

consciousness or seizure. These can affect the ability of patients to drive, operate machinery, or perform dangerous tasks, particularly at the start of treatment or during the dose titration phase. Healthcare professionals are advised to inform patients of these adverse effects and to avoid such tasks until they are resolved.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Uncontrolled hypertension
- **CAUTIONS** History of mania · hypertension
- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: bupropion · naltrexone
- **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises avoid (no information available).
- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises avoid in moderate-to-severe impairment—limited information available.
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Prescribers should consult the *Mysimba*® *Physician Prescribing Checklist* provided by the manufacturer, before initiation of treatment.
- **NATIONAL FUNDING/ACCESS DECISIONS**

NICE decisions

 - ▶ **Naltrexone–bupropion for managing overweight and obesity (December 2017)** NICE TA494

Naltrexone–bupropion is not recommended within its marketing authorisation for managing overweight and obesity in adults alongside a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity.

Patients whose treatment was started within the NHS before this guidance was published should have the option to continue treatment, without change to their funding arrangements, until they and their NHS clinician consider it appropriate to stop.

www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta494
- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Modified-release tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 21, 25

- ▶ **Mysimba** (Orexigen Therapeutics Ireland Ltd) ▼
- Naltrexone hydrochloride 8 mg, Bupropion hydrochloride 90 mg Mysimba 8mg/90mg modified-release tablets | 112 tablet [PoM] £73.00 DT = £73.00

PERIPHERALLY ACTING ANTI-OBESITY PRODUCTS > LIPASE INHIBITORS

Orlistat

- **DRUG ACTION** Orlistat, a lipase inhibitor, reduces the absorption of dietary fat.
- **INDICATIONS AND DOSE**

Adjunct in obesity (in conjunction with a mildly hypocaloric diet in individuals with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m² or more or in individuals with a BMI of 28 kg/m² or more in the presence of other risk factors such as type 2 diabetes, hypertension, or hypercholesterolaemia)

 - ▶ **BY MOUTH**
 - ▶ **Adult:** 120 mg up to 3 times a day, dose to be taken immediately before, during, or up to 1 hour after each main meal, continue treatment beyond 12 weeks only if weight loss since start of treatment exceeds 5% (target for initial weight loss may be lower in patients with type 2 diabetes), if a meal is missed or contains no fat, the dose of orlistat should be omitted
- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Cholestasis · chronic malabsorption syndrome
- **CAUTIONS** Chronic kidney disease · may impair absorption of fat-soluble vitamins · volume depletion

CAUTIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION Vitamin supplementation (especially of vitamin D) may be considered if there is concern about deficiency of fat-soluble vitamins.

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: orlistat
 - **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Abdominal pain (may be minimised by reduced fat intake) · anxiety · diarrhoea · gastrointestinal disorders
 - ▶ **Frequency not known** Anorectal haemorrhage · bullous dermatitis · cholelithiasis · diverticulitis · hepatitis · oxalate nephropathy · pancreatitis · renal failure
 - **PREGNANCY** Use with caution.
 - **BREAST FEEDING** Avoid—no information available.
 - **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.
- Capsule**
- ▶ **Orlistat (Non-proprietary)**
 - ▶ **Orlistat 120 mg** Orlistat 120mg capsules | 84 capsule [PoM] £35.43 DT = £27.30
 - ▶ **Alli** (GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare)
 - ▶ **Orlistat 60 mg** Alli 60mg capsules | 84 capsule [P] £30.70 DT = £30.70
 - ▶ **Beacita** (Actavis UK Ltd)
 - ▶ **Orlistat 120 mg** Beacita 120mg capsules | 84 capsule [PoM] £21.95 DT = £27.30
 - ▶ **Orlos** (Crescent Pharma Ltd)
 - ▶ **Orlistat 60 mg** Orlos 60mg capsules | 84 capsule [P] £16.95 DT = £30.70
 - ▶ **Xenical** (Chephalapharm Arzneimittel GmbH)
 - ▶ **Orlistat 120 mg** Xenical 120mg capsules | 84 capsule [PoM] £31.63 DT = £27.30

9 Rectal and anal disorders

Other drugs used for Rectal and anal disorders Diltiazem hydrochloride, p. 169

9.1 Anal fissures

Anal fissure

31-Aug-2016

Description of condition

An anal fissure is a tear or ulcer in the lining of the anal canal, immediately within the anal margin. Clinical features of anal fissure include bleeding and persistent pain on defecation, and a linear split in the anal mucosa.

Aims of treatment

The aim of treatment is to relieve pain and promote healing of the fissure.

Drug treatment

Acute anal fissure

[EvGr] Initial management of acute anal fissures (present for less than 6 weeks) should focus on ensuring that stools are soft and easily passed. Bulk-forming laxatives (such as ispaghula husk p. 58) are recommended and an osmotic laxative (such as lactulose p. 60) can be considered as an alternative—see also Constipation p. 57, for further information about these laxatives. Short-term use of a topical preparation containing a local anaesthetic (such as lidocaine hydrochloride p. 1422) or a simple analgesic (such as paracetamol p. 465 or ibuprofen p. 1203) may be offered for prolonged burning pain following defecation. If these measures are inadequate, the patient should be referred for specialist treatment in hospital. 