

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

[Invented Name] 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml, eye drops, solution

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each ml contains 20 mg of dorzolamide (in the form of dorzolamide hydrochloride: 22.26 mg) and 5 mg timolol (in the form of timolol maleate: 6.83 mg).

Each drop (about 35 µl) contains 0.70 mg of dorzolamide and 0.18 mg of timolol.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Eye drops, solution

Transparent, colourless, slightly viscous solution

pH: 5.0-6.0

Osmolality: 250-320 mOsmol/kg

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Indicated in the treatment of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with open-angle glaucoma or pseudoexfoliative glaucoma when topical beta-blocker monotherapy is not sufficient.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

The dose is one drop of [Invented Name] in the (conjunctival sac of the) affected eye(s) two times daily.

If another topical ophthalmic agent is being used, [Invented Name] and the other agent should be administered at least ten minutes apart. Eye ointments should be administered last.

Patients should be instructed to wash their hands before use and avoid allowing the tip of the bottle to come into contact with the eye or surrounding structures as this could cause injury to the eye (see instructions for use).

Patients should also be instructed that ocular solutions, if handled improperly, can become contaminated by common bacteria known to cause ocular infections. Serious damage to the eye and subsequent loss of vision may result from using contaminated solutions.

Paediatric population

Efficacy in paediatric patients has not been established.

Safety in paediatric patients below the age of 2 years has not been established. (For information regarding safety in paediatric patients ≥ 2 and < 6 years of age, see section 5.1).

Method of administration

Ocular use.

[Invented Name] is a sterile solution that does not contain a preservative.

Before instillation of the eye drops:

- When using for the first time, before delivering a drop to the eye, a patient should first of all practise using the dropper bottle by squeezing it slowly to deliver one drop into the air, away from the eye.
- When a patient is confident that he can deliver one drop at a time, he should choose the position that he finds most comfortable for the instillation of the drops (patient can sit down, lie on his back, or stand in front of a mirror).

Instructions for use:

1. A patient should wash his hands carefully before using this medicine.
2. If the packaging or bottle is damaged the medicine should not be used.
3. When using the medicine for the first time, the cap should be unscrewed after making sure that the sealed ring on the cap has not been broken. A patient should feel a slight resistance until this tamper-proof ring breaks off.
4. If the tamper-proof ring is loose it should be thrown away because it may fall into the eye and make injuries.
5. A patient should tilt his head back and gently pull down his lower eyelid to form a pouch between his eye and eyelid. Contact between the tip of the bottle and eye, eyelids or fingers should be avoided.
6. One drop should be instilled into the pouch by pressing slowly on the bottle. A patient should squeeze the bottle gently in the middle and let a drop fall into his eye. There might be a few seconds delay between squeezing and the drop coming out. A patient should not squeeze too hard if he is not sure how to administer this medicine, he should ask doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
7. Then the patient should compress the tear duct for about 2 minutes (by pressing a finger against the corner of the eye by the nose) and close his eye(s) and keep it/them closed during this time. This ensures that the drop is absorbed by the eye and that the amount of medicine draining through the tear duct to the nose will probably be reduced.
8. Contact between the tip of the bottle and eye, eyelids or fingers should be avoided.
9. The patient should repeat steps 5, 6 and 7 in his other eye if the doctor has told him to do this.
10. After use and prior to recapping, the bottle should be shaken once in a downwards direction, without touching the dropper tip, in order to remove any residual liquid on the tip. This is necessary in order to ensure delivery of subsequent drops. After instillation the cap on the bottle should be screwed.

If a drop misses patient's eye, he should try again.

When using nasolacrimal occlusion or closing the eyelids for 2 minutes, the systemic absorption is reduced. This may result in a decrease in systemic side effects and an increase in local activity.

