

## **SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

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## **1. Name of the medicinal product**

Piriclor Tablets

## **2. Qualitative and quantitative composition**

Each tablet contains Chlorpheniramine maleate 4mg

Round, flat-faced, bevel edged, yellow coloured tablets scored on one side and plain on the other side. The score line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses.

P: Pharmacy

## **3. Pharmaceutical form**

Tablet. The tablet can be divided into equal doses.

## **4. Clinical particulars**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indications**

Piriclor tablets are indicated for symptomatic control of all allergic conditions responsive to antihistamines, including hay fever, vasomotor rhinitis, urticaria, angioneurotic oedema, food allergy, and drug and serum reactions, insect bites.

Also indicated for the symptomatic relief of itch associated with chickenpox.

### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

Oral Administration only

Do not exceed the stated dose or frequency of dosing

Minimum dosing interval: 4 hours

Do not use continuously for more than two weeks without consulting a doctor.

**Adults and children 12 years and over:** 1 tablet 4 to 6 hourly. Maximum daily dose: 6 tablets (24 mg) in any 24 hours

**Elderly:** The elderly are more likely to experience neurological anticholinergic effects. Consideration should be given to using a lower daily dose (e.g. a maximum of 12 mg in any 24 hours).

**Children aged 6 - 12 years:** ½ tablet 4 to 6 hourly. Maximum daily dose: 3 tablets (12mg) in any 24 hours

Not recommended for children under 6 years

### **Populations**

Patients with renal or hepatic impairment should seek doctor's advice prior to taking this medicine. (See Section 4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use).

### **4.3 Contraindications**

Piriclor tablets are contra-indicated in patients who are hypersensitive to antihistamines or to any of the tablet ingredients.

The anticholinergic properties of Chlorpheniramine are intensified by monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs). Piriclor Tablets is therefore contra-indicated in patients who have been treated with MAOIs within the last fourteen days.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

Chlorpheniramine, in common with other drugs having anticholinergic effects, should be used with caution in epilepsy; raised intra-ocular pressure including glaucoma; prostatic hypertrophy; severe hypertension or cardiovascular disease; bronchitis, bronchiectasis and asthma; hepatic impairment; renal impairment. Children and the elderly are more likely to experience the neurological anticholinergic effects and paradoxical excitation (e.g. increased energy, restlessness, nervousness). Avoid use in elderly patients with confusion.

The anticholinergic properties of Chlorpheniramine may cause drowsiness, dizziness, blurred vision and psychomotor impairment in some patients which may seriously affect ability to drive and use machinery.

Concurrent use with drugs which cause sedation such as anxiolytics and hypnotics may cause an increase in sedative effects, therefore medical advice should be sought before taking Chlorpheniramine concurrently with these medicines.

The effects of alcohol may be increased and therefore concurrent use should be avoided.

Should not be used with other antihistamine containing products, including antihistamine containing cough and cold medicines.

Keep out of sight and reach of children.

### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

Concurrent use of Chlorpheniramine and hypnotics or anxiolytics may cause an increase in sedative effects, concurrent use of alcohol may have a similar effect therefore medical advice should be sought before taking Chlorpheniramine concurrently with these medicines.

Chlorpheniramine inhibits phenytoin metabolism and can lead to phenytoin toxicity.

The anticholinergic effects of Chlorpheniramine are intensified by MAOIs (see Contra-indications).

### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

#### **Pregnancy**

There are no adequate data from the use of Chlorpheniramine maleate in pregnant women. The potential risk for humans is unknown. Use during the third trimester may result in reactions in the newborn or premature neonates. Not to be used during pregnancy unless considered essentially by a physician.

## Lactation

Chlorpheniramine maleate and other antihistamine may inhibit lactation and may be secreted in breast milk. Not to be used during lactation unless considered essential by a physician

### 4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

The anticholinergic properties of Chlorpheniramine may cause drowsiness, dizziness, blurred vision and psychomotor impairment, which can seriously hamper the patients' ability to drive and use machinery.

### 4.8 Undesirable effects

The following convention has been utilized for the classification of the frequency of adverse reactions: very common (>1/10), common (>1/100 to <1/10), uncommon (>1/1000 to <1/100), rare (>1/10,000 to <1/1000) and very rare (<1/10,000), not known (cannot be estimated from available data).

