NAME OF THE MEDICINE

Mometasone furoate 0.1% (1 mg/g)

Chemical Structure:

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\text{Mometasone furoate is } 9\alpha,21\text{-dichloro-11}\beta,17\text{-dihydroxy-16\alpha-methylpregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione-17-(2-furoate)}
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Empirical formula: C_{27}H_{30}Cl_2O_6.

DESCRIPTION

Mometasone furoate is a white to off-white powder which is practically insoluble in water, soluble in acetone and in methylene chloride, slightly soluble in ethanol (96 per cent).

Each gram of **Zatamil Hydrogel** contains mometasone furoate 1mg in a gel base of hexylene glycol, purified water, hypromellose and citric acid (anhydrous).

Each gram of **Zatamil Ointment** contains mometasone furoate 1mg in an ointment base of soft white paraffin, light liquid paraffin, hexylene glycol, polyethylene, cetostearyl alcohol, purified water, silica (colloidal anhydrous), citric acid (anhydrous).

Each gram of **Zatamil Lotion** contains mometasone furoate 1mg in a lotion base of industrial methylated spirits, propylene glycol, purified water, hypromellose, citric acid (anhydrous).

PHARMACOLOGY

**Pharmacology:** Mometasone furoate is a synthetic 16α-methyl analogue of beclomethasone for topical use exhibiting anti-inflammatory, anti-pruritic and vasoconstrictor properties.

In laboratory animals, mometasone furoate exhibits potent topical anti-inflammatory activity but approximately half of the suppressive effect on the hypothalamic pituitary adrenal (HPA) axis when compared with equivalent doses of betamethasone valerate. The topical to systemic potency ratio of mometasone furoate is approximately three to ten times that of betamethasone valerate in animal studies.

Mometasone has high lipophilicity and displays greater *in vitro* affinity for glucocorticoid receptors in rat epidermis than betamethasone dipropionate. In humans, using inhibition of
UV-B induced erythema as an indicator of anti-inflammatory effect, 0.1% mometasone was found to be equipotent with methylprednisolone aceponate 0.1% and 2- to 4-fold better than betamethasone valerate 0.1% and betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% in preventing inflammation.

Pharmacokinetics: Following topical application of radiolabelled mometasone furoate in animals, systemic absorption was minimal in all species studied, ranging from approximately 2% in dogs to 11% in rabbits over a five to seven day period.

In a human study, only 0.7% of [H³]mometasone was absorbed into the systemic circulation, after an 8-hour contact time, from an ointment base applied to intact skin, without occlusive dressing. However only 1.6% of the dose had diffused into the skin while 94% remained unabsorbed on the skin surface. In a similar study, 0.4% was absorbed systemically from a 0.1% mometasone cream.

Another study in healthy volunteers found that after repeated application of 10g/day of 0.1% mometasone ointment, under occlusion, for 20 hours/day, for 5 days plasma levels of about 100pg/ml of mometasone furoate were achieved. No metabolites were detected in plasma. Only 0.00076% of the total topically administered dose was excreted in the urine as mometasone furoate, its 6β-hydroxy metabolite and mometasone itself. Cortisol levels were not affected. In this study, after a single application of 24 hours duration, plasma concentrations peaked at 130pg/mL after 12 hours and declined rapidly after removal of the ointment to 15pg/mL after 72 hours. These authors concluded that 0.1% mometasone furoate ointment had little possibility of causing systemic effects when used in the manner employed in this study.

However inflammation and/or other disease processes in the skin may increase percutaneous absorption. Over the longer term, occlusive dressings substantially increase percutaneous absorption.

In animal studies, 75% of a subcutaneously or peritoneally administered dose was excreted in the faeces, after metabolism in the liver. Due to the very low levels detected in plasma, metabolism in humans has not been studied.

The low levels absorbed systemically after topical administration and the rapid elimination can be considered responsible for the low systemic activity and minimal effect on the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis.

CLINICAL TRIALS

The Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision provided that equivalence could be established on the satisfactory completion of vasoconstrictor assays conducted in accordance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, Guidance for Industry, Guidance Topical Dermatologic Corticosteroids: in vivo bioequivalence, Issue Date: 2 June 1995.

The sponsor submitted satisfactory vasoconstriction assays in compliance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, Guidance for Industry, Guidance Topical Dermatologic Corticosteroids: in vivo bioequivalence, Issue Date: 2 June 1995

INDICATIONS

Short term (up to four continuous weeks) relief of inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses, such as psoriasis and atopic dermatitis.

Zatamil Lotion is suitable for use in scalp psoriasis and application to other areas of the body.
CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to mometasone furoate or to other corticosteroids.

As with other corticosteroids, Zatamil is contraindicated in most viral infections of the skin, tuberculosis, acne rosacea, perioral dermatitis, fungal skin infections and ulcerative conditions.

PRECAUTIONS

For external use only. Avoid contact with eyes.

If irritation or sensitisation develops, treatment should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted.

In the presence of an infection, an antibacterial or antifungal agent, as appropriate should be added to the treatment regimen. If the infection does not resolve promptly, corticosteroid therapy should be discontinued until the infection is controlled.

