

LETROMAR film coated tablets



Letrozole 2.5 mg.

Composition and excipients:

Each Letromar film coated tablet contains: Letrozole 2.5 mg.

Excipients: colloidal silicon dioxide, lactose monohydrate, corn starch, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate.

Coating excipients: iron oxide, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, talc, titanium dioxide.

Mechanism of action:

Letrozole is a non-steroidal aromatase inhibitor. It inhibits the aromatase enzyme by competitively binding to the haem of the aromatase cytochrome P450, resulting in a reduction of oestrogen biosynthesis in all tissues where present.

Pharmacokinetics:

Absorption:

Letrozole is rapidly and completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract (mean absolute bioavailability: 99.9%).

Food slightly decreases the rate of absorption but the extent of absorption (AUC) is not changed.

Distribution:

Plasma protein binding of Letrozole is approximately 60%, mainly to albumin (55%). The concentration of Letrozole in erythrocytes is about 80% of that in plasma. After administration of 2.5 mg Letrozole, approximately 82% of the radioactivity in plasma was unchanged compound. Systemic exposure to metabolites is therefore low. Letrozole is rapidly and extensively distributed to tissues. Its apparent volume of distribution at steady state is about 1.87 ± 0.47 l/kg.

Biotransformation:

Metabolic clearance to a pharmacologically inactive carbinol metabolite is the major elimination pathway of Letrozole.

Elimination:

The apparent terminal elimination half-life in plasma is about 2 to 4 days. After daily administration of 2.5 mg steady-state levels are reached within 2 to 6 weeks. Plasma concentrations at steady state are approximately 7 times higher than concentrations measured after a single dose of 2.5 mg.

INDICATIONS:

- Adjuvant treatment of postmenopausal women with hormone receptor positive invasive early breast cancer.
- Extended adjuvant treatment of hormone-dependent invasive breast cancer in postmenopausal women who have received prior standard adjuvant tamoxifen therapy for 5 years.
- First-line treatment in postmenopausal women with hormone-dependent advanced breast cancer.
- Advanced breast cancer after relapse or disease progression, in women with natural or artificially induced postmenopausal endocrine status, who have previously been treated with anti-oestrogens.
- Neo-adjuvant treatment of postmenopausal women with hormone receptor positive, HER-2 negative breast cancer where chemotherapy is not suitable and immediate surgery not indicated.
- Efficacy has not been demonstrated in patients with hormone receptor negative breast cancer.

Contraindications:

- 1-Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.
- 2-Premenopausal endocrine status.
- 3-Pregnancy.
- 4-Breast-feeding.

SIDE EFFECTS:

The majority of the adverse reactions occurred during the first few weeks of treatment.

The most frequently reported adverse reactions in clinical studies were hot flushes, hypercholesterolaemia, arthralgia, fatigue, increased sweating and nausea.

Important additional adverse reactions that may occur with Letromar are: skeletal events such as osteoporosis and/or bone fractures and cardiovascular events (including cerebrovascular and thromboembolic events). The frequency category for these adverse reactions is described below:

Uncommon: Urinary tract infection ,Tumour pain ,Leukopenia, Anxiety (including nervousness), irritability, Somnolence, insomnia, memory impairment, dysesthesia (including paraesthesia, hypoesthesia), taste disturbance, cerebrovascular accident, carpal tunnel syndrome, Cataract, eye irritation, blurred vision, Palpitations, tachycardia, ischaemic cardiac events (including new or worsening angina, angina requiring surgery, myocardial infarction and myocardial ischaemia), Thrombophlebitis (including superficial and deep vein thrombophlebitis), Dyspnoea, cough, Dry mouth, stomatitis, Increased hepatic enzymes, Pruritus, urticaria, Increased urinary frequency, Vaginal discharge, vaginal dryness, breast pain, General oedema, mucosal dryness, thirst, pyrexia.

Not known: Hepatitis, Trigger finger.

Very common: Hypercholesterolaemia, Hot flushes, Increased sweating, Fatigue (including asthenia, malaise).

Common: Anorexia, appetite increase ,Depression ,Headache,dizziness,Hypertension, Nausea, dyspepsia, constipation, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, vomiting, Alopecia, rash (including erythematous, maculopapular, psoriaform, and vesicular rash), dry skin, Vaginal bleeding ,Peripheral oedema.

Effects on ability to drive and use machines:

Letromar has minor influence on the ability to drive and use machines. Since fatigue and dizziness have been observed with the use of Letromar and somnolence has been reported uncommonly, caution is advised when driving or using machines.

Pregnancy:

Based on human experience in which there have been isolated cases of birth defects (labial fusion, ambiguous genitalia), Letromar may cause congenital malformations when administered during pregnancy. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity. Letromar is contraindicated during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding:

It is unknown whether Letrozole and its metabolites are excreted in human milk. A risk to the newborns/infants cannot be excluded.

Letromar is contraindicated during breast-feeding.

