

Summary of Product Characteristics

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Desloratadine Actavis 5 mg Orodispersible Tablets

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each orodispersible tablet contains 5 mg desloratadine.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Orodispersible tablet.

Desloratadine Actavis 5 mg orodispersible tablets are pink, round, flat tablets with a diameter of approximately 8.0 mm.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

Desloratadine Actavis is indicated in adults, adolescents aged 12 years and older for the relief of symptoms associated with:

- allergic rhinitis (see section 5.1)
- urticaria (see section 5.1)

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

Adults and adolescents (12 years of age and over)

The recommended dose of Desloratadine Actavis is one 5 mg orodispersible tablet placed in the mouth once a day.

Intermittent allergic rhinitis (presence of symptoms for less than 4 days per week or for less than 4 weeks) should be managed in accordance with the evaluation of patient's disease history and the treatment could be discontinued after symptoms are resolved and reinitiated upon their reappearance.

In persistent allergic rhinitis (presence of symptoms for 4 days or more per week and for more than 4 weeks), continued treatment may be proposed to the patients during the allergen exposure periods.

Paediatric population

The safety and efficacy of Desloratadine Actavis 5 mg orodispersible tablets in children below the age of 12 years have not been established. No data are available.

There is limited clinical trial efficacy experience with the use of desloratadine in adolescents 12 through 17 years of age (see sections 4.8 and 5.1).

Method of administration

Oral use.

The dose can be taken with or without food.

Immediately before use, the blister must be carefully peeled open and the dose of orodispersible tablet removed without crushing it. The dose of orodispersible tablet is placed in the mouth where it will disperse immediately. Water or other liquid is not needed to swallow the dose. The dose must be taken as soon as the blister has been opened.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1, or to loratadine.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

In the case of severe renal insufficiency, Desloratadine Actavis should be used with caution (see section 5.2).

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

No clinically relevant interactions were observed in clinical trials with desloratadine tablets in which erythromycin or ketoconazole were co-administered (see section 5.1).

Paediatric population

Interaction studies have only been performed in adults.

In a clinical pharmacology trial, desloratadine tablets taken concomitantly with alcohol did not potentiate the performance impairing effects of alcohol (see section 5.1). However, cases of alcohol intolerance and intoxication have been reported during post-marketing use. Therefore, caution is recommended if alcohol is taken concomitantly.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

A large amount of data on pregnant women (more than 1,000 pregnancy outcomes) indicate no malformative nor fetotoxicity of desloratadine. Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). As a precautionary measure, it is preferable to avoid the use of desloratadine during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding

Desloratadine has been identified in breastfed newborns/infants of treated women. The effect of desloratadine on newborns/infants is unknown. A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or to discontinue/abstain from desloratadine therapy taking into account the benefit of breast feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

Fertility

There are no data available on male and female fertility.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Desloratadine has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines based on clinical trials. Patients should be informed that most people do not experience drowsiness. Nevertheless, as there is individual variation in response to all medicinal products, it is recommended that patients are advised not to engage in activities requiring mental alertness, such as driving a car or using machines, until they have established their own response to the medicinal product.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

In clinical trials in a range of indications including allergic rhinitis and chronic idiopathic urticaria, at the recommended dose of 5 mg daily, undesirable effects with desloratadine tablets were reported in 3% of patients in excess of those treated with placebo. The most frequent of adverse reactions reported in excess of placebo were fatigue (1.2%), dry mouth (0.8%) and headache (0.6%).

Paediatric population

In a clinical trial with 578 adolescent patients, 12 through 17 years of age, the most common adverse event was

headache; this occurred in 5.9 % of patients treated with desloratadine and 6.9 % of patients receiving placebo.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

The frequency of the clinical trial adverse reactions reported in excess of placebo and other undesirable effects reported during the post-marketing period are listed in the following table. Frequencies are defined as very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$), very rare ($< 1/10,000$) and not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

| System Organ Class | Frequency | Adverse reactions seen with desloratadine |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Psychiatric disorders | Very rare | Hallucinations |
| Nervous system disorders | Common Very rare | Headache Dizziness, somnolence, insomnia, psychomotor hyperactivity, seizures |
| Cardiac disorders | Very rare Not known | Tachycardia, palpitations QT prolongation |
| Gastrointestinal disorders | Common Very rare | Dry mouth Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dyspepsia, diarrhoea |
| Hepatobiliary disorders | Very rare Not known | Elevations of liver enzymes, increased bilirubin, hepatitis Jaundice |
| Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders | Not known | Photosensitivity |
| Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders | Very rare | Myalgia |
| General disorders and administration site conditions | Common Very rare Not known | Fatigue Hypersensitivity reactions (such as anaphylaxis, angioedema, dyspnoea, pruritus, rash, and urticaria) Asthenia |

Paediatric population

Other undesirable effects reported during the post-marketing period in paediatric patients with an unknown frequency included QT prolongation, arrhythmia, and bradycardia.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via HPRC Pharmacovigilance, Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2; Tel: +353 1 6764971; Fax: +353 1 6762517. Website: www.hpra.ie; E-mail: medsafety@hpra.ie.