4.3 Contraindications

[Invented Name] is contraindicated in patients with:

- reactive airway disease, including bronchial asthma or a history of bronchial asthma, or severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- sinus bradycardia, sick sinus syndrome, sino-atrial block, second or third degree atrioventricular block not controlled with pacemaker, overt cardiac failure, cardiogenic shock
- severe renal impairment (CrCl <30 ml/min) or hyperchloraemic acidosis
- hypersensitivity to one or both active substances or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

The above are based on the components and are not unique to the combination.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Cardiovascular/Respiratory Reactions

Like other topically applied ophthalmic agents timolol is absorbed systemically. Due to beta-adrenergic component, timolol, the same types of cardiovascular, pulmonary and other adverse reactions seen with systemic beta-adrenergic blocking agents may occur. Incidence of systemic ADRs after topical ophthalmic administration is lower than for systemic administration. To reduce the systemic absorption, see section 4.2.

Cardiac disorders:

In patients with cardiovascular diseases (e.g. coronary heart disease, Prinzmetal's angina and cardiac failure) and hypotension therapy with beta-blockers should be critically assessed and the therapy with other active substances should be considered. Patients with cardiovascular diseases should be watched for signs of deterioration of these diseases and of adverse reactions.

Due to its negative effect on conduction time, beta-blockers should only be given with caution to patients with first degree heart block.

Vascular disorders:

Patients with severe peripheral circulatory disturbance/disorders (i.e. severe forms of Raynaud's disease or Raynaud's syndrome) should be treated with caution.

Respiratory disorders:

Respiratory reactions, including death due to bronchospasm in patients with asthma have been reported following administration of some ophthalmic beta-blockers.

[Invented Name] should be used with caution, in patients with mild/moderate chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and only if the potential benefit outweighs the potential risk.

Hepatic Impairment

Dorzolamide/timolol 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, solution has not been studied in patients with hepatic impairment and should therefore be used with caution in such patients.

Immunology and Hypersensitivity

As with other topically-applied ophthalmic agents, this medicinal product may be absorbed systemically. Dorzolamide contains a sulfonamido group, which also occurs in sulfonamides.

Therefore, the same types of adverse reactions found with systemic administration of sulfonamides may occur with topical administration, including severe reactions such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome

and toxic epidermal necrolysis. If signs of serious reactions or hypersensitivity occur, discontinue use of this preparation.

Local ocular adverse effects, similar to those observed with dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, have been seen with dorzolamide/timolol 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, solution. If such reactions occur, discontinuation of [Invented Name] should be considered.

While taking beta-blockers, patients with a history of atopy or a history of severe anaphylactic reaction to a variety of allergens may be more reactive to repeated challenge with such allergens and may be unresponsive to the usual doses of adrenaline used to treat anaphylactic reactions.

Concomitant Therapy

The effect on intra-ocular pressure or the known effects of systemic beta-blockade may be potentiated when timolol is given to the patients already receiving a systemic beta-blocking agent. The response of these patients should be closely observed. The use of two topical beta-adrenergic blocking agents is not recommended (see section 4.5).

The use of dorzolamide and oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors is not recommended.

Withdrawal of Therapy

As with systemic beta-blockers, if discontinuation of ophthalmic timolol is needed in patients with coronary heart disease, therapy should be withdrawn gradually.

Additional Effects of Beta-Blockade

Hypoglycaemia/diabetes:

Beta-blockers should be administered with caution in patients subject to spontaneous hypoglycaemia or to patients with labile diabetes, as beta-blockers may mask the signs and symptoms of acute hypoglycaemia.

Beta-blockers may also mask the signs of hyperthyroidism. Abrupt withdrawal of beta-blocker therapy may precipitate a worsening of symptoms.

Corneal diseases:

Ophthalmic beta-blockers may induce dryness of eyes. Patients with corneal diseases should be treated with caution.

Surgical anaesthesia:

Beta-blocking ophthalmological preparations may block systemic beta-agonist effects e.g. of adrenaline. The anaesthesiologist should be informed when the patient is receiving timolol. Therapy with beta-blockers may aggravate symptoms of myasthenia gravis.

Additional Effects of Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibition

Therapy with oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors has been associated with urolithiasis as a result of acid-base disturbances, especially in patients with a prior history of renal calculi. Although no acid-base disturbances have been observed with product (preserved formulation), urolithiasis has been reported infrequently. Because [Invented Name] contains a topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitor that is absorbed systemically, patients with a prior history of renal calculi may be at increased risk of urolithiasis while using this medicinal product.