PRECAUTIONS:

Menopausal status:

In patients whose menopausal status is unclear, luteinising hormone (LH), follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) and/or estradiol levels should be measured before initiating treatment with Letromar. Only women of postmenopausal endocrine status should receive Letromar.

Renal impairment:

Letrozole has not been investigated in a sufficient number of patients with a creatinine clearance lower than 10 ml/min.

The potential risk/benefit to such patients should be carefully considered before administration of Letromar.

Hepatic impairment:

In patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh C), systemic exposure and terminal half-life were approximately doubled compared to healthy volunteers. Such patients should therefore be kept under close supervision.

Bone effects:

Letrozole is a potent estrogen-lowering agent. Women with a history of osteoporosis and/or fractures, or who are at increased risk of osteoporosis, should have their bone mineral density formally assessed prior to the commencement of adjuvant and extended adjuvant treatment and monitored during and following treatment with Letromar. Treatment or prophylaxis for osteoporosis should be initiated as appropriate and carefully monitored. In the adjuvant setting a sequential treatment schedule (Letromar 2 years followed by tamoxifen 3 years) could also be considered depending on the patient's safety profile.

Other warnings:

Co-administration of Letromar with tamoxifen, other anti-estrogens or estrogen-containing therapies should be avoided as these substances may diminish the pharmacological action of Letrozole .

As the tablets contain lactose, Letromar is not recommended for patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, of severe lactase deficiency or of glucose-galactose malabsorption.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction :

Metabolism of Letrozole is partly mediated via CYP2A6 and CYP3A4. Cimetidine, a weak, unspecific inhibitor of CYP450 enzymes, did not affect the plasma concentrations of Letromar. The effect of potent CYP450 inhibitors is unknown.

There is no clinical experience to date on the use of Letrozole in combination with estrogens or other anticancer agents, other than tamoxifen. Tamoxifen, other anti-estrogens or estrogen-containing therapies may diminish the pharmacological action of Letrozole. In addition, co-administration of tamoxifen with Letrozole has been shown to substantially decrease plasma concentrations of Letrozole. Co-administration of Letrozole with tamoxifen, other anti-estrogens or estrogens should be avoided.

In vitro, Letromar inhibits the cytochrome P450 isoenzymes 2A6 and, moderately, 2C19, but the clinical relevance is unknown. Caution is therefore indicated when giving Letromar concomitantly with medicinal products whose elimination is mainly dependent on these isoenzymes and whose therapeutic index is narrow (e.g. phenytoin, clopidogrel).

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Posology:

Adult and elderly patients:

The recommended dose of Letromar once daily. No dose adjustment is required for elderly patients.

In patients with advanced or metastatic breast cancer, treatment with Letromar ASIA should continue until tumour progression is evident.

In the adjuvant and extended adjuvant setting, treatment with Letromar should continue for 5 years or until tumour relapse occurs.

In the adjuvant setting a sequential treatment schedule (Letromar 2 years followed by tamoxifen 3 years) could also be considered.

In the neoadjuvant setting, treatment with Letromar could be continued for 4 to 8 months in order to establish optimal tumour reduction. If the response is not adequate, treatment with Letromar should be discontinued and surgery scheduled and/or further treatment options discussed with the patient.

Paediatric population

Letromar is not recommended for use in children and adolescents. The safety and efficacy of Letromar in children and adolescents aged up to 17 years have not been established. Limited data are available and no recommendation on a posology can be made.

Renal impairment:

No dosage adjustment of Letromar is required for patients with renal insufficiency with creatinine clearance ≥ 10 ml/min.

Insufficient data are available in cases of renal insufficiency with creatinine clearance lower than 10 ml/min.

Hepatic impairment:

No dose adjustment of Letromar is required for patients with mild to moderate hepatic insufficiency (Child-Pugh A or B).

Insufficient data are available for patients with severe hepatic impairment. Patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh C) require close supervision.

Method of administration

Letromar should be taken orally and can be taken with or without food.

A missed dose should be taken as soon as the patient remembers. However, if it is almost time for the next dose (within 2 or 3 hours), the missed dose should be skipped, and the patient should go back to her regular dosage schedule. Doses should not be doubled because with daily doses over the 2.5 mg recommended dose, over-proportionality in systemic exposure was observed.

Note: Male breast cancer Use of Letromar in men with breast cancer has not been studied.

OVERDOSES:

Isolated cases of overdose with Letromar have been reported.

No specific treatment for overdose is known; treatment should be symptomatic and supportive.

STORAGE CONDITIONS: Store at room temperature between 15-30°.

PACKAGING:

One PVC-Alu blister contains 10 film coated tablets packed in a cardboard box.

Two PVC-Alu blisters each contains 10 film coated tablets packed in a cardboard box.

30 film-coated tablets in HDPE bottle packed in a cardboard box.

THIS IS A MEDICAMENT	
- A medicament is a product but unlike any other products - A medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you. - Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament. The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks. - Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you. - Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.	
KEEP MEDICAMENTS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN	
(Council of Arab Health Ministers) (Arab Pharmacists Association)	

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