

AIMRAB (Rabeprazole Sodium)

Enteric Coated Tablets

COMPOSITION

Aimrab 10 mg tablets. Each enteric coated tablet contains Rabeprazole 10 mg.
Aimrab 20 mg tablets. Each enteric coated tablet contains Rabeprazole 20 mg.

DESCRIPTION

The active ingredient contained in Aimrab tablets is rabeprazole sodium, which is a substituted benzimidazole that inhibits gastric acid secretion.

PHARMACODYNAMICS

Mechanism of Action

Rabeprazole belongs to a class of anti-secretory compounds (substituted benzimidazole proton-pump inhibitors) that suppress gastric acid secretion by inhibiting the gastric H⁺/K⁺ ATPase at the secretory surface of the gastric parietal cell. Because this enzyme is regarded as the acid (proton) pump within the parietal cell rabeprazole has been characterized as a gastric proton-pump inhibitor. Rabeprazole blocks the final step of gastric parietal cells, rabeprazole is protonated, accumulates, and is transformed to an active sulfonamide.

Anti-secretory Activity

The anti-secretory effect begins within one hour after oral administration of Aimrab. In patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and moderate to severe esophageal acid exposure, Aimrab 20 mg and 40 mg per day decreases 24-hour esophageal acid exposure.

PHARMACOKINETICS

Aimrab tablets are coated to allow rabeprazole sodium, which is acid labile, to pass through the stomach relatively intact. After oral administration of 20 mg Aimrab, peak plasma concentrations (C_{max}) of rabeprazole occur over a range of 2-5 to 5.0 hours (T_{max}). The rabeprazole C_{max} and AUC are linear over an oral dose range of 10mg to 40mg. There is no appreciable accumulation when doses of 10mg to 40 mg are administered every 24 hours. The pharmacokinetics of rabeprazole are not altered by multiple dosing. The plasma half-life ranges from 1 to 2 hours.

Absorption

Absolute bioavailability for a 20 mg oral tablet of Aimrab (compared to intravenous administration) is approximately 52%. Rabeprazole may be taken without regards to meal times.

Distribution

Rabeprazole is 96.3% bound to human plasma proteins.

Metabolism

Rabeprazole is extensively metabolized. Thioether and sulphone are the primary metabolites measured in human plasma. These metabolites were not observed to have significant anti-secretory activity. In vitro studies have demonstrated that rabeprazole is metabolized in the liver primarily by cytochrome P450 3A (CYP3A) to a sulphone metabolite and cytochrome P450 2C19 (CYP2C19) to desmethyl rabeprazole. The thioether metabolite is formed nonenzymatically by reduction of rabeprazole.

Elimination

Following a single 20 mg oral dose of rabeprazole, approximately 90% of the drug was eliminated in the urine, primarily as thioether carboxylic acid, its glucuronide, and mercapturic acid metabolites. The remainder of the dose was recovered in the feces. No unchanged rabeprazole was recovered in the urine or feces.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Healing of Erosive or Ulcerative Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

Aimrab is indicated for short-term (4 to 8 weeks) treatment in the healing and symptomatic relief of erosive or ulcerative gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). For those patients who have not healed after 8 weeks of treatment an additional 8-week course of Aimrab may be considered.

Maintenance of Healing of Erosive or ulcerative Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

Aimrab is indicated for maintaining healing and reduction in relapse rates of heartburn symptoms in patients with erosive or ulcerative gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD Maintenance).

Treatment of Symptomatic Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

Aimrab is indicated for the treatment of daytime and night time heartburn and other symptoms associated with GERD.

Healing of Duodenal Ulcers

Aimrab is indicated for short-term (up to four weeks) treatment in the healing and symptomatic relief of duodenal ulcers. Most patients heal within four weeks.

Helicobacter pylori Eradication to Reduce the Risk of Duodenal Ulcer Recurrence

Rabeprazole in combination with amoxicillin and clarithromycin as a three drug regimen, is indicated for the treatment of patients with H. pylori infection and duodenal ulcer disease (active or history within the past 5 years) to eradicate H. pylori. Eradication of H. pylori has been shown to reduce the risk of duodenal ulcer recurrence. In patients who fail therapy, susceptibility testing should be done. If resistance to clarithromycin is demonstrated or susceptibility testing is not possible alternative antimicrobial therapy should be instituted.

Treatment of Pathological Hypersecretory Conditions, including Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome

Aimrab is indicated for the long-term treatment of pathological hypersecretory conditions, including Zollinger-Ellison syndrome.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Healing of Erosive or Ulcerative Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

The recommended adult oral dose is one Aimrab 20 mg tablet to be taken once daily for four to eight weeks. For those patients who have not healed after 8 weeks of treatment, an additional 8-week course of Aimrab may be considered.

