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Biperiden

Scored tablets

Category

Anticholinergic agent

Indications

As an adjunct in the therapy of all forms of Parkinsonism (idiopathic, arteriosclerotic).
Control of extrapyramidal disorders secondary to neuroleptic drug therapy (e.g., phenothiazines).

Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics

Biperiden is a weak peripheral anticholinergic agent. It has, therefore, some antisecretory, antispasmodic and mydriatic effects. In addition, Biperiden possesses nicotinolytic activity. Parkinsonism is thought to result from an imbalance between the excitatory (cholinergic) and inhibitory (dopaminergic) systems in the corpus striatum. The mechanism of action of centrally active anticholinergic drugs such as Biperiden is considered to relate to competitive antagonism of acetylcholine at cholinergic receptors in the corpus striatum, which then restores the balance. The serum concentration at 1 to 1.5 hours following a single, 4mg oral dose was 4-5 ng/mL. Plasma levels (0.1-0.2ng/mL) could be determined up to 48 hours after dosing.

Pregnancy/Breast-feeding

FDA pregnancy category C. Biperiden should only be used during pregnancy or lactation if considered essential by the doctor.

Contraindications:

- Hypersensitivity to Biperiden
- Narrow angle glaucoma
- Bowel obstruction
- Megacolon

Drug interactions and/or related problems

Mental confusion, euphoria, agitation and disturbed behavior have been reported in susceptible patients. Also, the central anticholinergic syndrome can occur as an adverse reaction to properly prescribed anticholinergic medication, although it is more frequently due to overdose. It may also result from concomitant administration of an anticholinergic agent and a drug that has secondary anticholinergic actions. Caution should be observed in patients with prostatism, epilepsy or cardiac arrhythmia. Occasionally, drowsiness may occur, and patients who drive a car or operate any other potentially dangerous machinery should be warned of this possibility.

As with other drugs action on the central nervous system, the consumption of alcohol should be avoided during Biperiden Hydrochloride therapy.

Side/Adverse Effects

Atropine-like side effects such as dry mouth; blurred vision; drowsiness; euphoria or disorientation; urinary retention; postural hypotension; constipation; agitation; disturbed behavior may be seen. A case urinary of generalized choreic movement has been reported in a Parkinson's disease patient when biperiden was added to carbidopa/levodopa. A reduction in rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, characterized by increased REM latency and decreased percentage of REM sleep, has been reported.

Overdose

On the management of overdose or unintentional ingestion, contact a Poison Control Center, but as general information, the signs of overdose and its treatment has been summarized in the following:

Signs and Symptoms:

Overdosage produces typical central symptoms of atropine intoxication including dilated and sluggish pupils; warm, dry skin; facial flushing; decreased secretions of the mouth, pharynx, nose, and bronchi; foul-smelling breath; elevated temperature, tachycardia, cardiac arrhythmias, decreased bowel sounds, and urinary retention.

Neuropsychiatric signs, hallucinations, illusions, confusion, incoherence, agitation, hyperactivity, ataxia, loss of memory, paranoia, combativeness, and seizures may be present.

Treatment:

Gastric lavage or other measures to limit absorption should be instituted. A small dose of diazepam or a short acting barbiturate may be administered if CNS excitation is observed. Respiratory support, artificial respiration or vasopressor agents may be necessary.

Hyperpyrexia must be reversed, fluid volume replaced and acid-base balance maintained. Urinary catheterization may be necessary.

Routine use of physostigmine for overdose is controversial.

Dosing

Drug-induced Extrapyramidal Symptoms: One tablet one to three times daily.

Parkinson's disease: The usual beginning dose is one tablet three or four times daily. The dosage should be individualized with the dose titrated upward to a maximum of 8 tablets (16 mg) per 24 hours.

How supplied

2 mg Scored tablets; 10 blisters of 10's in a folding box with the leaflet.

Storage

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Store below 30°C, protect from direct sunlight and moisture.



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