

MASACOL™

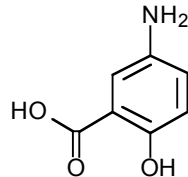
[MESALAZINE]

400mg, 800mg Tablets

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DESCRIPTION

MASACOL (Mesalazine) is the 5-amino derivative of salicylic acid and is considered to be the active moiety of sulfasalazine. Chemically, mesalazine is 5-amino-2-hydroxybenzoic acid. The molecular formula of mesalazine is $C_7H_7NO_3$ and the structural formula is:



Mesalazine

QUALITATIVE & QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

MASACOL (Mesalazine) Tablets are available for oral administration as:

1. MASACOL Tablets 400mg
Each delayed-release tablet contains:
Mesalazine USP...400mg
2. MASACOL Tablets 800mg
Each delayed-release tablet contains:
Mesalazine USP...800mg

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action

Mesalazine has an anti-inflammatory effect through a mechanism that has not yet been fully clarified. Mesalazine inhibits migration of polymorph nuclear leukocytes and lipoxygenase of cells at concentrations reached in the large intestine during treatment. The production of pro-inflammatory leukotrienes (LTB₄ and 5-HETE) in macrophages of the intestinal wall is then inhibited. Mesalazine has been shown to activate PPAR- γ receptors which counteract nuclear activation of intestinal inflammatory responses.

Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

Mesalazine tablets have been designed to minimise absorption of mesalazine in the digestive tract. Absorption by the oral route is approximately 24%. Consequently, 76% of the administered dose remains in the gut lumen and the mucosal tissue.

Metabolism

Mesalazine is metabolised both by the intestinal mucosa and the liver to the inactive metabolite N-acetyl mesalazine.

Excretion

The elimination of mesalazine is essentially fecal and

urinary in the form of mesalazine and its N-acetyl metabolite. The plasma half-life of mesalazine is reported to be about 40 minutes and it is 40% – 50% bound to plasma proteins. The acetylated metabolite has a plasma half-life of 70 minutes and is about 80% bound to plasma proteins.

THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS

MASACOL (Mesalazine) Tablets are indicated for the treatment of:

- Mild to moderate acute exacerbations of ulcerative colitis.
- Maintenance of remission of ulcerative colitis.
- Maintenance of remission of crohn's ileo-colitis.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

MASACOL TABLETS 400mg

Ulcerative Colitis

Acute Attack:

6 tablets in divided doses.

Maintenance of Remission:

3 to 6 tablets in divided doses.

MASACOL TABLETS 800mg

Ulcerative Colitis

Mild Acute Exacerbations:

3 tablets daily in divided doses.

Moderate Acute Exacerbations:

6 tablets daily in divided doses.

Maintenance of Remission:

3 tablets daily in divided doses.

Crohn's Disease

Maintenance of Remission:

3 tablets in divided doses.

MASACOL (Mesalazine) tablets should be swallowed whole with a glass of water one hour before food intake. They must not be chewed, crushed or broken before swallowing. If one or more doses have been missed, the next dose is to be taken as usual.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been reported during therapy with mesalazine:

Common

Headache, diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, rash, drug fever, dizziness, arthralgia and dyspepsia

Rare

Myocarditis, pericarditis, anemia, tinnitus, paresthesia, flatulence, pruritus, urticaria, myalgia, interstitial nephritis, myocarditis, pancreatitis, abnormal renal

function, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, agranulocytosis and neutropenia.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Mesalazine is contraindicated in:

- Patients with a history of sensitivity to salicylates.
- Patients with severe renal insufficiency.
- Patients with severe hepatic insufficiency.
- Children under 2 years of age.
- Concomitant use of lactulose or similar preparations should be avoided.

PRECAUTION

Renal Impairment

Patients on oral forms of mesalazine should have renal function monitored with serum creatinine levels measured prior to treatment start, every three months for the first year, then 6 monthly for the next 4 years and annually after that. Treatment with mesalazine should be discontinued if renal function deteriorates.

Blood Dyscrasias

Following mesalazine treatment, serious blood dyscrasias have been reported rarely. If the patient develops unexplained bleeding, hematoma bruising, purpura, anemia, persistent fever or sore throat, hematological investigations should be performed. If there is suspicion of blood dyscrasia, treatment should be terminated.

Cardiac Hypersensitivity Reactions

Caution should be used in patients with previous myopericarditis of allergic background regardless of its origin.

Gastric and Duodenal Ulcers

In case of existing gastric or duodenal ulcers treatment should begin with caution based on theoretical grounds.

Pregnancy and Lactation

Mesalazine crosses the placenta and is excreted in breast milk. Mesalazine should be used during pregnancy only when clearly indicated. Caution should be exercised when using high doses of mesalazine. Sporadically acute diarrhea has been reported in breast fed infants.

Geriatrics Use

Mesalazine should also be used with caution in treatment of elderly patients. The possibility of renal insufficiency should also be established prior to treatment. If treatment is necessary, mesalazine should be used with care.

Drug Interactions

Interactions may occur during concomitant administration of mesalazine and the following drugs:

- Mesalazine decreases the absorption of digoxin.
- Mesalazine may increase the immunosuppressive effects of azathioprine and 6-mercaptopurine by inhibition of thiopurine methyltransferase.
- Mesalazine reduces the diuretic effect of furosemide and spironolactone.
- Mesalazine may inhibit the action of warfarin.
- Mesalazine may increase the gastrointestinal side effects of glucocorticoids.
- Use of mesalazine and other known nephrotoxic

agents, such as NSAIDs, methotrexate and azathioprine, may increase the risk of renal reactions.

OVERDOSAGE

There is no specific antidote to mesalazine but in many cases of overdose, gastric lavage, intravenous transfusion of electrolytes promote diuresis and standard supportive measures are recommended.

STORAGE

Store at 25°C (Excursions permitted between 15°C-30°C).

Protect from sunlight and moisture.

The expiration date refers to the product correctly stored at the required conditions.

HOW SUPPLIED

MASACOL (Mesalazine) Tablets 400mg are available in blister pack of 30's.

MASACOL (Mesalazine) Tablets 800mg are available in blister pack of 30's.

Keep out of reach of children.

To be sold on prescription of a registered medical practitioner only.

Please read the contents carefully before use.
This package insert is continually updated from time to time.

Manufactured by:



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(PVT) LIMITED | 29-30/27,
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