1.3.1.1 PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION FOR MEDICINES FOR HUMAN USE

SCHEDULING STATUS

S3

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINE

XYCAM-20 mg capsules

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each capsule of XYCAM-20 contains 20 mg piroxicam.

Contains sugar: Lactose monohydrate 264,70 mg

For full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Capsules

XYCAM-20 is a white to slight yellow powder encapsulated within a size “2” hard gelatin capsule with opaque brown cap and body printed “XYCAM 20” on the body with white ink.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1. Therapeutic indications

XYCAM-20 is indicated for a variety of conditions requiring anti-inflammatory and/or analgesic activity such as:

- Rheumatoid arthritis,
- osteo-arthritis (arthrosis, degenerative joint disease),
- ankylosing spondylitis,
- acute musculoskeletal disorders,
- acute gout.

4.2. Posology and method of administration

Posology

Adults

Use the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible duration of treatment.

Rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis:

The usual dose is 20 mg daily in a single dose.

Long term administration of doses higher than 30 mg carries an increased risk of gastrointestinal side effects (see section 4.8).

Acute musculoskeletal disorders:

An initial dose of 40 mg daily may be given for the first two days in single or divided doses. For the remainder of the 7 to 14 day treatment period, the dose should be reduced to 20 mg daily.

Acute gout:

The usual dose is 40 mg daily for 5 to 7 days.

XYCAM-20 is not indicated for the long-term management of gout.

Paediatric population

Not for use in children (see section 4.3).

Method of administration

For oral administration.

XYCAM-20 should preferably be taken after meals or with food to reduce gastrointestinal irritation. XYCAM-20 should be taken with a full glass (240 ml) of water

and the patient should remain in an upright position for 15 to 30 minutes after administration.

4.3. Contraindications

XYCAM-20 is contraindicated in:

- Patients with hypersensitivity to piroxicam or to any excipients in XYCAM-20 (see section 6.1).
- Patients with previous skin reaction (regardless of severity) to XYCAM-20 or other NSAIDs.
- Patients with hepatic dysfunction.
- Children.
- Patients in whom aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines induce the symptoms of asthma, nasal polyps, angioedema, rhinitis or urticaria. The potential exists for cross sensitivity to aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines.
- Concomitant use with other NSAIDs, including COX-2 selective NSAIDs and acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).
- Concomitant use with anticoagulants.
- Patients with a history of gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration or bleeding (PUBs) related to previous NSAIDs, including XYCAM-20.
- Patients with active or history of recurrent ulcer/haemorrhage/perforations.
- Patients with porphyria.
- Patients with heart failure.

- Pregnancy and lactation. The use of XYCAM-20 around 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy may cause a rare but serious foetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. (see Section

4.4 and 4.6).

- Patients with a history of gastrointestinal disorders that predispose to bleeding disorders such as ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, gastrointestinal cancers or diverticulitis.
- Patients with a history of previous serious allergic medicine reaction of any type, especially cutaneous reactions such as erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnsons syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis.
- During the last trimester of pregnancy

4.4. Special warnings and precautions for use

Undesirable effects may be minimised by using the minimum effective dose for the shortest duration necessary to control symptoms (see section 4.2, and gastrointestinal (GI) and cardiovascular (CV) risks below).

The clinical benefit and tolerability should be re-evaluated periodically and treatment should be immediately discontinued at the first appearance of cutaneous reactions or relevant gastrointestinal events.

Gastrointestinal effects, risk of gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration, bleeding (PUBs)

XYCAM-20 can cause serious gastrointestinal events including perforation, ulceration and bleeding (PUBs) of the stomach, small intestine or large intestine, which can be fatal. These serious adverse events can occur at any time, with or without warning symptoms, in patients treated with XYCAM-20.

XYCAM-20 exposures of both short and long duration have an increased risk of serious gastrointestinal events. XYCAM-20 may be associated with a high risk of serious gastrointestinal toxicity, relative to other NSAIDs.

Patients with significant risk factors for serious gastrointestinal events should be treated with XYCAM-20 only after careful consideration (see section 4.3).

The possible need for combination therapy with gastro-protective agents (e.g.

misoprostol or proton pump inhibitors) should be carefully considered (see section 4.2). Administration of doses of greater than 20 mg per day carries an increased risk of gastrointestinal side effects.

The concomitant use of XYCAM-20 with NSAIDs including cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors should be avoided (see section 4.5).