Other

The management of patients with acute angle-closure glaucoma requires therapeutic interventions in addition to ocular hypotensive agents. This medicinal product has not been studied in patients with acute angle-closure glaucoma.

Corneal oedema and irreversible corneal decompensation have been reported in patients with pre-existing chronic corneal defects and/or a history of intraocular surgery while using dorzolamide. There

is an increased potential for developing corneal oedema in patients with low endothelial cell counts. Precautions should be used when prescribing [Invented Name] to these groups of patients. Choroidal detachment has been reported with administration of aqueous suppressant therapies (e.g. timolol, acetazolamide) after filtration procedures.

As with the use of other antiglaucoma medicines, diminished responsiveness to ophthalmic timolol maleate after prolonged therapy has been reported in some patients. However, in clinical studies in which 164 patients have been followed for at least three years, no significant difference in mean intraocular pressure has been observed after initial stabilisation.

Contact Lens Use

Dorzolamide/timolol 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, solution has not been studied in patients wearing contact lenses. Patients should be instructed to remove contact lenses from the eye prior to administering the product and wait at least 15 minutes before reinsertion.

Paediatric population

See section 5.1

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Specific medicine interaction studies have not been performed with [Invented Name].

In a clinical study, dorzolamide/timolol 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, solution was used concomitantly with the following systemic medications without evidence of adverse interactions: ACE-inhibitors, calcium channel blockers, diuretics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines including aspirin, and hormones (e.g. oestrogen, insulin, thyroxine).

There is a potential for additive effects resulting in hypotension and/or marked bradycardia when ophthalmic beta-blockers solution is administered concomitantly with oral calcium channel blockers, catecholamine-depleting medicines or beta-adrenergic blocking agents, antiarrhythmics (including amiodarone), digitalis glycosides, parasympathomimetics, guanethidine, narcotics, and monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors.

Potentiated systemic beta-blockade (e.g. decreased heart rate, depression) has been reported during combined treatment with CYP2D6 inhibitors (e.g. quinidine, fluoxetine, paroxetine) and timolol. Although product (preserved formulation) alone has little or no effect on pupil size, mydriasis resulting from concomitant use of ophthalmic beta-blockers and adrenaline (epinephrine) has been reported occasionally.

Beta-blockers may increase the hypoglycaemic effect of antidiabetic agents.

Oral beta-adrenergic blocking agents may exacerbate the rebound hypertension which can follow the withdrawal of clonidine.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

[Invented Name] should not be used during pregnancy.

Dorzolamide

No adequate clinical data in exposed pregnancies are available. In rabbits, dorzolamide produced teratogenic effect at maternotoxic doses (see section 5.3).

Timolol

There are no adequate data for the use of timolol in pregnant women. Timolol should not be used during pregnancy unless clearly necessary. To reduce the systemic absorption, see section 4.2.

Epidemiological studies have not revealed malformative effects but show a risk for intra uterine growth retardation when beta-blockers are administered by the oral route. In addition, signs and symptoms of beta-blockade (e.g. bradycardia, hypotension, respiratory distress and hypoglycaemia) have been observed in the neonate when beta-blockers have been administered until delivery. If this medicinal product is administered until delivery, the neonate should be carefully monitored during the first days of life.

Breast-feeding

It is not known whether dorzolamide is excreted in human milk. In lactating rats receiving dorzolamide, decreases in the body weight gain of offspring were observed. Beta-blockers are excreted in breast milk. However, at therapeutic doses of timolol in eye drops it is not likely that sufficient amounts would be present in breast milk to produce clinical symptoms of beta-blockade in the infant. To reduce systemic absorption, see section 4.2. If treatment with [Invented Name] is required, then breast-feeding is not recommended.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. Possible side effects such as blurred vision may affect some patients' ability to drive and/or operate machinery.

4.8 Undesirable effects

In a clinical study for dorzolamide/timolol, 20 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml, eye drops, solution the observed adverse reactions have been consistent with those that were reported previously with product in preserved formulation, dorzolamide hydrochloride and/or timolol maleate.

