Klarix®

Clarithromycin

Presentation

Klarix® 250: Each film coated tablet contains Clarithromycin USP 250 mg.
Klarix® 500: Each film coated tablet contains Clarithromycin USP 500 mg.

Description

Clarithromycin is a macrolide antibiotic. It acts by inhibiting microsomal protein synthesis by binding to the 50S subunit of the bacterial ribosome. Clarithromycin is active against most gram-positive bacteria, Chlamydia, some gram-negative bacteria and Mycoplasmas.

Indications and uses

- LRTIs for example, acute and chronic bronchitis and pneumonia.
- URTIs for example, sinusitis and pharyngitis.
- Community-acquired pneumonia, atypical pneumonia
- Skin and soft tissue infection
- Adjunct in the treatment of duodenal ulcers to eradicate of *H. pylori*

Dosage and Administration

Clarithromycin may be given with or without meals.

Adults (12 years or above)

250 mg twice daily for 7 days. Dose may be increased to 500 mg twice daily for up to 14 days in pneumonia or severe infections.

Combination therapy for *H. pylori* infection

Clarithromycin 500 mg (two 250 mg tablets or one 500 mg tablet) twice daily in combination with amoxicillin 1000 mg twice daily and omeprazole 20 mg twice daily should be continued for 7 days.

Dosage in renal impaired patients:

At creatinine clearance rate of less than 30 ml/min, the dosage should be halved to 250 mg daily or in the most severe infections to 250 mg twice daily. The duration of treatment should not exceed 14 days in these patients.

Side-effects

The most frequently reported events in adults taking Clarithromycin were diarrhoea (3%), nausea (3%), abnormal taste (3%), dyspepsia (2%), abdominal pain/discomfort (2%), headache (2%) and oral monilia.

Precautions

Caution should be taken in administering this antibiotic to patients with impaired hepatic and renal function. Prolonged or repeated use of Clarithromycin may result in an overgrowth of nonsusceptible bacteria or fungi. If superinfection occurs, Clarithromycin should be discontinued.

Use in pregnancy & lactation

Clarithromycin is not recommended for pregnant women. Breast milk from mothers receiving Clarithromycin should not be given to infants until treatment is completed. Clarithromycin may be used in neonates and children in appropriate doses.

Contraindications

Hypersensitive to Clarithromycin, Erythromycin or any of the macrolide antibiotics. Patients receiving terfenadine who have pre-existing cardiac abnormalities or electrolyte disturbances.

Drug interactions

Concomitant use of Clarithromycin who are receiving Theophylline may be associated with an increase in serum Theophylline concentrations. Clarithromycin may alter the metabolism of Terfenadine. The effects of digoxin may be potentiated with concomitant administration of Clarithromycin. Clarithromycin resulted in decrease in serum levels of Rifabutin, followed by an increased risk of uveitis.

Overdosage

Signs & Symptoms : Ingestion of large amounts of Clarithromycin can be expected to produce gastrointestinal symptoms. Symptoms of overdose may largely correspond to the profile of side effects.
Management: There is no specific antidote on overdose. Serum levels of Clarithromycin can not be reduced by haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis.

Pharmaceutical precaution

Clarithromycin tablet should be stored in a cool and dry place and away from sunlight.

Commercial Pack

Klarix® 250: Each box contains 1 blister strip of 10 tablets.
Klarix® 500: Each box contains 2 blister strips of 3 tablets.

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Dhaka, Bangladesh
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