Ezetimibe
10 mg Tablet

Description

Ezeta® is a preparation of Ezetimibe INN. Ezetimibe is a drug that lowers plasma cholesterol levels. It acts by decreasing cholesterol absorption in the small intestine. It may be used alone, when other cholesterol-lowering medications are not tolerated, or together with statins when statins alone do not control cholesterol.

Mode of Action

Ezetimibe is in a class of lipid-lowering compounds that selectively inhibit the intestinal absorption of cholesterol and related plant sterols. The molecular target of ezetimibe is the sterol transporter, Niemann-Pick C1-Like 1 (NPC1L1), which is responsible for the intestinal uptake of cholesterol and phytosterols.

Ezetimibe localizes at the brush border of the small intestine and inhibits the absorption of cholesterol, leading to a decrease in the delivery of intestinal cholesterol to the liver; statins reduce cholesterol synthesis in the liver and together these distinct mechanisms provide complementary cholesterol reduction. In a 2-week clinical study in 18 hypercholesterolemic patients, Ezetimibe inhibited intestinal cholesterol absorption by 54 %, compared with placebo.

Indications

Primary Hypercholesterolemia

Ezeta® co-administered with statin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to diet for use in patients with primary (heterozygous familial and non-familial) hypercholesterolemia who are not appropriately controlled with a statin alone.

Ezeta® monotherapy is indicated as adjunctive therapy to diet for use in patients with primary (heterozygous familial and non-familial) hypercholesterolemia in whom a statin is considered inappropriate or is not tolerated.

Prevention of Cardiovascular Events

Ezeta® is indicated to reduce the risk of cardiovascular events in patients with coronary heart disease (CHD) and a history of acute coronary syndrome (ACS) when added to ongoing statin therapy or initiated concomitantly with a statin.

Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (HoFH)

Ezeta® co-administered with a statin, is indicated as adjunctive therapy to diet for use in patients with HoFH. Patients may also receive adjunctive treatments (e.g., LDL apheresis).

Homozygous Sitosterolemia (Phytosterolemia)

Ezeta® is indicated as adjunctive therapy to diet for use in patients with homozygous familial sitosterolemia.

Dosage and Administration

The patient should be on an appropriate lipid lowering diet and should continue on this diet during treatment with Ezeta®.

Adult Dose

The recommended dose is Ezeta® 10 mg tablet once daily. Ezeta® can be administered at any time of the day, with or without food.

Use in the elderly

No dosage adjustment is required for elderly patients.

Pediatric Use

10 to 17 years: No dosage adjustment is required. The clinical experience in pediatric and adolescent patients is however limited. When Ezetimibe is administered with statin, the dosage instructions for statin, in adolescents should be consulted.

Children < 10 years: Ezeta® is not recommended for use in children below age 10 due to insufficient data on safety and efficacy.

Use in hepatic impairment

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with mild hepatic insufficiency (Child Pugh score 5 to 6). Treatment with Ezetimibe is not recommended in patients with moderate (Child Pugh score 7 to 9) or severe (Child Pugh score>9) liver dysfunction.

Use in renal impairment

No dosage adjustment is required for renally impaired patients.

Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to any component of this medication. Therapy with Ezetimibe co-administered with a statin is contraindicated during pregnancy and lactation. The combination of Ezetimibe with a statin is contraindicated in patients with active liver disease or unexplained persistent elevations in serum transaminases.

Special Warnings and Precautions

Concurrent administration of Ezeta® with a specific HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor should be in accordance with the product labeling for that HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.

Drug Interaction

Fibrates may increase cholesterol excretion into the bile, leading to cholelithiasis. In a preclinical study in animals, Ezetimibe increased cholesterol in the gallbladder bile. Coadministration of Ezetimibe with fibrates is not therefore recommended until use in patients is studied.

Fertility, Pregnancy and Lactation

Pregnancy

Ezeta® should be given to pregnant women only if clearly necessary. No clinical data are available on the use of Ezetimibe during pregnancy. Animal studies on the use of ezetimibe in monotherapy have shown no evidence of direct or indirect harmful effects on pregnancy, embryofoetal development, birth or postnatal development.

Breast feeding

Ezeta® should not be used during lactation. Studies on rats have shown that ezetimibe is secreted into breast milk. It is not known if ezetimibe is secreted into human breast milk.

Fertility

No clinical data are available. No effects on fertility were observed in non-clinical studies.

Adverse Effects

In clinical studies of up to 112 weeks duration, ezetimibe 10 mg daily was administered alone in 2,396 patients, or with a statin in 11,308 patients or with fenofibrate in 185 patients. Adverse reactions were usually mild and transient. The overall incidence of side effects was similar between ezetimibe and placebo. Similarly, the discontinuation rate due to adverse experiences was comparable between ezetimibe and placebo.

The following adverse reactions were observed in patients treated with ezetimibe:

Common or very common

Fatigue, gastro-intestinal disturbances, headache, myalgia.

Rare

Anaphylaxis, angioedema, arthralgia, hepatitis, hypersensitivity reactions, rash.

Very rare

Cholecystitis, cholelithiasis, myopathy, pancreatitis, raised creatine kinase, rhabdomyolysis, thrombocytopenia.

Overdose

In clinical studies, administration of ezetimibe, 50 mg/day to 15 healthy subjects for up to 14 days, or 40 mg/day to 18 patients with primary hypercholesterolaemia for up to 56 days, was generally well tolerated. In animals, no toxicity was observed after single oral doses of 5000 mg/kg of ezetimibe in rats and mice and 3000 mg/kg in dogs.

A few cases of overdosage with Ezetimibe have been reported; most have not been associated with adverse experiences. Reported adverse experiences have not been serious. In the event of an overdose, symptomatic and supportive measures should be employed.

Pharmaceutical Precautions

To be dispensed only by or on the prescription of registered physician. Keep out of the reach of children. Store below 30°C. Keep in a cool & dry place. in order to protect from light and moisture.

Commercial Pack

Ezeta® 10 tablet : Box containing 20 tablets in 2 x 10's blister strips. Each tablet contains Ezetimibe INN 10 mg.

BEXIMCO PHARMA

Manufactured by

BEXIMCO PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.

TONGI, BANGLADESH