibitor of cytochrome P₂IID. Therefore, RISPERDAL® is not expected to substantially inhibit the clearance of drugs that are metabolized by this enzymatic pathway. However, clinical data to confirm this expectation are not available.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis: Carcinogenicity studies were conducted in Swiss albino mice and Wistar rats. Risperidone was administered in the diet at doses of 0.63, 2.5, and 10 mg/kg for 18 months to mice and for 25 months to rats. These doses are equivalent to 2.4, 9.4 and 37.5 times the maximum human dose (16 mg/day) on a mg/kg basis or 0.2, 0.75 and 3 times the maximum human dose (mice) or 0.4, 1.5, and 6 times the maximum human dose (rats) on a mg/m² basis. There were statistically significant increases in pituitary gland adenomas, endocrine pancreas adenomas and mammary gland adenocarcinomas.

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

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

Impairment of Fertility: Risperidone (0.16 to 5 mg/kg) was shown to impair mating, but not fertility, in Wistar rats in three reproductive studies at doses 0.1 to 3 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m² basis.

Pregnancy

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

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

Labor and Delivery

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

Nursing Mothers

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

Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

Geriatric Use

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

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

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Associated with Discontinuation of Treatment

Approximately 9% percent (244/2607) of RISPERDAL® (risperidone)-treated patients in phase 2-3 studies discontinued treatment due to an adverse event, compared with about 7% on placebo and 10% on active control drugs. The more common events (≥ 0.3%) associated with discontinuation and considered to be possibly or probably drug-related included: extrapyramidal symptoms, dizziness, hyperkinesia, somnolence, and nausea.

Incidence in Controlled Trials

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

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

The following adverse events occurred at an incidence of 1% or more, and were at least as frequent among RISPERDAL®-treated patients treated at doses of ≤10 mg/day than among placebo-treated patients in the pooled results of two 6- to 8-week controlled trials: **Psychiatric Disorders:** insomnia, agitation, anxiety, somnolence, aggressive reaction. **Nervous System:** extrapyramidal symptoms¹, headache, dizziness. **Gastrointestinal System:** constipation, nausea, dyspepsia, vomiting, abdominal pain, saliva increased, toothache. **Respiratory System:** rhinitis, coughing, sinusitis, pharyngitis, dyspnea. **Body as a Whole:** back pain, chest pain, fever. **Dermatological:** rash, dry skin, seborrhea. **Infections:** upper respiratory. **Visual:** abnormal vision. **Musculo-Skeletal:** arthralgia. **Cardiovascular:** tachycardia.

¹ Includes tremor, dystonia, hypokinesia, hypertonia, hyperkinesia, oculogyric crisis, ataxia, abnormal gait, involuntary muscle contractions, hyporeflexia, akathisia, and extrapyramidal disorders.

Dose Dependency of Adverse Events:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Psychiatric Disorders: Frequent: increased dream activity¹, diminished sexual desire¹, nervousness. Infrequent: impaired concentration, depression, apathy, catatonic reaction, euphoria, increased libido, amnesia. Rare: emotional lability, nightmares, delirium, withdrawal syndrome, yawning.

Central and Peripheral Nervous System Disorders: Frequent: increased sleep duration¹. Infrequent: dysarthria, vertigo, stupor, paraesthesia, confusion. Rare: aphasia, cholinergic syndrome, hypoesthesia, tongue paralysis, leg cramps, torticollis, hypotonia, coma, migraine, hyperreflexia, choreoathetosis.

Gastro-Intestinal Disorders: Frequent: anorexia, reduced salivation¹. Infrequent: flatulence, diarrhea, increased appetite, stomatitis, melena, dysphagia, hemorrhoids, gastritis. Rare: fecal incontinence, eructation, gastro-esophageal reflux, gastroenteritis, esophagitis, tongue discoloration, cholelithiasis, tongue edema, diverticulitis, gingivitis, discolored feces, GI hemorrhage, hematemesis.

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

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

Skin and Appendage Disorders: Frequent: increased pigmentation¹, photosensitivity¹. Infrequent: increased sweating, acne, decreased sweating, alopecia, hyperkeratosis, pruritus, skin exfoliation. Rare: bullous eruption, skin ulceration, aggravated psoriasis, furunculosis, verruca, dermatitis lichenoid, hypertrichosis, genital pruritus, urticaria.

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

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

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

Urinary System Disorders: Frequent: polyuria/polydipsia¹. Infrequent: urinary incontinence, hematuria, dysuria. Rare: urinary retention, cystitis, renal insufficiency.

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

Reproductive Disorders, Female: Frequent: menorrhagia¹, orgasmic dysfunction¹, dry vagina¹. Infrequent: nonpuerperal lactation, amenorrhea, female breast pain, leukorrhea, mastitis, dysmenorrhea, female perineal pain, intermenstrual bleeding, vaginal hemorrhage.

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

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

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

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

Reproductive Disorders, Male: Frequent: erectile dysfunction¹. Infrequent: ejaculation failure.

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

Endocrine Disorders: Rare: gynecomastia, male breast pain, antiidiuretic hormone disorder.

Special Senses: Rare: bitter taste.

¹ Incidence based on elicited reports.

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

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

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

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

More detailed professional information is available upon request.

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