NORMIX®

TRADE NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT
NORMIX®
COMPOSITION
200 mg film-coated tablets
One film-coated tablet contains: Active ingredient: Rifaximin 200 mg. Excipients: sodium starch glycolate, glycerol distearate, colloidal anhydrous silica, talc, microcrystalline cellulose, hypromellose, titanium dioxide E171, disodium edetate, propylene glycol, red iron oxide E172.
Granules for oral suspension 2 g/100 ml
100 ml reconstituted suspension contains: Active ingredient: Rifaximin 2 g. Excipients: microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, pectin, kaolin, sodium saccharin, sodium benzoate, sucrose, cherry flavouring.
PHARMACEUTICAL FORMS AND PACKAGINGS
200 mg film-coated tablets. Blister containing 12 film-coated tablets.
2 g/100 ml granules for oral suspension. Bottle containing 60 ml.
PHARMACOTHERAPEUTIC CLASS
Anti-diarrhoea, anti-inflammatory and intestinal anti-infective, antibiotics.
NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MANUFACTURER
ALFA WASSERMANN S.p.A.
Alanno (Pescara) - Italy
THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS
- Acute and chronic intestinal infections sustained by gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria; diarrhoeic syndrome.
- Diarrhoea caused by an altered equilibrium of the intestinal microbial flora (summer diarrhoea, traveller's diarrhoea, enterocholitis).
- Pre- and post-operative prophylaxis of infective complications in surgery of the gastroenteric region.
- Coadjuvant in the treatment of hyperammonemia.

CONTRA-INDICATIONS
Hypersensitivity to the active substance, rifamycin-derivatives or any of the excipients
Cases of intestinal obstruction, even partial, or severe ulcerous lesions of the intestine.
Normix should not be administered in patients with diarrhoea complicated by fever or blood in the stool.
PRECAUTIONS FOR USE
Normix is not effective in the treatment of intestinal infections due to intestinal pathogens, which typically cause diarrhoea, fever, blood in the stools and high stool frequency. Discontinue the treatment if symptoms get worse or persist for more than 48 hours and consult your doctor.
Hepatic impairment: although no dosage change is expected, caution should be used in patients with severe hepatic impairment.
Fertility, pregnancy and breast-feeding
Pregnancy
As a precaution measure, the use of rifaximin during pregnancy is not recommended.
Breast-feeding
It is unknown whether rifaximin and its metabolites are excreted in human milk. A risk for the breast-fed child cannot be excluded. A decision must be taken whether to discontinue breast feeding or to discontinue rifaximin therapy taking into account the benefits of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the mother.
Fertility
Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to male and female fertility.

INTERACTION WITH OTHER MEDICAMENTS AND OTHER FORM OF INTERACTION
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicine.
In particular, inform your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of these drugs: warfarin, antiepileptics, antiarrhythmics, cyclosporine and oral contraceptives.
Both decreases and increases in international normalized ratio have been reported in patients maintained on warfarin and prescribed rifaximin. If co-administration is necessary, the international normalized ratio should be carefully monitored with the addition or withdrawal of rifaximin. Adjustments in the dose of oral anticoagulants may be necessary.
In case of charcoal administration, it is advisable to take NORMIX at least 2 hours after charcoal.
SPECIAL WARNINGS
Clostridium-difficile -associated diarrhoea (CDAD) has been reported with the use of nearly all antibacterial agents, including rifaximin. The potential association of rifaximin treatment with CDAD or pseudomembranous colitis cannot be ruled out.
Caution should be used when concomitant use of rifaximin and a P-glycoprotein inhibitor such as cyclosporine is needed.
Both decreases and increases in international normalized ratio (in some cases with bleeding events) have been reported in patients maintained on warfarin and prescribed rifaximin. If co-administration is necessary, the international normalized ratio should be carefully monitored with the addition or withdrawal of treatment with rifaximin. Adjustments in the dose of oral anticoagulants may be necessary to maintain the desired level of anticoagulation.
Despite the negligible absorption of the drug (less than 1%), like all rifamycin derivatives, rifaximin may cause a reddish discoloration of the urine.
Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
NORMIX granules for oral suspension contains sucrose
Contact your doctor before taking this medicine if you have been diagnosed an intolerance to some sugars.
A single 5-ml dose of oral suspension contains 1.44 g of sucrose. This should be taken into consideration in patients with diabetes mellitus.
DRIVING AND USING MACHINES
Dizziness and somnolence have been reported in clinical studies on this medicine, however, the active substance rifaximin has negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.
Do not drive vehicles and do not use machines if you react to the use of Normix by dizziness or somnolence.
POSOLOGY AND METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION
Anti-diarrhoeic treatment - Recommended dose:
- Adults and children over 12 years of age: one 200 mg tablet every 6 hours;
- Children from 6 to 12 years of age: half to one 200 mg tablet every 6 hours;
- Children from 2 to 6 years of age: one 5 ml dose of oral suspension (equal to 100 mg) every 6 hours;

