

CORE BROMHEXINE PRODUCT INFORMATION

Product description

This section should include:

- a description of the dosage form;
- a list of the active ingredients expressed quantitatively; and
- a list of the excipients expressed qualitatively

Pharmacology

Pharmacokinetics:

Bromhexine hydrochloride is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and undergoes extensive first-pass metabolism in the liver. Its oral bioavailability is stated to be only about 20%. It is widely distributed to body tissues and is highly bound to plasma proteins. About 85 to 90% of a dose is excreted in the urine mainly as metabolites. It has a terminal elimination half-life of up to about 12 hours. Bromhexine crosses the blood brain barrier and small amounts cross the placenta.

Pharmacodynamics/Mechanism of action:

Bromhexine is an oral mucolytic agent with a low level of associated toxicity. Bromhexine acts on the mucus at the formative stages in the glands, within the mucus-secreting cells. Bromhexine disrupts the structure of acid mucopolysaccharide fibres in mucoid sputum and produces a less viscous mucus, which is easier to expectorate.

Indications

This section must contain the indications of the product as specified in the ARTG. If the indications are not specified in the ARTG (e.g. for a non-validated grandfathered product), the indications must be as specified on the product label.

Contraindications

Bromhexine is contraindicated for use in patients with known hypersensitivity or idiosyncratic reaction to bromhexine hydrochloride (or any of the other ingredients in the product).

Precautions

Since mucolytics may disrupt the gastric mucosal barrier, bromhexine should be used with caution in patients with a history of gastric ulceration.

Clearance of bromhexine or its metabolites may be reduced in patients with severe hepatic or renal impairment.

Use in pregnancy

Category A: Bromhexine has been taken by a large number of pregnant women and women of child bearing age without any proven increase in the frequency of malformations or other direct or indirect harmful effects on the foetus having been observed.

Lactation

It is not known whether bromhexine is excreted in breast milk or whether it has a harmful effect on the breastfeeding infant. Therefore it is not recommended for breastfeeding mothers unless the potential benefits to the patient are weighed against the possible risk to the infant.

Interaction with other medicines

There are no known significant interactions with other medicines.

Adverse reactions

Gastrointestinal side effects may occur occasionally with bromhexine and a transient rise in serum aminotransferase values has been reported. Other reported adverse effects include headache, vertigo (dizziness), sweating and allergic reactions.

Dosage

This section must contain the current dosage instructions of the registered product, as specified on the product label.

Overdosage

In case of overdose, immediately contact the Poisons Information Centre (in Australia, call 13 11 26; in New Zealand call 0800 764 766) for advice.

Presentation

Information should be included on:

- *the presentation, including dosage form and pack sizes;*
- *identifying details (eg. colour, shape, identifying markings);*
- *poisons schedule details; and*
- *name and address of the sponsor.*

Include the date of approval as the date on which the notification application is lodged