Serious GI Complications: Identification of at-risk subjects

The elderly have an increased frequency of adverse reactions to XYCAM-20, especially gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration and bleeding (PUBs) which may be fatal. Age over 70 years is associated with high risk of complications. The administration to patients over 80 years should be avoided.

The risk of gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration and bleeding (PUBs) is higher with increasing doses of XYCAM-20, in patients with a history of ulcers and the elderly.

Patients taking concomitant oral corticosteroids, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) or anti-platelet agents such as low-dose acetylsalicylic acid as well as those ingesting excessive amounts of alcohol are at increased risk of serious gastrointestinal complications (see below and section 4.5). As with other NSAIDs, the use of XYCAM-20 in combination with protective agents (e.g. misoprostol or proton pump inhibitors) must be considered for these at-risk patients.

When gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration and bleeding (PUBs) occurs in patients receiving XYCAM-20, treatment with XYCAM-20 should be stopped.

XYCAM-20 should be given with caution to patients with a history of gastrointestinal disease (e.g. ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, hiatus hernia, gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, angiodysplasia) as the condition may be exacerbated.

Cardiovascular and cerebrovascular effects

XYCAM-20 should be used with caution in patients with cardiovascular disorders where oedema may worsen the condition.

Caution is required in patients with a history of hypertension and/or heart failure as fluid

retention and oedema have been reported in association with XYCAM-20 therapy. In view of the XYCAM-20's inherent potential to cause fluid retention, heart failure may be precipitated in some compromised patients.

Patients with uncontrolled hypertension, congestive heart failure, established ischaemic heart disease, peripheral arterial disease and/or cerebrovascular disease should only be treated with XYCAM-20 after careful consideration.

Caution is required in patients with significant risk factors for cardiovascular events (e.g. hypertension, hyperlipidaemia, diabetes mellitus, smoking) and should only be treated with piroxicam after careful consideration.

Clinical trial and epidemiological data suggest that use of some NSAIDs (particularly at high doses and in long term treatment) may be associated with a small increased risk of arterial thrombotic events (for example myocardial infarction or stroke). There are insufficient data to exclude such a risk for piroxicam. The relative increase of this risk appears to be similar in those with or without known CV disease or CV risk factors. However, patients with known CV disease or CV risk factors may be at greater risk in terms of absolute incidence, due to their increased rate at baseline.

Poor Metabolisers of CYP2C9 Substrates

Patients who are known or suspected to be poor CYP2C9 metabolizers based on previous history/experience with other CYP2C9 substrates should be administered XYCAM-20 with caution as they may have abnormally high plasma levels due to reduced metabolic clearance.

Skin reactions

Serious skin reactions, some of them fatal, including exfoliative dermatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) have been reported (see section 4.8). XYCAM-20 should be discontinued at the first appearance of skin rash, mucosal lesions, or any other sign of hypersensitivity. The best results in managing SJS and TEN come from early diagnosis and immediate discontinuation of

any suspect drug. Early withdrawal is associated with a better prognosis.

XYCAM-20 may be associated with a higher risk of serious skin reactions than other non-oxicam NSAIDs. Patients appear to be at highest risk of these reactions early in the course of therapy, the onset of the reaction occurring in the majority of cases within the first month of treatment.

If the patient has developed SJS or TEN with the use of XYCAM-20, XYCAM-20 must not be re-started in this patient at any time.

Drug Rash with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS)

Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) has been reported in patients taking NSAIDs such as XYCAM-20. Some of these events have been fatal or life-threatening. DRESS typically, although not exclusively, presents with fever, rash, lymphadenopathy, and/or facial swelling. Other clinical manifestations may include hepatitis, nephritis, hematological abnormalities, myocarditis, or myositis. Sometimes symptoms of DRESS may resemble an acute viral infection. Eosinophilia is often present. Because this disorder is variable in its presentation, other organ systems not noted here may be involved. It is important to note that early manifestations of hypersensitivity, such as fever or lymphadenopathy, may be present even though rash is not evident. If such signs or symptoms are present, discontinue XYCAM-20 and evaluate the patient immediately.

Cases of fixed drug eruption (FDE) have been reported with XYCAM-20.

XYCAM-20 should not be reintroduced in patients with history of piroxicam-related FDE. Potential cross reactivity might occur with other oxicams.

XYCAM-20 should be discontinued at the first appearance of

skin rash, mucosal lesions, or any other sign of hypersensitivity.

Care should be exercised when administering XYCAM-20 to patients with significant

impairment of renal function or bronchial asthma.

