P18/0121 AS

Glyformin™

ANTIDIABETIC

Packs	
Film-coated tablets 500mg	50
Film-coated tablets 850mg	30

Composition

The active ingredient of Glyformin is Metformin Hydrochloride.

Properties

Glyformin is a biguanide hypoglycaemic agent. It exerts its effect mainly by decreasing gluconeogenesis and by increasing peripheral utilization of glucose. Since it only acts in the presence of endogenous insulin it is only effective in diabetics with some residual functioning pancreatic islet cells.

Glyformin is absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract and is excreted, unchanged, in urine.

Indications

Glyformin is used in the treatment of non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus when strict dieting and sulphonylurea treatment have failed to control diabetes, especially in overweight patients, in whom it may, if necessary, be used first. It can be used alone or with a sulphonylurea. In insulin-dependent diabetes, Glyformin may be given as an adjuvant to patients whose symptoms are poorly controlled.

Dosage

Adults: Glyformin is given by mouth in an initial dosage of 500mg three times daily or 850mg twice daily with meals, gradually increased if necessary to a maximum of 3g daily.

Children: The use of Glyformin is not recommended in children.

Elderly: Glyformin is indicated in the elderly, but not when renal function is impaired.

Side-effects

Glyformin is normally well tolerated. Gastro-intestinal disturbances are initially common, and may persist in some patients, particularly when very high doses such as 3g daily are given.

Lactic acidosis has occurred but to a lesser extent than with Phenformin and it is generally accepted that the lactic acidosis usually occurred in patients whose condition contra-indicated the use of Metformin.

Absorption of vitamin B_{12} may be impaired by Glyformin.

Precautions

Regular monitoring of renal function is advised in patients receiving Glyformin. Therapy

with Glyformin should be stopped 2-3 days before surgery and clinical investigations such as intravenous urography and intravenous angiography, and reinstated only after control of renal function has been regained. Glyformin is not recommended in patients with dehydration, serious infections or trauma. Blood glucose should be monitored in patients receiving Glyformin and a sulphonylurea.

Pregnancy:

The use of Glyformin is not recommended during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding:

No information is available. Therefore its use is not recommended in nursing mothers.

Drug interactions:

Reduced renal clearance of Glyformin has been reported during Cimetidine therapy, so a dose reduction should be considered. There is a possibility of interaction between Glyformin and anticoagulants so that the dosage of the latter may need adjustment.

Contra-indications

Glyformin is contra-indicated in patients with hepatic or renal impairment, predisposition to lactic acidosis, heart failure, recent myocardial infarction, diabetic coma or ketoacidosis, alcoholism and hypoxaemia. Hypersensitivity to Metformin is a contra-indication.

Overdosage

Acute poisoning with Glyformin calls for intensive supportive therapy. Lactic acidosis may require treatment with sodium bicarbonate as well as other measures.

Glucose or glucagon may be required for hypoglycaemia.

Pharmaceutical Precautions

Storage Conditions:

Glyformin tablets should be stored below 25°C, protected from light and moisture.

Incompatibilities:

None.

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