During clinical studies, 1035 patients were treated with dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate in preserved formulation. Approximately 2.4% of all patients discontinued therapy with dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate in preserved formulation because of local ocular adverse reactions; approximately 1.2% of all patients discontinued because of local adverse reactions suggestive of allergy or hypersensitivity (such as lid inflammation and conjunctivitis).

Dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate (preservative free formulation) has been shown to have a similar safety profile to dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate (preservative containing formulation) in a repeat dose double-masked, comparative study.

Like other topically applied ophthalmic medicines, timolol is absorbed into the systemic circulation. This may cause similar undesirable effects as seen with systemic beta-blocking agents. Incidence of systemic ADRs after topical ophthalmic administration is lower than for systemic administration.

The following adverse reactions have been reported with dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate in preservative free formulation or one of its components either during clinical trials or during post-marketing experience:

[Very Common: ($\geq 1/10$), Common: ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$), Uncommon: ($\geq 1/1000$ to $< 1/100$), and Rare: ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1000$), Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)]

System Organ Class (MedDRA)	Formulation	Very Common	Common	Uncommon	Rare	Not Known**
Immune system disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in</u>				signs and symptoms of systemic allergic reactions,	

	<u>preservative-free formulation</u>				including angioedema, urticaria, pruritus, rash, anaphylaxis	
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				signs and symptoms of allergic reactions including angioedema, urticaria, localised and generalised rash, anaphylaxis	pruritus
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>					hypoglycaemia
Psychiatric disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>			depression*	insomnia*, nightmares*, memory loss	hallucination (adverse reactions observed with timolol)
Nervous system disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>		headache*		dizziness*, paraesthesia*	
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>		headache*	dizziness*, syncope*	paraesthesia*, increase in signs and symptoms of myasthenia gravis, decreased libido*, cerebrovascular accident*, cerebral ischaemia	
Eye disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative-free formulation</u>	burning and stinging	conjunctival injection, blurred vision, corneal erosion, ocular itching, tearing			
	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>		eyelid inflammation*, eyelid irritation*	iritidocyclitis*	irritation including redness*, pain*, eyelid crusting*, transient myopia (which resolved upon discontinuation of therapy),	foreign body sensation in eye

					corneal oedema*, ocular hypotony*, choroidal detachment (following filtration surgery)*	
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>		signs and symptoms of ocular irritation including blepharitis*, keratitis*, decreased corneal sensitivity, and dry eyes*	visual disturbances including refractive changes (due to withdrawal of miotic therapy in some cases)*	ptosis, diplopia, choroidal detachment following filtration surgery* (see Special warning and precautions for use 4.4)	itching, tearing, redness, blurred vision, corneal erosion
Ear and labyrinth disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				tinnitus*	
Cardiac disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>			bradycardia*	chest pain*, palpitation*, oedema*, arrhythmia*, congestive heart failure*, cardiac arrest*, heart block	atrioventricular block, cardiac failure
	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>					palpitations
Vascular disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				hypotension*, claudication, Raynaud's phenomenon*, cold hands and feet*	
Respiratory, thoracic, and mediastinal disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative- free formulation</u>		sinusitis		shortness of breath, respiratory failure, rhinitis, rarely bronchospasm	
	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>				epistaxis*	dyspnoea
	<u>Timolol</u>			dyspnoea*	bronchospasm	

	<u>maleate eye drops, solution</u>				(predominantly in patients with pre-existing bronchospastic disease)*, respiratory failure, cough*	
Gastrointestinal disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative-free formulation</u>	dysgeusia				
	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>		nausea*		throat irritation, dry mouth*	
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>			nausea*, dyspepsia*	diarrhoea, dry mouth*	dysgeusia, abdominal pain, vomiting
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative-free formulation</u>				contact dermatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis	
	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride eye drops, solution</u>				rash*	
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				alopecia*, psoriasiform rash or exacerbation of psoriasis*	skin rash
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				systemic lupus erythematosus	myalgia
Renal and urinary disorders	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative-free formulation</u>			urolithiasis		
Reproductive system and breast disorders	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>				Peyronie's disease*, decreased libido	sexual dysfunction
General disorders and	<u>Dorzolamide hydrochloride</u>		asthenia/fatigue*			

administration site conditions	<u>eye drops, solution</u>					
	<u>Timolol maleate eye drops, solution</u>			asthenia/ fatigue*		

*These adverse reactions were also observed with Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preserved formulation during post-marketing experience.