Maintenance of Healing of Erosive or Ulcerative

Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD Maintenance)

The recommended adult oral dose is one Aimrab 20 mg tablet to be taken once daily.

Treatment of Symptomatic gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)

The recommended adult oral dose is one Aimrab 20 mg tablet to be taken once daily for 4 weeks if symptoms do not resolve completely after 4 weeks, an additional course of treatment may be considered.

Healing of duodenal Ulcers

The recommended adult oral dose is one Aimrab 20 mg tablet to be taken once daily after the morning meal for a period up to four weeks. Most patients with duodenal ulcer heal within four weeks. A few patients may require additional therapy to achieve healing.

Helicobacter pylori Eradication to Reduce the Risk of Duodenal Ulcer Recurrence

Three Drug Regimen a

Aimrab 20 mg twice Daily for 7 days

Amoxicillin 1000mg Twice Daily for 7 Days

All three medications should be taken twice daily with the Morning and evening meals

It is important that patients comply with the full 7-day regimen.

Treatment of Pathological Hypersecretory Conditions Including Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome

The dosage of Aimrab in patients with pathological hypersecretory conditions varies with the individual patient. The recommended adult oral starting dose is 60 mg once a day. Doses should be adjusted to individual patients needs and should continue for as long as clinically indicated. Some patients may require divided doses. Doses up to 100mg QD and 60 mg BID have been administered. Some patients with Zollinger-Ellison syndrome have been treated continuously with rabeprazole for up to one year. No dosage adjustment is necessary in elderly patients in patients with renal disease or in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. Administration of rabeprazole to patients with mild to moderate liver impairment resulted in increased exposure and decreased elimination. Due to the lack of clinical data on rabeprazole in patients with severe hepatic impairment, caution should be exercised in those patients.

Aimrab tablets should be swallowed whole. The tablets should not be chewed, crushed or split. Aimrab can be taken with or without food.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Rabeprazole is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to rabeprazole substituted benzimidazoles or to any component of the formulation.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

In general rabeprazole treatment has been well tolerated in both short-term and long term trials. In short and long term studies, the following adverse events have been reported in Aimrab treated patients: headache, diarrhoea, vomiting, constipation, dry mouth, muscle or bone pain, drowsiness, dizziness, abdominal pain, pruritus, paresthesia and malaise.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category B

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. This drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Since many drugs are excreted in breast milk, and because of the potential for adverse reactions to nursing infants from rabeprazole a decision should be made to discontinue nursing or discontinue the drug taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use

The safety and effectiveness of rabeprazole in pediatric patients have not been established.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Drug Interactions

Rabeprazole is metabolized by the cytochrome P450 (CYP450) drug metabolizing enzyme system. Rabeprazole does not have clinically significant interactions with other drugs metabolized by the CYP450 system such as warfarin, theophylline, diazepam and phenytoin. Rabeprazole produces sustained inhibition of gastric acid secretion. An interaction with compounds which are dependent on gastric pH for absorption with compounds which are dependent on gastric pH for absorption like ketoconazole may occur due to the magnitude of acid suppression observed with rabeprazole. Therefore, patient may need to be monitored when such drugs are taken concomitantly with rabeprazole. Co-administration of rabeprazole and antacids produced no clinically relevant changes in plasma rabeprazole concentrations.

General

Symptomatic response to therapy with rabeprazole does not preclude the presence of gastric malignancy.

Renal Impairment

Aimrab should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment or in those at risk of fluid retention. In patients with severe renal insufficiency (serum creatinine more than 6 mg/100mL, i.e. more than 0.6 mmol/L) the dosing frequency should be altered depending on the severity of impairment, and the dose may need to be reduced. Patients on prolonged therapy should be reviewed regularly.

Hepatic Impairment

No dosage adjustment is necessary in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment. Administration of rabeprazole to patients with mild to moderate liver impairment resulted in increased exposure and decreased elimination. Due to the lack of clinical data on rabeprazole in patients with severe hepatic impairment, caution should be exercised in those patients.

Lactation

Since many drugs are excreted in milk, caution should be exercised when this drug is administered to a nursing mother.

Paediatric use

The safety and effectiveness of rabeprazole in paediatric patients under the age of 18 have not been established.

Overdosage

There has been no experience with large overdoses of rabeprazole. No specific antidote for rabeprazole is known. Rabeprazole is extensively protein bound and is not readily dialyzable. In the event of overdosage treatment should be symptomatic and supportive.

STORAGE

Store at room temperature.

Protect from light.



Manufactured By:

Aims Pharmaceuticals

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