XYCAM-20 should not be used in patients on coumarin type anticoagulants such as warfarin.

XYCAM-20 decreases platelet aggregation and prolongs bleeding time.

Caution is required in patients with significant risk factors for cardiovascular events (e.g. hypertension, hyperlipidaemia, diabetes mellitus, smoking) and should only be treated with XYCAM-20 after careful consideration.

Use of some NSAIDs (particularly at high doses and in long term treatment) may be associated with a small increased risk of arterial thrombotic events (for example myocardial infarction or stroke). There are insufficient data to exclude such a risk for XYCAM-20. The relative increase of this risk appears to be similar in those with or without known cardiovascular disease or cardiovascular risk factors. However, patients with known cardiovascular disease or cardiovascular risk factors may be at greater risk in terms of absolute incidence, due to their increased rate at baseline.

XYCAM-20 should be used with caution in patients with renal, hepatic and cardiac impairment. In rare cases, XYCAM-20 may cause interstitial nephritis, glomerulitis, papillary necrosis and nephrotic syndrome. XYCAM-20 inhibits the synthesis of prostaglandin which plays a supportive role in the maintenance of renal perfusion in patients whose renal blood flow and blood volume are decreased.

In these patients, administration of XYCAM-20 may precipitate overt renal decompensation, which is typically followed by recovery to pre-treatment state upon discontinuation of XYCAM-20 therapy. Patients at greatest risk of such a reaction are those with congestive heart failure, liver cirrhosis, nephrotic syndrome and overt renal disease. Such patients should be carefully monitored whilst receiving XYCAM-20 therapy.

Because of reports of adverse eye findings with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory

medicines, it is recommended that patients who develop visual complaints during treatment with XYCAM-20 have ophthalmic evaluation.

Impaired female fertility

The use of piroxicam may impair female fertility and is not recommended in women attempting to conceive. In women who have difficulties conceiving or who are undergoing investigation of infertility, withdrawal of XYCAM-20 should be considered.

Foetal/Neonatal renal impairment and Oligohydramnios:

The use of XYCAM-20 around 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy may cause fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. Complications of prolonged oligohydramnios include limb contractures and delayed lung maturation, which may require invasive procedures such as exchange transfusion or dialysis. If NSAID treatment is determined necessary, limit use to the lowest effective dose and shortest duration possible.

Additionally it should be avoided at 30 weeks and later in pregnancy because of the additional risk of premature closure of the foetal ductus arteriosus. Consider ultrasound monitoring of amniotic fluid if NSAID treatment extends beyond 48 hours. Discontinue the NSAID if oligohydramnios occurs (see Section 4.3, 4.4 and 4.6).

Paediatric population

Not for use in children (see section 4.3)

Excipients

Lactose warning:

Contains lactose which may have an effect on the glycaemic control of patients with diabetes mellitus.

Patients with the rare hereditary conditions of galactose intolerance e.g. total lactase deficiency, galactosaemia, Lapp lactase deficiency, glucose-galactose malabsorption or fructose intolerance should not take XYCAM-20.

4.5. Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

Antacids: Concomitant administration of antacids had no effect on XYCAM-20 plasma levels.

Anticoagulants: XYCAM-20 may enhance the effects of anticoagulants, such as warfarin. Therefore, the use of XYCAM-20 with concomitant anticoagulant such as warfarin should be avoided (see section 4.3).

Antiplatelet medicines and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs): Increased risk of gastrointestinal bleeding. (see section 4.4)

Aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs): XYCAM-20 decreases platelet aggregation and prolongs bleeding time. This effect should be kept in mind when bleeding times are determined. As with other NSAIDs, the use of XYCAM-20 together with acetylsalicylic acid or concomitant use with other NSAIDs, including other piroxicam formulations, must be avoided, since data are inadequate to show that combinations produce greater improvement than that achieved with XYCAM-20 alone; moreover, the potential for adverse reactions is enhanced (see section 4.4). Human studies reported have shown that concomitant use of piroxicam and acetylsalicylic acid reduces the plasma piroxicam concentration to about 80% of the usual value.

Cardiac glycosides: XYCAM-20 may exacerbate cardiac failure, reduce GFR and

increase plasma glycoside levels.

Ciclosporin, tacrolimus: Possible increased risk of nephrotoxicity when XYCAM-20 is given with ciclosporin or tacrolimus.

