BIORAJ PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED	
BRAND NAME: BIORAMOL DROP	**GENERIC NAME: PARACETAMOL (100mg/ml)**
SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS	

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Bioramol (Paracetamol 100mg/ml) Drop

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Paracetamol 100mg/ml

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Oral Drop

Light pink viscous syrup

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

For the treatment of mild to moderate pain, including headache, migraine, neuralgia, toothache, sore throat, period pains, aches and pains.

For the reduction of fever and adjunctive treatment to relieve symptoms of cold and flu.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

3months- 1 year: 60-120mg (0.6-1.2ml) every 4-6 hours if necessary, with maximum of 4 doses daily.

- Do not give more than 4 doses in any 24 hour period
- Leave at least 4 hours between doses
- Do not give this medicine to your child for more than 3 days without speaking to your doctor or pharmacist

Method of administration

For oral administration only

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to paracetamol or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

Patients with severe hepatic and renal disorders

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4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Care is advised in the administration of paracetamol to patients with severe renal or severe hepatic impairment. The hazards of overdose are greater in those with non-cirrhotic alcoholic liver disease. Chronic alcohol users should consult a doctor before use.

Patients should be informed about the signs of serious skin reactions and use of the drug should be discontinued at the first appearance of skin rash or any other sign of hypersensitivity.

Excipients in the formulation

This product contains:

• Sucrose. Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption or sucrose-isomaltase insufficiency should not take this medicine.

• Propylene Glycol. This medicine contains 162.4mg propylene glycol per 5ml dose. Co-administration with any substrate for alcohol dehydrogenase such as ethanol may induce adverse effects in children less than 5 years old.

While propylene glycol has not been shown to cause reproductive or developmental toxicity in animals or humans, it may reach the foetus and was found in milk. As a consequence, administration of propylene glycol to pregnant or lactating patients should be considered on a case by case basis.

Medical monitoring is required in patients with impaired renal or hepatic functions because various adverse events attributed to propylene glycol have been reported such as renal dysfunction (acute tubular necrosis), acute renal failure and liver dysfunction.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

The hepatotoxicity of Paracetamol, particularly after overdosage, may be increased by drugs which induce liver microsomal enzymes such as carbamazepine, barbiturates (e.g. phenobarbital), fosphenytoin, phenytoin, primidone, tricyclic antidepressants, and alcohol.

Chronic alcohol intake can increase the hepatotoxicity of paracetamol overdose and may have contributed to the acute pancreatitis reported in one patient who had taken an overdose of paracetamol. Acute alcohol intake may diminish an individual's ability to metabolise large doses of paracetamol, the plasma half-life of which can be prolonged.

The speed of absorption of paracetamol may be increased by metoclopramide or domperidone and absorption reduced by colestyramine.

The anticoagulant effect of warfarin and other coumarins may be enhanced by prolonged regular use of paracetamol with increased risk of bleeding; occasional doses have no significant effect.

Antivirals: Regular use of Paracetamol possibly reduces metabolism of Zidovudine (increased risk of neutropenia).

The use of drugs that induce hepatic microsomal enzymes such as anticonvulsants and oral contraceptives may increase the extent of metabolism of paracetamol resulting in reduced plasma concentrations of the drug and a faster elimination rate.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Fertility

There is no information relating to the effects of this medicine on fertility.

Pregnancy

A large amount of data on pregnant women indicates neither malformative, nor feto/neonatal toxicity. Epidemiological studies on neurodevelopment in children exposed to paracetamol in utero show inconclusive results. If clinically needed, paracetamol can be used during pregnancy however it should be used at the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible time and at the lowest possible frequency. When given to the mother in therapeutic doses (1 g single dose), paracetamol crosses the placenta into foetal circulation as early as 30 minutes after ingestion and is metabolised in the foetus by conjugation with sulfate and increasingly with glutathione.

Breast-feeding

Paracetamol is excreted in breast milk but not in clinically significant quantities. Available published data do not contraindicate breast feeding.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

None.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) identified during clinical trials and post marketing experience with paracetamol are listed below by System Organ Class (SOC)
The frequencies are defined according to the following convention:

Very common	≥1/10
Common	≥1/100 to <1/10
Uncommon	≥1/1,000 to <1/100
Rare	≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000
Very rare	<1/10,000
Not known	(cannot be estimated from available data).

Very rare cases of serious skin reactions have been reported.
Chronic hepatic necrosis has been reported in a patient who took daily therapeutic doses of paracetamol for about a year and liver damage has been reported after daily ingestion of excessive amounts for shorter periods. A review of a group of patients with chronic active hepatitis failed to reveal differences in the abnormalities of liver function in those who were long-term users of paracetamol nor was the control of the disease improved after paracetamol withdrawal.

4.9 Overdose

Liver damage is possible in adults and adolescents (≥12 years of age) who have taken 7.5g or more of paracetamol. It is considered that excess quantities of a toxic metabolite (usually adequately detoxified by glutathione when normal doses of paracetamol are ingested) become irreversibly bound to liver tissue. Ingestion of 5g or more of paracetamol may lead to liver damage if the patient has risk factors (see below).

