

## **SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS (SmPC)**

### **1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Feccox Blood Tonic

Hematinic Syrup of Iron, Folic Acid and Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

### **2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION**

Each 5 ml contains:

Ferric Ammonium Citrate B.P.... 200 mg

(Equivalent to elemental Iron 41mg)

Cyanocobalamin B.P. 5 mcg

Folic Acid B.P. 0.5 mg

#### Excipients :

Sucrose B.P. ... 55% w/v

Sodium Methyl Hydroxybenzoate B.P.. 0.150 w/v

Sodium Propyl Hydroxybenzoate B.P ..... w/v

Sorbitol Solution (70%) B.P. ... 5% w/v

(Non- Crystallising)

Liquid Glucose USP/NF ... 31.50% w/v

Caramel USP/NF ... 2% w/v

Erythrosine ... 0.035% w/v

Sodium Hydroxide B.P. ... 0.0426 w/v

Orange Oil Excellent A543 M-II ... 0.50% v/v

Purified Water B.P. ... 32.941% v/v

### **3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Oral Liquid

A reddish brown viscous syrupy liquid, sweet to taste with orange flavour.

### **4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS**

#### **4.1 Therapeutic indications Feccox Blood**

Tonic is indicated for

- Iron deficiency anaemia due to chronic blood loss, hook-worm infestation, inadequate intake of iron, etc.
- Dimorphic anaemia due to deficiency of Iron, Folic Acid and /or Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> (Cyanocobalamin).
- Anemia of pregnancy and lactation.

- Tonic in general weakness, lack of appetite, rundown conditions and convalescence.
- Post surgery and other debilitated states.

#### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

**For Adults:** (For Therapeutic use) 1 tablespoonful (15ml) twice a day after meals.

**For Children:** As advised by the Physician.

##### Method of administration

Oral

#### **4.3 Contraindications**

- Primary (idiopathic) or secondary iron storage disease.
- Anaemia associated with ineffective erythropoiesis, marrow hypoplasia, sideroblastic change, uncomplicated Cyanocobalamin or folate deficiency.
- Intestinal disease (oral iron may aggravate severe acute inflammatory intestinal disease and is ineffective in patients with extensive small intestinal disease eg. celiac sprue.)
- Previous hypersensitivity to any of the ingredient in the syrup.
- Known idiosyncrasy to commonly used excipients.
- Porphyria cutanea tarda.
- Uncontrolled parathyroid disease, sickle cell patients.

#### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

- Iron compounds should not be given to patients receiving repeated blood transfusions or to patients with anemia not produced by iron deficiency unless iron deficiency is also present.
- Care should be taken in patients with iron storage or iron absorption diseases such as haemochromatosis, hemoglobinopathies or existing gastro-intestinal diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease, intestinal strictures and diverticulae.
- Liquid preparations of iron salts should be swallowed through a straw to prevent discoloration of the teeth.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

- Compounds containing Calcium and Magnesium including antacids and mineral supplements and bicarbonates, carbonates, oxalates or phosphates, may also impair the absorption of iron by the formation of insoluble complexes.
- Similarly absorption of both iron & tetracyclines is diminished when they are taken concomitantly by mouth. If treatment with both drugs is required, a time interval of about 2 to 3 hours should be allowed between them.
- Avoid milk and dairy products at least for 2 hours.
- Some agents such as Ascorbic Acid & Citric Acid may actually increase the absorption of iron.
- The response to iron may be delayed in patients receiving concomitant parenteral chloramphenicol therapy.
- Iron salts can decrease the absorption of bisphosphonates, fluoroquinolones, levodopa, methyldopa, penicillamine and tetracycline.
- Iron salts may reduce the efficacy of thyroxine.

#### **4.6 Pregnancy and Lactation**

Can be used in Iron deficiency anaemia during Pregnancy and Lactation after considering risk benefit ratio.