Cimetidine: Results of two separate studies indicate a slight but significant increase in absorption of piroxicam following cimetidine administration but no significant changes in elimination rate constants or half-life. The small increase in absorption is unlikely to be clinically significant.

Corticosteroids: Increased risk of gastrointestinal perforation, ulceration and bleeding (PUBs). (see section 4.4)

Digoxin, Digitoxin: Concurrent therapy with XYCAM-20 and digoxin, or XYCAM-20 and digitoxin, did not affect the plasma levels of either medicine.

Anti-hypertensives including diuretics, angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, angiotensin II antagonists (AIIA) and beta-blockers:
XYCAM-20 may cause sodium, potassium and fluid retention and may interfere with the natriuretic action of diuretic medicines. These properties should be kept in mind when treating patients with compromised cardiac function or hypertension since they may be responsible for the worsening of those conditions.
NSAIDs can reduce the efficacy of diuretics and other anti-hypertensive medicines including ACE inhibitors, AIIA and betablockers. In patients with impaired renal function (e.g. dehydrated patients or elderly patients with the renal function compromised), the co-administration of an ACE inhibitor or an AIIA and/or diuretics with a cyclo-oxygenase inhibitor can increase the deterioration of the renal function, including the possibility of

acute renal failure, which is usually reversible.

The occurrence of these interactions should be considered in patients taking XYCAM-20 with an ACE inhibitor or an AIIA and/or diuretics Therefore, the concomitant administration of these medicines should be done with caution, especially in elderly patients. Patients should be adequately hydrated and the need to monitor the renal function should be assessed in the beginning of the concomitant treatment and periodically thereafter.

Highly protein-bound medicines: XYCAM-20 is highly protein-bound and therefore might be expected to displace other protein-bound medicines. The physician should closely monitor patients for change when administering XYCAM-20 to patients on highly protein-bound medicines.

Lithium: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines, including XYCAM-20, have been reported to increase steady state plasma lithium levels. It is recommended that these levels are monitored when initiating, adjusting and discontinuing XYCAM-20.

NSAIDs: Use of two or more NSAIDs concomitantly could result in an increase in side effects.

XYCAM-20 may interact with the following medicines/classes of therapeutic medicines:

- Antihypertensives - antagonism of the hypotensive effect.
- Methotrexate - reduced excretion of methotrexate, possibly leading to acute toxicity. When methotrexate is administered concurrently with NSAIDs, including XYCAM-20, NSAIDs may decrease elimination of methotrexate resulting in increased plasma levels of methotrexate. Caution is advised, especially in patients receiving high doses of methotrexate.
- Quinolone antibiotics - possible increased risk of convulsions.

- Mifepristone - XYCAM-20 could interfere with mifepristone-mediated termination of pregnancy.
- Antidiabetic medicines - XYCAM-20 can potentiate the hypoglycaemic effect of antidiabetic medicines.

4.6. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

The safety of XYCAM-20 during pregnancy or during lactation has not yet been established.

Pregnancy

Although no teratogenic effects were reported in animal testing, the safety of piroxicam during pregnancy or during lactation has not yet been established.

XYCAM-20 inhibits prostaglandin synthesis and release through a reversible inhibition of the cyclo-oxygenase enzyme. This effect, as with other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) has been associated with an increased incidence of dystocia and delayed parturition in pregnant animals when medicine administration was continued in late pregnancy. In view of the known effects of NSAIDs on the foetal cardiovascular system (risk of closure of the ductus arteriosus), use in the last trimester of pregnancy is contraindicated. The onset of labour may be delayed and the duration increased with an increased bleeding tendency in both mother and child (see section 4.3).

Inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis might adversely affect pregnancy. Data from 5 epidemiological studies reported suggest an increased risk of spontaneous abortion after use of prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors in early pregnancy. In animals, administration of prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors has been shown to result in increased pre- and post- implantation loss.

NSAIDs should not be used during the first two trimesters of pregnancy or labour.

Pregnant women should not use XYCAM-20 at 20 weeks or later unless specifically advised to do so by a healthcare professional because it may cause fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. Additionally it should be avoided at 30 weeks and later in pregnancy because of the additional risk of premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus (see Section 4.3, 4.4 and 4.6).

Breastfeeding

A reported study indicates that piroxicam appears in breast milk at about 1-3% of the maternal plasma concentrations. No accumulation of piroxicam occurred in milk relative to that in plasma during treatment for up to 52 days. Piroxicam is not recommended for use in nursing mothers as clinical safety has not been established.