Risk factors

If the patient

a) Is on long term treatment with carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin, primidone, rifampicin, St John's Wort or other drugs that induce liver enzymes.

b) Regularly consumes ethanol in excess of recommended amounts

c) Is likely to be glutathione depleted e.g. eating disorders, cystic fibrosis, HIV infection, starvation, cachexia.

Symptoms

Symptoms of paracetamol overdosage in the first 24 hours are pallor, nausea, hyperhidrosis, malaise, vomiting, anorexia and abdominal pain. Liver damage may become apparent 12 to 48 hours after ingestion. This may include hepatomegaly, liver tenderness, jaundice, acute hepatic failure and hepatic necrosis.

Abnormalities of glucose metabolism and metabolic acidosis may occur. Blood bilirubin, hepatic enzymes, INR, prothrombin time, blood phosphate and blood lactate may be increased.

In severe poisoning, hepatic failure may progress to encephalopathy, haemorrhage, hypoglycaemia, cerebral oedema, and death. Acute renal failure with acute tubular necrosis, strongly suggested by loin pain, haematuria and proteinuria may develop even in the absence of severe liver damage. Cardiac arrhythmias and pancreatitis have been reported.

Haemolytic anaemia (in patients with glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase [G6PD] deficiency): Haemolysis has been reported in patients with G6PD deficiency, with use of paracetamol in overdose.

Management

Immediate treatment is essential in the management of paracetamol overdose. Despite a lack of significant early symptoms, patients should be referred to hospital urgently for immediate medical attention. Symptoms may be limited to nausea or vomiting and may not reflect the severity of overdose or the risk of organ damage. Management should be in accordance with established treatment guidelines, see BNF overdose section.
Treatment with activated charcoal should be considered if the overdose has been taken within 1 hour. Plasma paracetamol concentration should be measured at 4 hours or later after ingestion (earlier concentrations are unreliable). Treatment with N-acetylcysteine may be used up to 24 hours after ingestion of paracetamol, however, the maximum protective effect is obtained up to 8 hours post-ingestion. The effectiveness of the antidote declines sharply after this time. If required, the patient should be given intravenous N-acetylcysteine in line with the established dosage schedule. If vomiting is not a problem, oral methionine may be a suitable alternative for remote areas, outside hospital. Management of patients who present with serious hepatic dysfunction beyond 24h from ingestion should be discussed with the NPIS or a liver unit.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Other Analgesics and Antipyretics (Anilides)
ATC Code: N02 BE01.
The mechanism of analgesic action has not been fully determined. Paracetamol may act predominantly by inhibiting prostaglandin synthesis in the central nervous system (CNS) and, to a lesser extent, through a peripheral action by blocking pain impulse generation. The peripheral action may also be due to inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis or to inhibition of the synthesis or actions of other substances that sensitise pain receptors to mechanical or chemical stimulation.
Paracetamol probably produces antipyresis by acting centrally on the hypothalamic heat regulating centre to produce peripheral vaso-dilation resulting in increased blood flow through the skin, sweating and heat loss. The central action probably involves inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis in the hypothalamus.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Oral absorption is rapid and almost complete, it may be decreased if Paracetamol is taken following a high carbohydrate meal.

There is no significant protein binding with doses producing plasma concentrations of below 60mcg (µg)/ml, but may reach moderate levels with high or toxic doses.

Approximately 90 - 95% of a dose is metabolised in the liver, primarily by conjugation with glucuronic acid, sulphuric acid and cysteine. An intermediate metabolite, which may accumulate in overdosage after primary metabolic pathways become saturated, is hepatotoxic and possibly nephrotoxic.

Half-life is 1 to 4 hours; does not change with renal failure but may be prolonged in acute overdosage, in some forms of hepatic disease, in the elderly, and in the neonate; may be somewhat shortened in children.

Time to peak concentration, 0.5 - 2 hours; peak plasma concentrations, 5 - 20mcg (µg)/ml (with doses up to 650mg); time to peak effect, 1- 3 hours; duration of action, 3-4 hours.

Elimination is by the renal route, as metabolites, primarily conjugates, 3% of a dose may be excreted unchanged.

Peak concentration of 10 - 15mcg(µg)/ml have been measured in breast milk, 1 - 2 hours following maternal ingestion of a single 650mg dose. Half-life in breast milk is 1.35 - 3.5 hours.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Conventional studies using the currently accepted standards for the evaluation of toxicity to reproduction and development are not available.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Propylene glycol
Sucrose
Sodium CMC
Sodium benzoate
Propylene glycol
Ethanol 96%
Ponceau 4R
Strawberry flavour
Purified water

6.2 Incompatibilities

None stated

6.3 Shelf life

24 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C. Protect from light. Store in the original package.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

15ml Amber glass bottle

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7.0 MANUFACTURER

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