4.9 Overdose

The adverse event profile associated with overdosage, as seen during post-marketing use, is similar to that seen with therapeutic doses, but the magnitude of the effects can be higher.

Treatment

In the event of overdose, consider standard measures to remove unabsorbed active substance. Symptomatic and

supportive treatment is recommended.

Desloratadine is not eliminated by haemodialysis; it is not known if it is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis.

Symptoms

Based on a multiple dose clinical trial, in which up to 45 mg of desloratadine was administered (nine times the clinical dose), no clinically relevant effects were observed.

Paediatric population

The adverse event profile associated with overdosage, as seen during post-marketing use, is similar to that seen with therapeutic doses, but the magnitude of the effects can be higher.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: antihistamines H₁ antagonist, ATC code: R06A X27

Mechanism of action

Desloratadine is a non-sedating, long-acting histamine antagonist with selective peripheral H₁-receptor antagonist activity. After oral administration, desloratadine selectively blocks peripheral histamine H₁- receptors because the substance is excluded from entry to the central nervous system.

Desloratadine has demonstrated antiallergic properties from *in vitro* studies. These include inhibiting the release of proinflammatory cytokines such as IL-4, IL-6, IL-8, and IL-13 from human mast cells/basophils, as well as inhibition of the expression of the adhesion molecule P-selectin on endothelial cells. The clinical relevance of these observations remains to be confirmed.

Clinical efficacy and safety

In a multiple dose trial, desloratadine orodispersible tablets were well tolerated.

In a multiple dose clinical trial, in which up to 20 mg of desloratadine was administered daily for 14 days, no statistically or clinically relevant cardiovascular effect was observed. In a clinical pharmacology trial, in which desloratadine was administered at a dose of 45 mg daily (nine times the clinical dose) for ten days, no prolongation of QTc interval was seen.

No clinically relevant changes in desloratadine plasma concentrations were observed in multiple-dose, ketoconazole and erythromycin interaction trials.

Desloratadine does not readily penetrate the central nervous system. In clinical trials, at the recommended dose of 5 mg daily, there was no excess incidence of somnolence as compared to placebo. Desloratadine tablets given at a single daily dose of 7.5 mg did not affect psychomotor performance in clinical trials. In a single dose study performed in adults, desloratadine 5 mg did not affect standard measures of flight performance including exacerbation of subjective sleepiness or tasks related to flying.

In clinical pharmacology trials, co-administration with alcohol did not increase the alcohol-induced impairment in performance or increase in sleepiness. No significant differences were found in the psychomotor test results between desloratadine and placebo groups, whether administered alone or with alcohol.

In patients with allergic rhinitis, desloratadine tablets were effective in relieving symptoms such as sneezing, nasal discharge and itching, as well as ocular itching, tearing and redness, and itching of palate. Desloratadine tablets effectively controlled symptoms for 24 hours.

Paediatric population

The efficacy of desloratadine tablets has not been clearly demonstrated in trials with adolescent patients 12 through

17 years of age.

In addition to the established classifications of seasonal and perennial, allergic rhinitis can alternatively be classified as intermittent allergic rhinitis and persistent allergic rhinitis according to the duration of symptoms. Intermittent allergic rhinitis is defined as the presence of symptoms for less than 4 days per week or for less than 4 weeks. Persistent allergic rhinitis is defined as the presence of symptoms for 4 days or more per week and for more than 4 weeks.

Desloratadine was effective in alleviating the burden of seasonal allergic rhinitis as shown by the total score of the rhino-conjunctivitis quality of life questionnaire. The greatest amelioration was seen in the domains of practical problems and daily activities limited by symptoms.

Chronic idiopathic urticaria was studied as a clinical model for urticarial conditions, since the underlying pathophysiology is similar, regardless of etiology, and because chronic patients can be more easily recruited prospectively. Since histamine release is a causal factor in all urticarial diseases, desloratadine is expected to be effective in providing symptomatic relief for other urticarial conditions, in addition to chronic idiopathic urticaria, as advised in clinical guidelines.

