

# Viscoid®

## Sodium Alginate & Potassium Bicarbonate Suspension and Tablet

### Description

Viscoid® is the combination of Sodium Alginate & Potassium Bicarbonate.

On ingestion, Viscoid® reacts with gastric acid to rapidly form a raft of alginic acid gel having a near-neutral pH which floats on the stomach contents effectively impeding gastro-esophageal reflux for up to 4 hours, and protecting the esophagus from acid, pepsin and bile.

In the case of reflux esophagitis, it not only relieves the symptoms, but also protects the inflamed food pipe from the acid and allows it to heal.

### Mode of Action

Sodium Alginate is a naturally occurring substance. It reacts with the acid in the stomach to form a gel. Potassium Bicarbonate also reacts with the acid in the stomach to form bubbles of carbon dioxide. These bubbles are trapped by the gel formed by Sodium Alginate and they allow the gel to float like a raft on top of the stomach contents. The raft prevents acid in the stomach from flowing back into the food pipe. This relieves the symptoms of reflux such as heartburn.

The mode of action of Viscoid® is physical and does not depend on absorption into the systemic circulation. The raft lasts for up to 4 hours on top of the stomach contents and is then broken down in the digestive system and excreted in the feces.

### Indications

Treatment of symptoms of gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD) such as acid regurgitation, heartburn and indigestion (related to reflux), for example, following meals or during pregnancy or in patients with symptoms related to reflux esophagitis.

### Recommended Dosage

#### **ADULT and CHILD over 12 years:**

1-2 teaspoonfuls or 1-2 tablets orally 3-4 times daily including after meals and 30 minutes before bedtime.

#### **CHILD 2–12 years:**

1/2-1 teaspoonful or 1/2-1 tablet orally 3-4 times daily including after meals and 30 minutes before bedtime (under medical advice only).

Tablet should be thoroughly chewed.

#### **Elderly:**

No dose modifications necessary for this age group.

#### **Hepatic Impairment:**

No dose modifications necessary.

**Renal Insufficiency:** Caution if highly restricted salt diet is necessary.

### Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to any of the the active substances or excipients, including the esters of hydroxybenzoates.

### Special Warnings and Precautions

Each 10 ml (two teaspoonfuls) or two-tablet dose has a sodium content of 106 mg (4.6 mmol) and a potassium content of 78mg (2.0 mmol). This should be taken into account when a highly restricted salt diet is recommended, e.g. in some cases of congestive cardiac failure and renal impairment or when taking drugs which can increase plasma potassium levels.

Each 10 ml or two-tablet dose contains 200 mg (2.0 mmol) of calcium carbonate. Care needs to be taken in treating patients with hypercalcemia, nephrocalcinosis and recurrent calcium containing renal calculi.

There is a possibility of reduced efficacy in patients with very low levels of gastric acid.

If symptoms do not improve after seven days, the clinical situation should be reviewed.

### Drug Interactions

Not known.

### Use during Pregnancy and Lactation

#### **Pregnancy:**

Viscoid® may be used during pregnancy.

#### **Breast feeding:**

No known effect on breast fed infants. Viscoid® can be used during breast feeding.

#### **Fertility:**

No known effect on human fertility.

### Side Effects

Very rarely (<1/10,000) patients sensitive to the ingredients may develop allergic manifestations such as urticaria or bronchospasm, anaphylactic or anaphylactoid reactions.

### Overdose

In the event of over dosage, symptomatic treatment should be given. The patient may notice abdominal distension.

### Pharmaceutical Precautions

Keep out of the reach of children. Keep in a cool & dry place. Protect from light. DO NOT REFRIGERATE.

### Commercial Pack

**Viscoid® Suspension:** 200 ml suspension in glass bottle. Each 5 ml contains Sodium Alginate BP 500 mg & Potassium Bicarbonate BP 100 mg.

**Viscoid® Tablet:** Box containing 100 tablets in 10×10's blister strips. Each chewable tablet contains Sodium Alginate BP 500 mg & Potassium Bicarbonate BP 100 mg.



Manufactured by

**BEXIMCO PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.**

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