

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

GENTAMICIN EYE/EAR DROPS 0.3%W/V BP (ABGENTA)

1. Name of the Medicinal Product

Gentamicin eye/ear Drops

2. Qualitative and Quantitative Composition

Gentamicin sulphate equivalent to 30mg gentamicin base in 10ml of solution

3. Pharmaceutical Form

Ophthalmic/otic drops

4. Clinical Particulars

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

Treatment of infections of the external structures of the eye and its adnexa caused by susceptible bacteria. Such infections include conjunctivitis, keratitis, keratoconjunctivitis, corneal ulcers, blepharitis and blepharo-conjunctivitis, acute meibomianitis, episcleritis and dacryocystitis. It may be used for the prevention of ocular infection after: removal of a foreign body, burns or lacerations of the conjunctiva; damage from chemical or physical agents and after ocular surgery. Also indicated for the treatment of otitis externa.

4.2 Posology And Method Of Administration

Eye: Instill 1-2 drops into the affected eye every four hours as required.

Ears: The area should be cleansed and 2-4 drops instilled 3-4 times daily.

4.3 Contraindications

Should not be administered to patients with a known allergy to gentamicin and other aminoglycosides. Evidence exists that gentamicin may cause neuromuscular blockade and is therefore contra-indicated in myasthenia gravis and related conditions.

Perforated tympanic membrane

4.4 Special Warnings and Precautions for Use

Avoid prolonged use. Prolonged use may lead to skin sensitisation and the emergence of resistant organisms. Cross-sensitivity with other aminoglycoside antibiotics may occur.

In severe infections, topical use of gentamicin should be supplemented with appropriate systemic antibiotic treatment.

Gentamicin may cause ototoxicity (vestibular damage; irreversible partial or total deafness) when given systemically or when applied topically to open wounds or damaged skin. This effect

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is dose-related and is enhanced by renal and/or hepatic impairment and is more likely in the elderly.

Topical application of gentamicin into the middle ear also carries a theoretical risk of ototoxicity in susceptible patients.

Concurrent use with other potentially nephrotoxic or ototoxic drugs should be avoided unless considered essential by the physician.

Not for use with contact lenses.

4.5 Interaction with Other Medicinal Products and Other Forms of Interaction.

Potent diuretics such as ethacrynic acid and frusemide are believed to enhance any risk of ototoxicity whilst amphotericin B, cisplatin and cyclosporin and cephalosporins are potential enhancers of nephrotoxicity.

Concurrent use with other potentially nephrotoxic or ototoxic drugs should be avoided unless considered essential by the physician.

Neuromuscular blockade and respiratory paralysis have been reported in patients from the administration of aminoglycosides to patients who have received curare-type muscle relaxants during anaesthesia.

4.6 Pregnancy and Lactation

There are no proven cases of intrauterine damage caused by gentamicin. However, in common with most drugs known to cross the placenta, usage in pregnancy should only be considered in life-threatening situations where expected benefits outweigh possible risks. In the absence of gastrointestinal inflammation the amount of gentamicin ingested from the milk is unlikely to result in significant blood levels in breast-fed infants.

4.7 Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines

Patients should be advised that the use of gentamicin in the eye may cause transient blurring of vision. If affected, patients should not drive or operate machinery until vision has cleared.

4.8 Undesirable Effects

There are no modern clinical studies available that can be used to determine the frequency of undesirable effects. Therefore, all the undesirable effects listed are classed as “frequency unknown”.

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Eye Disorders:-

Local sensitivity; blurred vision, eye irritation, burning sensation, stinging sensation, itching (eye pruritus)

Ear & Labyrinth Disorders:-

Local sensitivity; ototoxicity; vestibular disorder; hearing loss

Skin & Subcutaneous tissue Disorders:-

burning sensation, stinging, itching (pruritus); dermatitis.

Renal & Urinary Disorders:-

Nephrotoxicity; acute renal failure

In the event of irritation, sensitivity or super-infection, treatment should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted.

4.9 Overdose

Haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis will aid the removal from blood but the former is probably more efficient. Calcium salts given intravenously have been used to counter the neuromuscular blockade caused by gentamicin.

5. Pharmacological Properties

5.1 Pharmacodynamic Properties

Gentamicin is a mixture of antibiotic substances produced by the growth of *micromonospora purpurea*. It is bactericidal with greater antibacterial activity than streptomycin, neomycin or kanamycin

Gentamicin exerts a number of effects on cells of susceptible bacteria. It affects the integrity of the plasma membrane and the metabolism of RNA, but its most important effect is inhibition of protein synthesis at the level of the 30s ribosomal subunit..

5.2 Pharmacokinetic Properties

Gentamicin is not readily absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract. Gentamicin is 70- 85% bound to plasma albumin following administration and is excreted 90% unchanged in urine. The half-life for its elimination in normal patients is 2 to 3 hours.

Effective plasma concentration is 4 - 8ug/ml

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The volume of distribution (VD) is 0.3 l/kg

The elimination rate constant is;

0.02 Hr⁻¹ for anuric patients

0.30 Hr⁻¹ normal.

6. Pharmaceutical Particulars

6.1 List Of Excipients

- Sodium metabisulphite BP
- Sodium dihydrogen phosphate BP
- Disodium hydrogen phosphate dehydrate BP
- Disodium edetate BP
- Sodium chloride BP
- Benzalkonium chloride BP
- Water for Injections B.P.

6.2 Incompatibilities

None

6.3 Shelf Life

Un opened: 36 months

Opened: 28days

6.4 Special Precautions for Storage

Do not store above 30°C and do not freeze.

6.5 Nature and Contents of Container

10ml and 5ml sealed transparent plastic ampoules, packed in baby cartons.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Use as directed by the physician.

Keep out of reach of children.

7. Marketing Authorization Holder

Abacus Parenteral Drugs Ltd. Uganda

Block 191, Plot no.114, Kinga Mukono

P.O.Box 31376, Kampala, Uganda.

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8. Marketing Authorization Number(s)

7992/06/13

9. Date of first authorisation/renewal of the authorisation

May 2013

10. Date of revision of the text

15/04/19