In two placebo-controlled six week trials in patients with chronic idiopathic urticaria, desloratadine was effective in relieving pruritus and decreasing the size and number of hives by the end of the first dosing interval. In each trial, the effects were sustained over the 24 hour dosing interval. As with other antihistamine trials in chronic idiopathic urticaria, the minority of patients who were identified as non-responsive to antihistamines was excluded. An improvement in pruritus of more than 50% was observed in 55% of patients treated with desloratadine compared with 19% of patients treated with placebo. Treatment with desloratadine also significantly reduced interference with sleep and daytime function, as measured by a four-point scale used to assess these variables.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Desloratadine plasma concentrations can be detected within 30 minutes of administration.

Desloratadine is well absorbed with maximum concentration achieved after approximately 3 hours; the terminal phase half-life is approximately 27 hours. The degree of accumulation of desloratadine was consistent with its half-life (approximately 27 hours) and a once daily dosing frequency. The bioavailability of desloratadine was dose proportional over the range of 5 mg to 20 mg.

In a series of pharmacokinetic and clinical trials, 6% of the subjects reached a higher concentration of desloratadine. The prevalence of this poor metaboliser phenotype was greater among Black adults than Caucasian adults (18% vs. 2%), however the safety profile of these subjects was not different from that of the general population.

In a multiple-dose pharmacokinetic study conducted with the tablet formulation in healthy adult subjects, four subjects were found to be poor metabolisers of desloratadine. These subjects had a C_{\max} concentration about 3-fold higher at approximately 7 hours with a terminal phase half-life of approximately 89 hours.

Distribution

Desloratadine is moderately bound (83% - 87%) to plasma proteins. There is no evidence of clinically relevant medicine accumulation following once daily dosing of desloratadine (5 mg to 20 mg) for 14 days.

Biotransformation

The enzyme responsible for the metabolism of desloratadine has not been identified yet, and therefore, some interactions with other medicinal products cannot be fully excluded. Desloratadine does not inhibit CYP3A4 *in vivo*, and *in vitro* studies have shown that the medicinal product does not inhibit CYP2D6 and is neither a substrate nor an inhibitor of P-glycoprotein.

In single-dose crossover studies of desloratadine 5 mg orodispersible tablets with desloratadine 5 mg conventional tablets, the formulations were bioequivalent.

Elimination

The presence of food prolongs T_{\max} for desloratadine from 2.5 to 4 hours and T_{\max} for 3-OH-desloratadine from 4 to 6 hours. In a separate study, grapefruit juice had no effect on the disposition of desloratadine. Water had no effect on the bioavailability of desloratadine orodispersible tablets.

Renally impaired patients

The pharmacokinetics of desloratadine in patients with chronic renal insufficiency (CRI) was compared with that of healthy subjects in one single-dose study and one multiple dose study. In the single-dose study, the exposure to desloratadine was approximately 2 and 2.5-fold greater in subjects with mild to moderate and severe CRI, respectively, than in healthy subjects. In the multiple-dose study, steady state was reached after Day 11, and compared to healthy subjects the exposure to desloratadine was ~1.5-fold greater in subjects with mild to moderate CRI and ~2.5-fold greater in subjects with severe CRI. In both studies, changes in exposure (AUC and C_{\max}) of desloratadine and 3-hydroxydesloratadine were not clinically relevant.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Desloratadine is the primary active metabolite of loratadine. Non-clinical studies conducted with desloratadine and loratadine demonstrated that there are no qualitative or quantitative differences in the toxicity profile of desloratadine and loratadine at comparable levels of exposure to desloratadine.

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity, carcinogenic potential toxicity to reproduction and development. The collective analysis of preclinical and clinical irritation studies for the orodispersible tablet indicate that this formulation is unlikely to pose risk for local irritation with clinical use. The lack of carcinogenic potential was demonstrated in studies conducted with desloratadine and loratadine.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Tablet core:

Cellulose, Microcrystalline
Povidone (K-value 22.5-27)
Basic butylated methacrylate copolymer
Sodium Laurilsulfate
Dibutyl Sebacate
Silica, Colloidal Hydrated
Dextrates
Silicified, Microcrystalline Cellulose
Iron Oxide red (E172)
Croscarmellose sodium
Sucralose (E955)
Tutti frutti
Magnesium Stearate

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

2 years

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 25°C.
Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

[OPA/Adhesive/(OPA/Aluminium/PVC)] / [CC Kraft Paper/PET/Aluminium/HS lacquer] blisters.

Pack sizes

Desloratadine Actavis 5 mg orodispersible tablets: 7, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 90 orodispersible tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

No special requirements.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Actavis Group PTC ehf.
Reykjavíkurvegi 76-78
220 Hafnarfjörður
Iceland

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

PA 1380/122/001

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 27th July 2012

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

July 2015