Pre and post-operative treatment - Recommended dose:
- Adults and children over 12 years of age: two 200 mg tablets every 12 hours;
- Children from 6 to 12 years of age: one to two 200 mg tablets every 12 hours;
- Children from 2 to 6 years of age: one to two 5 ml doses (equal to 100-200 mg) every 12 hours;

Coadjuvant treatment of hyperammonemia - Recommended dose:
- Adults and children over 12 years of age: two 200 mg tablets every 8 hours;
- Children from 6 to 12 years of age: one to one and half 200 mg tablets every 8 hours;

- Children from 2 to 6 years of age: one to two 5 ml doses (equal to 100-200 mg) every 8 hours;

DOSES MAY BE MODIFIED IN QUANTITY AND FREQUENCY, DEPENDING ON THE DOCTOR'S ADVICE.

Unless otherwise prescribed, treatment should not exceed 7 days.

Elderly

No dosage adjustment is necessary as the safety and efficacy data of NORMIX showed no differences between the elderly and the younger patients.

Hepatic impairment

No dosage adjustment is necessary for patients with severe hepatic impairment.

Renal impairment

Although dosage change is not anticipated, caution should be used in patients with impaired renal function.

Method of administration

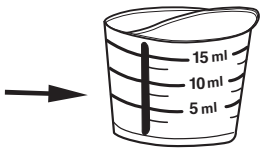
- Film-coated tablets: orally with a glass of water.

This medicine can be administered with or without food.

- Granules for oral suspension: orally. For instructions on preparation of the suspension before administration see below.

Content of the pack

The granules for oral suspension include a dosing spoon (5 ml of suspension contains 100 mg of active ingredient).



5 ml = 100 mg of active substance

Reconstitution of the suspension

Add water to the granules contained in the bottle up to the line, and shake it well.

Add water again until the suspension level reaches the line indicated.

Suspension, when reconstituted as above, is stable for 7 days at room temperature.

SHAKE IT WELL BEFORE USE.

Overdosage

In case of accidental ingestion/administration of an excessive dose of NORMIX contact immediately your doctor or go to the nearest hospital.

In clinical trials with patients suffering from traveller's diarrhoea doses of up to 1800 mg/day have been tolerated without any severe clinical sign. Even in patients/subjects with normal bacterial flora rifaximin in dosages of up to 2400 mg/day for 7 days did not result in any relevant clinical symptoms related to the high dosage.

If you have doubts on the use of NORMIX consult your doctor or pharmacist.

SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, NORMIX can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

It is possible that many of the listed reactions, in particular those gastrointestinal, coincide with the same symptoms of the treated diseases.

Common eside effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Headache, dizziness
- Abdominal pain, abdominal distension, flatulence (gas), constipation, diarrhoea, urgency to evacuate stool, nausea, vomiting, painful contractions and inability to empty the bowel at defecation.
- Fever

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- Candida infections, inflammation or infection of the nose and throat, infections of upper respiratory tract, cold sores (herpes lips)
- Abnormal blood test results (increase of lymphocytes, monocytes increased, neutrophils decreased)
- Decreased appetite, reduction of body fluids (dehydration)
- Abnormal dreams, mood depression, nervousness, insomnia, drowsiness
- Headache localized on the forehead or on one side of the head, physical sensation of tingling or tickling "pins and needles", reduced sense of touch/sensation
- Double vision
- Ear pain, sensation of the room going round (vertigo)
- Heart racing (palpitation), flushing, increased blood pressure
- Shortness of breath, cough, blocked nose, runny nose, sore throat, dry throat
- Stomach pain, digestive problems, intestinal-movement disorders, dry lips, hard stools, blood in stool, mucus in stool, taste disorders, collection of fluid in the abdomen (ascites)
- Elevations of liver enzymes (AST)
- Localized skin reaction, blotchy skin, sunburn
- Muscle cramps, muscle weakness, muscle pain, neck pain, back pain
- Blood in urine, sugar in urine, proteins in urine, frequent urination, excessive urination
- Frequent menstrual cycles
- Fatigue, weakness, cold sweat, increased perspiration, chest pain or discomfort, flu-like symptoms, legs or arms swelling, chills

The following side effects have been also reported, however their frequency cannot be estimated from the available data:

- Clostridium difficile infections
- Feeling faint
- Flushed skin (allergic dermatitis), peeling skin (exfoliative dermatitis)
- Presence of small violet patches on skin (purpura)
- Alteration of blood tests (decreased number of platelets, abnormal liver function tests, alterations in blood clotting: results of international normalized ratio (INR) abnormal)
- Allergic reactions to the drug, in some cases very severe, which may lead to shock
- Swelling of the face, lips, larynx
- Generalized itching, genital itching, local or generalized hives, rash, redness of the palms, skin reaction diffuse or similar to measles.

The compliance with the instructions contained in the leaflet reduces the risk of side effects.

Should any more severe or different side effects occur, please inform your doctor.

Attention: do not use the product after the expiry date indicated on the package.

Revision of information leaflet: June 2017

ALFA WASSERMANN

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