**Additional adverse reactions have been seen with ophthalmic beta-blockers and may potentially occur with Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative free formulation.

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 **the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#)***.

4.9 Overdose

No data are available in humans in regard to overdose by accidental or deliberate ingestion of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preserved formulation or Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate in preservative-free formulation.

Symptoms

There have been reports of inadvertent overdoses with timolol maleate ophthalmic solution resulting in systemic effects similar to those seen with systemic beta-adrenergic blocking agents such as dizziness, headache, shortness of breath, bradycardia, bronchospasm, and cardiac arrest. The most common signs and symptoms to be expected with overdoses of dorzolamide are electrolyte imbalance, development of an acidotic state, and possibly central nervous system effects.

Only limited information is available with regard to human overdose by accidental or deliberate ingestion of dorzolamide hydrochloride. With oral ingestion, somnolence has been reported. With topical application the following have been reported: nausea, dizziness, headache, fatigue, abnormal dreams, and dysphagia.

Treatment

Treatment should be symptomatic and supportive. Serum electrolyte levels (particularly potassium) and blood pH levels should be monitored. Studies have shown that timolol does not dialyse readily.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antiglaucoma preparations and miotics, Beta blocking agents, Timolol, combinations, ATC code: S01E D51

Mechanism of action

[Invented Name] is comprised of two components: dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate. Each of these two components decreases elevated intraocular pressure by reducing aqueous humor secretion, but does so by a different mechanism of action.

Dorzolamide hydrochloride is a potent inhibitor of human carbonic anhydrase II. Inhibition of carbonic anhydrase in the ciliary processes of the eye decreases aqueous humor secretion, presumably

by slowing the formation of bicarbonate ions with subsequent reduction in sodium and fluid transport. Timolol maleate is a non-selective beta-adrenergic receptor blocking agent. The precise mechanism of action of timolol maleate in lowering intraocular pressure is not clearly established at this time, although a fluorescein study and tonography studies indicate that the predominant action may be related to reduced aqueous formation. However, in some studies a slight increase in outflow facility was also observed. The combined effect of these two agents results in additional intraocular pressure reduction (IOP) compared to either component administered alone.

Following topical administration, [Invented Name] reduces elevated intraocular pressure, whether or not associated with glaucoma. Elevated intraocular pressure is a major risk factor in the pathogenesis of optic nerve damage and glaucomatous visual field loss. This medicinal product reduces intraocular pressure without the common side effects of miotics such as night blindness, accommodative spasm and pupillary constriction.

Pharmacodynamic effects

Clinical Effects

Clinical studies of up to 15 months duration were conducted to compare the IOP-lowering effect of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) b.i.d. (dosed morning and bedtime) to individually- and concomitantly-administered 0.5% timolol and 2.0% dorzolamide in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension for whom concomitant therapy was considered appropriate in the trials. This included both untreated patients and patients inadequately controlled with timolol monotherapy. The majority of patients were treated with topical beta-blocker monotherapy prior to study enrolment. In an analysis of the combined studies, the IOP-lowering effect of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) b.i.d. was greater than that of monotherapy with either 2% dorzolamide t.i.d. or 0.5% timolol b.i.d. The IOP-lowering effect of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) b.i.d. was equivalent to that of concomitant therapy with dorzolamide b.i.d. and timolol b.i.d. The IOP-lowering effect of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) b.i.d. was demonstrated when measured at various time points throughout the day and this effect was maintained during long-term administration.

In an active-treatment-controlled, parallel, double-masked study in 261 patients with elevated intraocular pressure ≥ 22 mmHg in one or both eyes, Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preservative-free formulation) had an IOP-lowering effect equivalent to that of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation). The safety profile of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preservative-free formulation) was similar to Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation).