Adverse reactions identified during post-marketing use with Chlorpheniramine are listed below. As these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, the frequency of some reactions is unknown but likely to be rare or very rare:

System Organ Class	Adverse Reaction	Frequency
Nervous system disorders*	Sedation, somnolence	Very common
	Disturbance in attention, abnormal coordination, dizziness headache	Common
Eye disorders	Blurred Vision	Common
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea, dry mouth	Common
	Vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, dyspepsia	Unknown
Immune system disorders:	Allergic reaction, angioedema, anaphylactic reactions	Unknown
Metabolism and nutritional disorders	Anorexia	Unknown
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Haemolytic anaemia, blood dyscrasias	Unknown
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Muscle twitching, muscle weakness	Unknown
Psychiatric disorders	Confusion*, excitation*, irritability*, nightmares*, depression	Unknown
Renal and urinary disorders	Urinary retention	Unknown

Skin and subcutaneous disorders	Exfoliative dermatitis, rash, urticaria, photosensitivity	Unknown
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Thickening of bronchial secretions	Unknown
Vascular disorders	Hypotension	Unknown
Hepatobiliary disorders	Hepatitis, including jaundice	Unknown
Ear and labyrinth disorders	Tinnitus	Unknown
Cardiac disorders	Palpitations, tachycardia, arrhythmias	Unknown
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fatigue	Common
	Chest tightness	Unknown

\*Children and the elderly are more likely to experience the neurological anticholinergic effects and paradoxical excitation (e.g. increased energy, restlessness, nervousness).

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorization 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 <https://www.tmda.go.tz/pages/electronic-submission-of-adverse-drug-reactions>.

## **4.9 Overdose**

### **Symptoms and signs**

The estimated lethal dose of Chlorpheniramine is 25 to 50mg/kg body weight. Symptoms and signs include sedation, paradoxical excitation of the CNS, toxic psychosis, convulsions, apnoea, anticholinergic effects, dystonic reactions and cardiovascular collapse including arrhythmias.

### **Treatment**

Management should be as clinically indicated or as recommended by the national poisons centres where available.

Symptomatic and supportive measures should be provided with special attention to cardiac, respiratory, renal and hepatic functions and fluid and electrolyte balance. If overdose is by the oral route, treatment with activated charcoal should be considered provided there are no contraindications for use and the overdose has been taken recently (treatment is most effective if given within an hour of ingestion). Treat hypotension and arrhythmias vigorously. CNS convulsions may be treated with i.v. diazepam. Haemoperfusion may be used in severe cases.

## **5. Pharmacological properties**

### **5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties**

ATC Code R06AB02

Chlorpheniramine is a potent antihistamine (H<sub>1</sub>-antagonist).

Antihistamines diminish or abolish the actions of histamine in the body by competitive reversible blockade of histamine H<sub>1</sub>-receptor sites on tissues. Chlorpheniramine also has anticholinergic activity.

Antihistamines act to prevent the release of histamine, prostaglandins and leukotrienes and have been shown to prevent the migration of inflammatory mediators. The actions of Chlorpheniramine include inhibition of histamine on smooth muscle, capillary permeability and hence reduction of oedema and wheal in hypersensitivity reactions such as allergy and anaphylaxis.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Chlorpheniramine is well absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract, following oral administration. The effects develop within 30 minutes, are maximal within 1 to 2 hours and last 4 to 6 hours. The plasma half-life has been estimated to be 12 to 15 hours.

Chlorpheniramine is metabolised to the monodesmethyl and didesmethyl derivatives. About 22% of an oral dose is excreted unchanged in the urine.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

No additional data of relevance.

## **6. Pharmaceutical particulars**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

D.C.P

Maize Starch

Magnesium Stearate

Color Tartrazine

Talc

Purified Water

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

None reported.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store below 30°C. Protect from direct sunlight and moisture

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

PVC 188mm clear, Aluminium foil 185mm, (10x10's) Unit Boxes, Piriclor literatures (100x1000) Shippers

#### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

#### **7. Marketing authorization holder**

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#### **8. Marketing authorization number(s)**

PPB KENYA H2007/040

#### **9. Date of first authorization/renewal of the authorization**

28/03/2007

#### **10. Date of revision of the text**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2022