

COBAL®

DESCRIPTION

COBAL is the trade name of Mecobalamin, a naturally occurring Vitamin B₁₂ substance, used in the treatment of peripheral neuropathies.

Each **COBAL** 500mcg Tablet contains Mecobalamin 500mcg.

CHEMISTRY

Mecobalamin is: Cobinamide, Co-methyl derivative, hydroxide, dihydrogen phosphate (ester), inner salt, 3'-ester with 5,6-dimethyl-1-alpha-D-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

COBAL is a B₁₂ coenzyme that occurs naturally in the blood and the cerebrospinal fluid. **COBAL** is necessary for various metabolic functions, including fat and carbohydrate metabolism and protein synthesis, and is necessary for growth, cell replication, hematopoiesis and nucleoprotein and myelin synthesis, largely due to its effects on metabolism of methionine, folic acid, and malonic acid. In effect, **COBAL** inhibits nerve fiber degeneration in case of neuropathy and accelerates the repair of nerve tissue, as demonstrated by animal studies. Accordingly **COBAL** is useful in the treatment of numbness, pain, and paralysis due to peripheral neuropathies including diabetic neuropathy and polyneuritis.

Mecobalamin is readily absorbed from the lower half of the ileum via the intrinsic factor.

INDICATIONS

COBAL is indicated in the treatment of peripheral neuropathies.

DOSAGE

The usual adult dose is one **COBAL** 500mcg Tablet three times daily. Dosage may be adjusted according to patient's age and clinical response.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

Mecobalamin is well tolerated. Only rarely gastrointestinal symptoms such as anorexia, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea occur. Skin rash may also rarely occur.

USE IN PREGNANCY

Studies have not been done in humans. In animals, Mecobalamin was not found teratogenic.

USE IN LACTATION

Mecobalamin is distributed into breast milk.

INTERFERENCE WITH CLINICAL AND LABORATORY TESTS

Methotrexate, pyrimethamine, and most anti-infectives invalidate diagnostic microbiologic blood assays for Vitamin B₁₂ substances in general.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

No drug interactions of major clinical significance have been reported with Mecobalamin. However, the gastrointestinal absorption of Vitamin B₁₂ substances in general may be decreased by colchicine, aminoglycoside antibiotics, aminosalicylic acid and its salts, and by excessive alcohol intake lasting longer than 2 weeks.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Mecobalamin is contraindicated in patients with sensitivity to the drug, to cobalt, or to other Vitamin B₁₂ substances, including cyanocobalamin and hydroxocobalamin.

WARNINGS

Not documented.

OVERDOSE

Vitamin B₁₂ preparations in general are usually nontoxic, even in large doses.

PRECAUTIONS

- Individuals sensitive to other cobalamins (found naturally in foods) may be sensitive to Vitamin B₁₂ substances also, including Mecobalamin.
- The efficacy of Mecobalamin should be assessed after several months of treatment. The drug should be discontinued if no response has been achieved.
- The use of Mecobalamin is not recommended in patients handling mercury or mercury derivatives.

PRESENTATIONS

- Boxes of 30 film-coated stripped tablets of **COBAL** 500 mcg Tablets.
- Boxes of 100 film-coated stripped tablets of **COBAL** 500 mcg Tablets.
- Hospital packs of different presentations.

THIS IS A MEDICAMENT

- 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 dispensed the medicament.
- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine.
- 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 the reach of children

COUNCIL OF ARAB HEALTH MINISTERS
UNION OF ARAB PHARMACISTS

Prescribing Information Available Upon Request

THE JORDANIAN PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.
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