Paediatric population

A 3 month controlled study, with the primary objective of documenting the safety of 2% dorzolamide hydrochloride ophthalmic solution in children under the age of 6 years has been conducted. In this study, 30 patients under 6 and greater than or equal to 2 years of age whose IOP was not adequately controlled with monotherapy by dorzolamide or timolol received Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) in an open label phase. Efficacy in those patients has not been established. In this small group of patients, twice daily administration of Dorzolamide hydrochloride and Timolol maleate (preserved formulation) was generally well tolerated with 19 patients completing the treatment period and 11 patients discontinuing for surgery, a change in medication, or other reasons.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Dorzolamide Hydrochloride

Unlike oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, topical administration of dorzolamide hydrochloride allows for the active substance to exert its effects directly in the eye at substantially lower doses and therefore with less systemic exposure. In clinical trials, this resulted in a reduction in IOP without the acid-base disturbances or alterations in electrolytes characteristic of oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors.

When topically applied, dorzolamide reaches the systemic circulation. To assess the potential for systemic carbonic anhydrase inhibition following topical administration, active substance and metabolite concentrations in red blood cells (RBCs) and plasma and carbonic anhydrase inhibition in RBCs were measured. Dorzolamide accumulates in RBCs during chronic dosing as a result of selective binding to CA-II while extremely low concentrations of free active substance in plasma are maintained. The parent active substance forms a single N-desethyl metabolite that inhibits CA-II less potently than the parent active substance but also inhibits a less active isoenzyme (CA-I). The metabolite also accumulates in RBCs where it binds primarily to CA-I. Dorzolamide binds moderately to plasma proteins (approximately 33%). Dorzolamide is primarily excreted unchanged in the urine; the metabolite is also excreted in urine. After dosing ends, dorzolamide washes out of RBCs non-linearly, resulting in a rapid decline of active substance concentration initially, followed by a slower elimination phase with a half-life of about four months.

When dorzolamide was given orally to simulate the maximum systemic exposure after long term topical ocular administration, steady state was reached within 13 weeks. At steady state, there was virtually no free active substance or metabolite in plasma; CA inhibition in RBCs was less than that anticipated to be necessary for a pharmacological effect on renal function or respiration. Similar pharmacokinetic results were observed after chronic, topical administration of dorzolamide hydrochloride. However, some elderly patients with renal impairment (estimated CrCl 30-60 ml/min) had higher metabolite concentrations in RBCs, but no meaningful differences in carbonic anhydrase inhibition and no clinically significant systemic side effects were directly attributable to this finding.

Timolol Maleate

In a study of plasma active substance concentration in six subjects, the systemic exposure to timolol was determined following twice daily topical administration of timolol maleate ophthalmic solution 0.5%. The mean peak plasma concentration following morning dosing was 0.46 ng/ml and following afternoon dosing was 0.35 ng/ml.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

The ocular and systemic safety profile of the individual components is well established.

Dorzolamide

In rabbits given maternotoxic doses of dorzolamide associated with metabolic acidosis, malformations of the vertebral bodies were observed.

Timolol

Animal studies have not shown teratogenic effect.

Furthermore, no adverse ocular effects were seen in animals treated topically with dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate ophthalmic solution or with concomitantly-administered dorzolamide hydrochloride and timolol maleate. *In vitro* and *in vivo* studies with each of the components did not reveal a mutagenic potential. Therefore, no significant risk for human safety is expected with therapeutic doses of [Invented name].

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Hydroxyethylcellulose 6400-11900 mPa·s

Mannitol

Sodium citrate

Sodium hydroxide (for pH adjustment)

Water, purified

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

2 years

After the first opening of the bottle shelf life of this product is 90 days.

For storage conditions of the product after the first opening of the bottle, see section 6.4.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C.

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 90 days at 25±2°C.

From a microbiological point of view, once opened, the product may be stored for a maximum of 90 days below 25°C. Other in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of the user.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

The packaging consists of white LDPE bottle (5 ml) with multidose HDPE dropper applicator that prevents content back contamination thanks to a silicon valve system and filtering air return into the bottle and tamper-proof HDPE screw-cap and the carton box.

1 x 5 ml

3 x 5 ml

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

No special requirements.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

<[To be completed nationally]>

8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

<[To be completed nationally]>

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

<[To be completed nationally]>

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

<[To be completed nationally]>