

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

Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 23

- ▶ **Ilaxten** (A. Menarini Farmaceutica Internazionale SRL)

Bilastine 20 mg Ilaxten 20mg tablets | 30 tablet [PoM] £6.00 DT = £6.00

Cetirizine hydrochloride

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Symptomatic relief of allergy such as hay fever, chronic idiopathic urticaria, atopic dermatitis

▶ BY MOUTH

- ▶ Child 1 year: 250 micrograms/kg twice daily
- ▶ Child 2-5 years: 2.5 mg twice daily
- ▶ Child 6-11 years: 5 mg twice daily
- ▶ Child 12-17 years: 10 mg once daily

- **UNLICENSED USE** Not licensed for use in children under 2 years.

- **CAUTIONS** Epilepsy

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: antihistamines, non-sedating

● SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ **Uncommon** Agitation · asthenia · diarrhoea · malaise · paraesthesia · skin reactions
- ▶ **Rare or very rare** Aggression · angioedema · confusion · depression · hallucination · hepatic function abnormal · insomnia · movement disorders · oculogyration · oedema · seizure · syncope · tachycardia · taste altered · thrombocytopenia · tic · tremor · urinary disorders · vision disorders · weight increased
- ▶ **Frequency not known** Abdominal pain · appetite increased · dizziness · drowsiness · dry mouth · headache · memory loss · nausea · pharyngitis · suicidal ideation · vertigo

SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION Non-sedating antihistamines such as cetirizine hydrochloride cause less sedation and psychomotor impairment than the older antihistamines, but can still occur; sedation is generally minimal. This is because non-sedating antihistamines penetrate the blood brain barrier to a much lesser extent.

- **PREGNANCY** Most manufacturers of antihistamines advise avoiding their use during pregnancy; however, there is no evidence of teratogenicity.

- **BREAST FEEDING** Most antihistamines are present in breast milk in varying amounts; although not known to be harmful, most manufacturers advise avoiding their use in mothers who are breast-feeding.

- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Avoid if estimated glomerular filtration rate less than 10 mL/minute/1.73 m².

Dose adjustments Use half normal dose if estimated glomerular filtration rate 30–50 mL/minute/1.73 m².

Use half normal dose and reduce dose frequency to alternate days if estimated glomerular filtration rate 10–30 mL/minute/1.73 m².

● PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE

Medicines for Children leaflet: Cetirizine for hay fever

www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/cetirizine-hay-fever-0

Driving and skilled tasks Although drowsiness is rare, nevertheless patients should be advised that it can occur and may affect performance of skilled tasks (e.g. cycling or driving); alcohol should be avoided.

● PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Dental practitioners' formulary

Cetirizine Tablets 10 mg may be prescribed.

Cetirizine Oral Solution 5 mg/5 mL may be prescribed.

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

Oral solution

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Propylene glycol

- ▶ **Cetirizine hydrochloride (Non-proprietary)**

Cetirizine hydrochloride 1 mg per 1 mL Cetirizine 1mg/ml oral solution sugar free | 200 mL [P] [N] DT = £1.55

Tablet

- ▶ **Cetirizine hydrochloride (Non-proprietary)**

Cetirizine hydrochloride 10 mg Cetirizine 10mg tablets | 30 tablet [PoM] £0.79-£1.01 DT = £0.98

Capsule

- ▶ **Benadryl Allergy** (McNeil Products Ltd)

Cetirizine hydrochloride 10 mg Benadryl Allergy Liquid Release 10mg capsules | 7 capsule [GSL] £3.09 DT = £3.09

Desloratadine

12-Mar-2020

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Symptomatic relief of allergy such as allergic rhinitis, urticaria, chronic idiopathic urticaria

▶ BY MOUTH

- ▶ Child 1-5 years: 1.25 mg once daily
- ▶ Child 6-11 years: 2.5 mg once daily
- ▶ Child 12-17 years: 5 mg once daily

PHARMACOKINETICS

- ▶ Desloratadine is a metabolite of loratadine.

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: antihistamines, non-sedating

● SIDE-EFFECTS

- **Common or very common** Asthenia · dry mouth · headache
- ▶ **Rare or very rare** Akathisia · arrhythmias · diarrhoea · dizziness · drowsiness · gastrointestinal discomfort · hallucination · hepatic disorders · insomnia · myalgia · nausea · palpitations · seizure · vomiting
- ▶ **Frequency not known** Behaviour abnormal · photosensitivity reaction · QT interval prolongation

SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION Non-sedating antihistamines such as desloratadine cause less sedation and psychomotor impairment than the older antihistamines, but can still occur; sedation is generally minimal. This is because non-sedating antihistamines penetrate the blood brain barrier to a much lesser extent.

- **ALLERGY AND CROSS-SENSITIVITY** Contra-indicated if history of hypersensitivity to loratadine.

- **PREGNANCY** Most manufacturers of antihistamines advise avoiding their use during pregnancy; however, there is no evidence of teratogenicity.

- **BREAST FEEDING** Most antihistamines are present in breast milk in varying amounts; although not known to be harmful, most manufacturers advise avoiding their use in mothers who are breast-feeding.

- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Use with caution in severe impairment.

- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Flavours of oral liquid formulations may include bubblegum.

● PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE

Driving and skilled tasks Although drowsiness is rare, nevertheless patients should be advised that it can occur and may affect performance of skilled tasks (e.g. cycling or driving); excess alcohol should be avoided.

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

Oral solution

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Propylene glycol, sorbitol

- ▶ **Desloratadine (Non-proprietary)**

Desloratadine 500 microgram per 1 mL Desloratadine 2.5mg/5ml oral solution sugar free sugar-free | 100 mL [PoM] £6.57 sugar-free | 150 mL [PoM] £8.12-£9.86 DT = £9.86