Alphin®DS

Albendazole
Chewable tablet

Description

Alphin® DS (Albendazole) is a broad spectrum anthelmintic available as chewable tablets, each containing 400 mg of Albendazole USP. It is a very potent benzimidazole carbamate anthelmintic used in the treatment of various intestinal worm infestations and hydatid disease.

Indications

Alphin® DS (Albendazole) is indicated in

- Ascariasis, Trichuriasis, Strongyloidiasis and Hookworm infestations
- Enterobiasis, Capillariasis, Cysticercosis and Cutaneous larva migrans
- Hydatid disease
- Surgery as an adjunct therapy (either pre-or post-operatively)

Dosage and Administration

The usual dose for adults and children aged 2 years or over with ascariasis (roundworm), hookworm infestations, trichuriasis (whipworm) and cutaneous larva migrans is 400 mg as a single dose. In strongyloidiasis, 400 mg is given daily for 3 consecutive days. This may be repeated after 3 weeks if necessary. In enterobiasis (pinworm, threadworm), children aged 2 years or more have been given a single dose of 100 mg repeated after 7 days; the adult dose is 400 mg repeated after 7 days. In hydatid disease, the usual dose is 400 mg twice daily for adults. This is mostly given for 28-day cycles with a 2-week interval between cycles. The number of cycles ranges from 1 to 12, though 3 cycles may be sufficient for most cysts.

Side Effects

Gastrointestinal disturbances, headache and dizziness have been reported during treatment. These symptoms are usually mild and resolve without treatment. Rash, fever and rarely alopecia may occur during treatment.

Contraindications

Albendazole is absolutely contraindicated during pregnancy.

Precautions

Elevations in hepatic enzyme levels and reversible reduction in total white cell count have occasionally been reported. These changes appear to be more common during treatment of *E. multilocularis.*

Drug Interactions

Albendazole has been shown to induce liver enzymes of the cytochrome P-450 system responsible for its own metabolism. There is, therefore, a theoretical risk of interaction with theophylline, anticonvulsants, anticoagulants, oral contraceptives and oral hypoglycaemics. Care should therefore be exercised during the introduction of Albendazole in patients receiving the above groups of compounds.

Overdosage

There is no experience of overdosage. Gastric lavage may be performed in the first two to three hours after ingestion. No specific antidote is known. However, symptomatic treatment and general supportive measures should be undertaken as required.

Commercial Pack

Alphin® DS tablet: Box containing 50 chewable tablets in 50X1's blister strips. Each chewable tablet contains Albendazole USP 400 mg.

BEXIMCO PHARMA

Manufactured by

BEXIMCO PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.

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