Fertility

Based on the mechanism of action, the use of NSAIDs, including XYCAM-20, may delay or prevent rupture of ovarian follicles, which has been associated with reversible infertility in some women. In women who have difficulties conceiving or who are undergoing investigation of infertility, withdrawal of NSAIDs, including XYCAM-20, should be considered.

4.7. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

XYCAM-20 has moderate influence on the ability to drive or operate machinery.

Since adverse reactions such as dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue and visual disturbances have been reported in patients receiving XYCAM-20, patients should not drive, use machinery or perform any tasks that require concentration until they are certain that XYCAM-20 does not adversely affect their ability to do so (see section 4.8).

4.8. Undesirable effects

a) Summary of the safety profile

Gastrointestinal disturbances are the most common side effects occurring with XYCAM-20. Administration of doses higher than 30 mg carries an increased risk of gastrointestinal side effects (see section 4.4.).

b) Tabulated list of adverse reactions

System organ class	**Frequent**	**Less frequent**	**Frequency unknown** (cannot be estimated from the available data)
Blood and the lymphatic system disorders	Anaemia, eosinopjilia, leucopaenia and throbocytopaenia.		Aplastic anaemia, Haemolytic anaemia.
Immune system disorders			Hypersensitivity reactions such as anaphylaxis, urticaria/angioneurotic oedema, vasculitis, serum sickness.
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	Anorexia, hyperglycaemia.	Hypoglycaemia.	Weight increase or decrease, fluid retention.
Psychiatric disorders			Mood alterations, dream abnormalities, mental confusion, depression, hallucination, insomnia, nervousness.
Nervous system disorders	Dizziness, headache, somnolence, vertigo.		Paraesthesia.
Eye disorders		Blurred vision.	Swollen eyes, eye irritation.
Ear and labyrinth disorders	Tinnitus.		Hearing impairment.
Cardiac disorders		Palpitations.	Oedema, cardiac failure, arterial thrombotic events.
Vascular disorders			Vasculitis, hypertension.
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			Bronchospasm, dyspnoea, epistaxis.
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea, vomiting, abdominal discomfort, abdominal pain, constipation, diarrhoea, epigastric pain or discomfort, flatulence, indigestion.	Stomatitis.	Gastritis, Gastrointestinal bleeding (including hematemesis and melena), pancreatitis, Peptic ulceration, perforation, ulcerative stomatitis, exacerbation of colitis and Crohn's disease.

Hepatobiliary disorders			Fatal hepatitis, jaundice.
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Pruritis, skin rash.	Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) (see section 4.4).	Onycholysis, photoallergic reactions, urticaria, vesiculo bullous reaction, alopecia, angioedema, dermatitis exfoliative, Non-thrombocytopenic purpura (Henoch- Schoenlein), Drug Reaction with Eosinophillia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS), Fixed Drug Eruption (FDE) (see section 4.4).
Renal and urinary disorders		Interstitial nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, renal failure, renal papillary necrosis.	Glomerulonephritis.
Reproductive system and breast disorders			Female fertility decreased (see section 4.4).
General disorders and administrative site conditions	Oedema (mainly of the ankle).		Malaise.
Investigations	Increased serum transaminase levels.		Increased alkaline phosphatase levels, blood urea elevation, elevation in serum creatinine, positive ANA (antinuclear antibody). weight decrease, decrease in haemoglobin and haematocrit unassociated with obvious gastrointestinal bleeding.

c) Description of selected adverse reactions

Gastrointestinal:

These are the most commonly encountered side-effects, but in most instances do not interfere with the course of therapy.

Objective evaluations of gastric mucosa appearances and intestinal blood loss show that 20mg/day of Piroxicam administered either in single or divided doses is significantly less irritating to the gastrointestinal tract than aspirin.

XYCAM-20 is associated with higher risk of gastrointestinal adverse reactions compared with some NSAIDs, but this has not been confirmed in all studies.

Administration of doses exceeding 20 mg daily (of more than several days duration) carries an increased risk of gastrointestinal side effects, but they may also occur with lower doses (see section 4.2).

Oedema, hypertension, and cardiac failure, have been reported in association with NSAID treatment. The possibility of precipitating congestive heart failure in elderly patients or those with compromised cardiac function should therefore be borne in mind.

Clinical trial and epidemiological data suggest that use of some NSAIDs (particularly at high doses and in long term treatment) may be associated with a small increased risk of arterial thrombotic events (for example, myocardial infarction or stroke) (see section 4.4).