As with all topical corticosteroids, systemic absorption will be increased if the product/s is/are applied to large areas of the body, under occlusion, where the epidermal barrier is compromised and where the treatment is long-term. These considerations are especially important in infants and children due to the larger skin surface to bodyweight ratio and the possibility of occlusive napkins and plastic pants being used. Use of corticosteroids in children should be limited to the least amount required for therapeutic effect.

USE IN PREGNANCY

(Category B3): As with corticosteroids in general, studies with mometasone furoate in animals have shown teratogenic effects when administered systemically at relatively low dosage levels. There are no adequate and well controlled studies of the teratogenic effects of corticosteroids in pregnant women. Topical corticosteroids should be used with caution during pregnancy and only if the potential benefit to the patient outweighs the potential risk to the foetus.

Drugs of this class should not be used on pregnant patients in large amounts or for prolonged periods of time.

USE IN LACTATION

Systemically administered corticosteroids are secreted into breast milk but the quantities are too low to have a deleterious effect on the infant. It is not known if topically applied mometasone will be absorbed in sufficient quantity to produce detectable levels in breast milk. Therefore, topical mometasone should be used with caution during breastfeeding and only if the potential benefits to the mother outweigh the potential risks to the infant. Temporary cessation of breastfeeding during treatment may also be considered.

USE IN CHILDREN

The use of mometasone furoate 0.1% once daily has been documented in a number of studies in children from 7 months to 12 years old, with moderate to severe dermatitis involving at least 15% of the body surface area. Duration of treatment was usually only for 3 weeks, with up to 6 weeks in one study. No skin thinning was observed in any of these studies or change in plasma cortisol levels, where this was monitored. In general, mometasone furoate was well tolerated. Local reactions were minor, eg. stinging, and occurred in few patients. However, although mometasone appears to be safe in young children and may have less effect on the HPA axis than other corticosteroids of similar strength, caution is advised when prescribing mometasone or any other corticosteroid for prolonged use in children. Care should be taken that application sites in infants and young children are not occluded with tightly fitting napkins or plastic pants.
USE IN THE ELDERLY

Clinical studies in adults have typically included elderly patients. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients. However greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

In general, mometasone furoate 0.1%, applied once daily, without occlusion, appears to be well tolerated.

Local adverse reactions:
Mild to moderate stinging, itching, burning, mild skin atrophy and acneform reactions have been reported in less than 5% of patients.

Other less common reactions reported in less than 1% of patients include erythema, furunculosis, dermatitis, abscess, aggravated allergy, disease exacerbation, paraesthesia, dry skin, pimples, folliculitis and papul and pustular formation.

Infrequent local reactions reported with other topical corticosteroids: irritation, hypertrichosis, hypopigmentation, perioral dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, maceration of the skin, secondary infection, striae and miliaria.

Systemic adverse reactions: Similarly to other corticosteroids, mometasone furoate has the potential to suppress the HPA axis. However, in clinical studies of up to 6 weeks duration, the application of mometasone 0.1% once daily, without occlusion, did not affect plasma cortisol levels.

OVERDOSAGE

Prolonged use over large areas of the body can suppress pituitary adrenal function resulting in secondary adrenal insufficiency. Infants and young children are likely to be particularly susceptible to HPA axis suppression, Cushing's syndrome and growth suppression under these conditions. Appropriate symptomatic treatment is indicated. Acute hypercorticoid symptoms are virtually reversible. Treat electrolyte imbalance, if necessary. In cases of chronic toxicity, slow withdrawal of corticosteroids is advised.

If a large amount of Zatamil is accidentally ingested, particularly by a child, contact the Poisons Information Centre 13 11 26 for advice on overdose treatment.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Apply a thin film of the ointment or gel to the affected skin area once daily. For Zatamil Lotion a few drops should be applied to affected skin areas including scalp sites once daily; massage gently and thoroughly until the medication disappears.

PRESENTATION

Zatamil Hydrogel is a clear, colourless to straw-coloured, soft, smooth gel containing 0.1%w/w mometasone furoate. 45g, 15g and 5g in laminate tube with a tamper evident seal packed into a carton.

Zatamil Ointment is a non-greasy opaque white to off-white ointment containing 0.1%w/w mometasone furoate. 45g, 15g and 5g in laminate tube with a tamper evident seal packed into a carton.
Zatamil Lotion is a light, clear, colourless to straw-coloured lotion containing 0.1% w/w mometasone furoate. 30mL in plastic dropper bottle packed into a tamper evident carton.

STORAGE

Zatamil Hydrogel: Store below 25°C.
Zatamil Ointment: Store below 25°C.
Zatamil Lotion: Store below 25°C. Do not refrigerate.

POISON SCHEDULE

S4

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SPONSOR

Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd.
21 - 31 Malcolm Road, Braeside, Victoria 3195
AUSTRALIA (ACN 005 142 361)

Zatamil Hydrogel AUST R 195415
Zatamil Ointment AUST R 195416
Zatamil Lotion AUST R 195414

Date of TGA approval: 10/05/2012

The TGA approved registration following a contested hearing heard before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and then the making of orders to effect registration (see the clinical trials section).

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2 Bjerring P: Comparison of the bioactivity of mometasone furoate 0.1% fatty cream, betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% cream and betamethasone valerate 0.1% cream in humans. *Skin Pharmacology.* 6:187-192, 1993.


