

PROSTAGLANDIN ANALOGUES AND PROSTAMIDES

Latanoprost

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Reduction of intra-ocular pressure in raised intra-ocular pressure and glaucoma

- ▶ TO THE EYE
- ▶ Child: Apply once daily, to be administered preferably in the evening

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

MHRA/CHM ADVICE: LATANOPROST (XALATAN®): INCREASED REPORTING OF EYE IRRITATION SINCE REFORMULATION (JULY 2015)

Following reformulation of Xalatan®, to allow for long-term storage at room temperature, there has been an increase in the number of reports of eye irritation from across the EU. Patients should be advised to tell their health professional promptly (within a week) if they experience eye irritation (e.g. excessive watering) severe enough to make them consider stopping treatment. Review treatment and prescribe a different formulation if necessary.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Active herpes simplex keratitis · history of recurrent herpetic keratitis associated with prostaglandin analogues
- **CAUTIONS** Aphakia · asthma · children less than 1 year—limited information available · history of herpetic keratitis · history of significant ocular viral infections · peri-operative period of cataract surgery · preterm neonates less than 36 weeks gestational age—no information available · pseudophakia with torn posterior lens capsule or anterior chamber lenses · risk factors for cystoid macular oedema · risk factors for iritis · risk factors for uveitis
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Eye discolouration · eye discomfort · eye disorders · eye inflammation · vision disorders
 - ▶ **Uncommon** Dry eye · rash
 - ▶ **Rare or very rare** Asthma · chest pain · dyspnoea · unstable angina
 - ▶ **Frequency not known** Arthralgia · dizziness · headache · myalgia · ophthalmic herpes simplex · palpitations
- **PREGNANCY** Manufacturer advises avoid.
- **BREAST FEEDING** May be present in milk—manufacturer advises avoid.
- **MONITORING REQUIREMENTS** Monitor for changes to eye coloration.
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Although multi-dose latanoprost eye drops commonly contain preservatives, preservative-free unit dose vials may be available.
- **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE** Changes in eye colour Before initiating treatment, patients should be warned of a possible change in eye colour as an increase in the brown pigment in the iris can occur, which may be permanent; particular care is required in those with mixed coloured irides and those receiving treatment to one eye only. Changes in eyelashes and vellus hair can also occur, and patients should also be advised to avoid repeated contact of the eye drop solution with skin as this can lead to hair growth or skin pigmentation.

● NATIONAL FUNDING/ACCESS DECISIONS

MONOPOST®

Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) decisions

The *Scottish Medicines Consortium* has advised (June 2013) that *Monopost®* is accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland for the reduction of elevated intra-ocular pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension who have proven sensitivity to benzalkonium chloride.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Eye drops

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Benzalkonium chloride

▶ Latanoprost (Non-proprietary)

Latanoprost 50 microgram per 1 ml Latanoprost 50micrograms/ml eye drops | 2.5 ml [PoM] £12.48 DT = £7.92

▶ Medizol (Medicom Healthcare Ltd)

Latanoprost 50 microgram per 1 ml Medizol 0.005% eye drops | 2.5 ml [PoM] DT = £7.92

▶ Monopost (Thea Pharmaceuticals Ltd)

Latanoprost 50 microgram per 1 ml Monopost 50micrograms/ml eye drops 0.2ml unit dose | 30 unit dose [PoM] £8.49 DT = £8.49 | 90 unit dose [PoM] £25.47 DT = £25.47

▶ Xalatan (Pfizer Ltd)

Latanoprost 50 microgram per 1 ml Xalatan 50micrograms/ml eye drops | 2.5 ml [PoM] £12.48 DT = £7.92

SYMPATHOMIMETICS > ALPHA₂-ADRENOCEPTOR AGONISTS

Apraclonidine

28-May-2018

- **DRUG ACTION** Apraclonidine is an alpha₂-adrenoceptor agonist that lowers intra-ocular pressure by reducing aqueous humour formation. It is a derivative of clonidine.

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Control or prevention of postoperative elevation of intra-ocular pressure after anterior segment laser surgery

▶ TO THE EYE

- ▶ Child: Apply 1 drop, 1 hour before laser procedure, then 1 drop, immediately after completion of procedure, 1% eye drops to be administered

Short-term adjunctive treatment of chronic glaucoma in patients not adequately controlled by another drug

▶ TO THE EYE

- ▶ Child 12–17 years: Apply 1 drop 3 times a day usually for maximum 1 month, 0.5% eye drops to be administered, may not provide additional benefit if patient already using two drugs that suppress the production of aqueous humour

- **UNLICENSED USE** 0.5% drops are not licensed for use in children under 12 years. 1% drops are not licensed for use in children.
- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** History of severe or unstable and uncontrolled cardiovascular disease
- **CAUTIONS** Cerebrovascular disease · depression · heart failure · history of angina · hypertension · loss of effect may occur over time · Raynaud's syndrome · recent myocardial infarction · reduction in vision in end-stage glaucoma (suspend treatment) · severe coronary insufficiency · thromboangiitis obliterans · vasovagal attack
- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: apraclonidine
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Eye disorders
 - ▶ **Uncommon** Bradycardia · conjunctival haemorrhage · diarrhoea · dry eye · eye discomfort · eye inflammation · gastrointestinal discomfort · irritability · libido decreased · nasal dryness · palpitations · postural hypotension · sensation abnormal · sleep disorders · syncope · vision disorders · vomiting