Liver function: Changes in various liver function parameters have been observed. Although such reactions are rare, if abnormal liver function tests persist or worsen, if clinical symptoms consistent with liver disease develop, or if systemic manifestations occur (e.g. eosinophilia, rash etc.), XYCAM-20 should be discontinued.

Other: Routine ophthalmoscopy and slit-lamp examination have revealed no evidence of ocular changes.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Healthcare providers are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to:

SAHPRA via the “6.04 Adverse Drug Reactions

Reporting Form”, found online under SAHPRA’s publications:

https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8

Aspen Pharmacare:

E-mail: Drugsafety@aspenpharma.com

4.9. Overdose

In the event of overdosage with Piroxicam, supportive and symptomatic therapy is indicated. Studies reported indicate that administration of activated charcoal may result in reduced re-absorption of piroxicam, thus reducing the total amount of active medicine available. Although there are no studies reported to date, haemodialysis is probably not useful in enhancing elimination of piroxicam since the medicine is highly protein-bound.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1. Pharmacodynamic properties

Category and Class: A 3.1 Antirheumatics (Anti-inflammatory agents)

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic products, non-steroids, Oxicams

ATC code: M01AC01

Mechanism of action

Piroxicam, an oxicam derivative, is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), which also exerts antipyretic and analgesic effects. It is effective regardless of the aetiology of the inflammation. While its mode of action is not fully understood, independent studies reported in vitro as well as in vivo have shown that piroxicam interacts at several steps in the immune and inflammation responses through: Inhibition of prostanoid synthesis, including prostaglandins, through a reversible inhibition of the cyclo-oxygenase enzyme. Inhibition of neutrophil aggregation. Inhibition of polymorphonuclear cell and monocyte migration to the area of

inflammation.

Inhibition of lyosomal enzyme release from stimulated leucocytes.

Reduction of both systemic and synovial fluid rheumatoid factor production in patients with seropositive rheumatoid arthritis.

It is established that piroxicam does not act by pituitary-adrenal axis stimulation. In-vitro studies have not revealed any negative effects on cartilage metabolism.

5.2. Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Piroxicam is completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract after oral administration. Neither food nor antacids alter the rate or extent of absorption.

Distribution

Peak concentration in the plasma occurs after 2 to 4 hours after an oral dose. After absorption, piroxicam is extensively (99 %) bound to plasma proteins. It has been detected in breast milk (see section 4.6). At steady state (e.g. after 7 to 12 days), concentrations of piroxicam in plasma and synovial fluid are approximately equal.

Biotransformation

Piroxicam is metabolised in the liver by hydroxylation and conjugation with glucuronic acid.

Elimination

Mean plasma half-life is about 50 hours. Piroxicam is excreted mainly in the urine (about 60 %) with smaller amounts in the faeces. Less than 5 % of the dose is excreted unchanged in the urine and faeces.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1. List of excipients

Black oxide (C.I. 77499), croscarmellose sodium, dimethicone, gelatin, lactose monohydrate, red oxide (C.I. 77491), shellac, sodium lauryl sulphate, starch (maize dried), titanium dioxide (C.I. 77891)

6.2. Incompatibilities

Not applicable

6.3. Shelf life

24 months.

6.4. Special precautions for storage

Store at or below 25 °C.

Protect from light and moisture.

Keep in original packaging until required for use.

6.5. Nature and contents of container

30 capsules are packed into a clear, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) blister strip and sealed with a silver, aluminium foil backing.

30 capsules are packed into a round, white, opaque, high-density polyethylene container and sealed with a white, opaque, polypropylene, child-resistant screwcap with a transparent induction seal liner.

30 capsules are packed into a white, opaque, polyethylene minibag with a rib structure seal.

30 or 500 capsules are packed into a cylindrical, white, polypropylene container and sealed with a white, low-density polyethylene cap.

30 or 500 capsules are packed into a round, white, high-density polyethylene container and sealed with a white, opaque, polypropylene screw cap with an induction wad.

Not all packs or pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6. Special precautions for disposal and other handling

No special requirements

7. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

PHARMACARE LIMITED

Healthcare Park

Woodlands Drive

Woodmead 2191

8. REGISTRATION NUMBER

V/3.1/250

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION

13 February 1990

10. DATE OF REVISION OF TEXT

03 January 2024

Die Afrikaanse Professionele Inligting is op versoek beskikbaar. Mediese Blitslyn: 0800 118 088.

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