

USES: For improved walking in patients with multiple sclerosis

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Renal failure (CCr <50 mL/min), seizures

Precautions: Pregnancy, breastfeeding, geriatric patients, renal disease

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

• **Adult: PO** 10 mg q12hr

Renal dose

• **Adult: PO** CCr 51-80 mL/min, no dosage adjustment needed but seizure risk unknown; CCr ≤50 mL/min, do not use

Available forms: Ext rel tab 10 mg

Administer:

- Do not break, crush, or chew; give without regard to meals
- Do not give closer together than q12hr; seizures may occur
- Do not double doses; if a dose is missed, skip it

SIDE EFFECTS

CNS: Seizures, paresthesias, headache, dizziness, asthenia, insomnia

GI: Nausea, constipation, dyspepsia

GU: Urinary tract infection

MS: Back pain

SYST: Anaphylaxis

PHARMACOKINETICS

Bioavailability 96%; peak 3-4 hr (fasting), longer if taken with food; largely unbound to plasma proteins; 96% recovered in urine, half-life 5-6 hr

INTERACTIONS

- None known

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- **Multiple sclerosis:** improved walking, including speed baseline and during treatment
- **Seizures:** more common in those with previous seizure disorder; risk increases with higher doses, discontinue, if seizures occur
- **Anaphylaxis:** wheezing, rash, pruritus, angioedema

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: ability to walk at improved speed in multiple sclerosis

Teach patient/family:

- To take as directed, not to double or skip doses, to take 12 hr apart, provide "Medication Guide"
- Expected results; side effects, including seizures
- To notify prescriber of all OTC, prescription medications, herbals, supplements taken
- **Anaphylaxis:** to notify prescriber immediately of wheezing, throat tightening, rash, swelling of face, lips
- **Seizures:** to notify prescriber immediately
- **Urinary tract infection:** to report burning, stinging on urination
- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** to notify prescriber if pregnancy is planned or suspected; not to breastfeed

HIGH ALERT

dalteparin (Rx)

(dah'l'ta-pear-in)

Fragmin

Func. class.: Anticoagulant

Chem. class.: Low-molecular-weight heparin

ACTION: Inhibits factor Xa/IIa (thrombin), resulting in anticoagulation

USES: Unstable angina/non-Q-wave MI; prevention/treatment of deep venous thrombosis in abdominal surgery, hip replacement, or in those with restricted mobility during acute illness, pulmonary embolism

Unlabeled uses: VTE prophylaxis in gynecologic surgery

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to this product, heparin, or pork products; active major bleeding, hemophilia, leukemia with bleeding, thrombocytopenic purpura, cerebrovascular hemorrhage, cerebral aneurysm; those undergoing regional anesthesia for unstable angina, non-Q-wave MI, dalteparin-induced thrombocytopenia

Precautions: Hypersensitivity to benzyl alcohol, pregnancy, breastfeeding, children, recent childbirth, geriatric patients; hepatic