CLEAN COPY OF THE PROPOSED PACKAGE INSERT

SCHEDULING STATUS:

S3

PROPRIETARY NAME (and dosage form):

ZETOP TABLETS

COMPOSITION:

Each film coated tablet contains 10 mg cetirizine dihydrochloride.

PHARMACOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION:

A5. 7.1 Antihistaminics

PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION:

ZETOP is a metabolite of hydroxyzine. It is a second-generation reversible, competitive inhibitor of histamine at the histamine-1 (H1) receptor. Cetirizine competes with histamine for the H1-receptor site. Cetirizine prevents, but does not reverse, pharmacological responses mediated by histamine, at the H1-receptor.

Pharmacokinetics

Cetirizine is well absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and peak plasma concentrations are reached within 1 hour after oral administration. Pharmacokinetics are linear, with plasma concentrations increasing proportionately with increasing doses. The terminal half-life in adults is approximately 10 hours; in children aged 6 to 12 years, 6 hours; in children aged 2 to 6 years, 5 hours. Cetirizine is eliminated faster in children, and slower in patients with hepatic or renal impairment (creatinine clearance< 40 ml/min), with a resultant increase in half-life and decrease in clearance. Cetirizine does not undergo extensive first-pass metabolism. The cumulative urinary excretion represents about two thirds of the dose given in both adults and

children.

INDICATIONS:

ZETOP is indicated for symptomatic relief of allergic conditions such as allergic rhinitis, and allergic skin conditions such as urticaria.

CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

Hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients.

Hypersensitivity to hydroxyzine.

Lactating women, since the active ingredient is excreted in breast milk.

Pregnancy, as safety has not been established.

Children under the age of two years, as safety and efficacy have not been demonstrated.

WARNINGS:

Porphyria: Use with caution.

This medicine lacks significant sedative effects.

INTERACTIONS:

Concomitant use of alcohol and other sedating agents should be avoided.

There is no evidence of an interaction between cetirizine and cimetidine, ketoconazole, erythromycin, azithromycin, diazepam, glipizide, and pseudoephedrine.

PREGNANCY AND LACTATION:

Safety in pregnancy and lactation has not been established (see **CONTRA-INDICATIONS**).

DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

Adults or children 12 years of age or older: one 10 mg tablet once daily.

Children 6 to 12 years old: one 10 mg tablet once daily or 5 mg (half a tablet) twice daily.

No dose adjustment is necessary in healthy elderly patients with normal renal function.

Dosage in Renal impairment:

In patients with renal impairment, where the creatinine clearance is less than 40 ml/min, the recommended daily dose of cetirizine should be halved.

Dosage in Hepatic impairment:

In moderate to severe hepatic impairment half the recommended daily dose should be used.

SIDE EFFECTS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS:

Side effects·

Gastrointestinal system:

Frequent: Dry mouth

Less frequent: Nausea, gastrointestinal discomfort, increased appetite.

Central nervous system:

Less frequent: Drowsiness

The following have been reported but the frequency is unknown: Fatigue, dizziness, headache anxiety, nervousness, malaise and asthenia.

Hypersensitivity reactions:

The following have been reported but the frequency is unknown:

Urticaria, skin rash, pruritus and angioedema.

Special precautions:

ZETOP lacks significant sedative effects. Patients should be warned, however, that a small number of individuals may experience sedation. It is therefore advisable to determine individual response before driving or performing complicated tasks (see **WARNINGS**). This

effect may be compounded by simultaneous intake of alcohol or other central nervous system depressants (see **INTERACTIONS**).

KNOWN SYMPTOMS OF OVERDOSAGEAND PARTICULARS OF ITS TREATMENT:

Drowsiness is an expected symptom of overdosage. Overdosage in children may produce agitation, somnolence, pruritus, rash, urinary retention, fatigue, tremor, and tachycardia. In the case of massive overdosage, gastric lavage should be performed together with the usual supportive measures. There is no specific antidote. Cetirizine is not effectively removed by dialysis.

FURTHER TREATMENT IS SYMPTOMATIC AND SUPPORTIVE.

IDENTIFICATION:

ZETOP 10 mg film coated tablets: White, round, biconvex film coated tablets.

PRESENTATION:

ZETOP 10 mg film coated tablets are available in aluminium foil strips of 10 tablets per strip. Each carton contains 30 tablets.

STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS:

Store in a cool dry place below 25 °C.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

REGISTRATION NUMBER:

32/5.7.1/0374

NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE HOLDER OF THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION:

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