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Dexorange<sup>®</sup> Syrup has no influence on the ability to drive or use machines.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

##### **Ferric Ammonium Citrate:**

In high or toxic doses or poisoning - Gastrointestinal irritation, abdominal pain with nausea, vomiting and either diarrhoea or constipation. Cardiovascular disorders such as hypotension, tachycardia, metabolic changes including acidosis and hypoglycemia. CNS depression ranging from lethargy to coma.

##### **Folic acid:**

Almost non toxic in man and no adverse effects have been reported except a rare and doubtful allergic reaction.

**Cyanocobalamin:**

No known side effects even with very large doses.

**4.9 Overdose**

The most sign & Symptoms of overdosage are Gastrointestinal irritation, abdominal pain with nausea, vomiting and either diarrhoea or constipation. Cardiovascular disorders such as hypotension, tachycardia, metabolic changes including acidosis and hypoglycemia. CNS depression ranging from lethargy to coma.

Vomiting is induced immediately followed by parenteral injection of desferroxamine mesylate and then gastric lavage. In the meantime give milk and/or 5% sodium bicarbonate solution by mouth. Fluid replacement is essential. Other measures include symptomatic management and therapy of metabolic and cardiovascular disorders.

**5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES**

**5.1 Pharmacodynamics properties**

Pharmacotherapeutics group: Hematinic syrup,  
ATC code: B03AE01

**Ferric Ammonium Citrate:**

Ferric Ammonium Citrate is one of the best-tolerated iron supplements. It rapidly supplements elemental iron so that iron deficiency is quickly controlled, thus leading to faster correction of anaemia and replenishment of tissue iron stores.

Each tablespoonful of **DEXORANGE®** Syrup provides 160mg of Ferric Ammonium Citrate that is equivalent to 32.8 mg of elemental iron. Thus, when an adult takes the recommended dosage of 1 tablespoonful twice a day, he gets 65.6 mg of elemental iron which is sufficient amount of elemental iron per day for an adult patient suffering from mild to moderate iron deficiency.

**Folic Acid:**

It is so called because it is present in green leaves, which is chemically pteroylglutamic acid. It is a growth promoter. It helps in the synthesis of Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid (DNA), the building block of life. It is essential for proper maturation of red cells. It helps in inter conversion and metabolism of amino acids.

**Cyanocobalamin:**

Cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>) is a complex organo-metallic compound in which a cobalt atom is placed within a corrin ring. It plays an important role in synthesis of DNA and maturation of red cells. It acts as a co-enzyme in certain steps necessary for genetic replication.

## 5.2 **Pharmacokinetic properties**

### **Iron (Ferric Ammonium Citrate):**

Iron irregularly and incompletely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract, the main sites of absorption being the duodenum and jejunum. Absorption is aided by the acid section of the stomach and by some dietary acids (such as ascorbic acid) and is more readily affected when the iron is in the ferrous state or is part of the haem complex (haem-iron). Absorption is also increased in conditions of iron deficiency or in the fasting state but is decreased if the body stores are overloaded. Only about 5 to 15% of the iron ingested in food is normally absorbed.

Most absorbed iron is bound to transferrin and transported to the bone marrow where it is incorporated into haemoglobin; the remainder is contained within the storage forms, ferritin or haemosiderin, or as myoglobin, with smaller amounts occurring in haem-containing enzymes or in plasma bound to transferrin.

Only very small amounts of iron are excreted as the majority released after the destruction of the haemoglobin molecule is re-used.

### **Folic Acid:**

Folic acid is rapidly absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract, mainly from the duodenum and jejunum. Folic acid administered therapeutically enters the portal circulation largely unchanged since it is a poor substrate for reduction by dihydrofolate reductase. It is converted to the metabolically active form 5-methyltetrahydrofolate in the plasma and liver.

The principal storage site of folate is the liver; it is also actively concentrated in the CSF.

Folate undergoes enterohepatic circulation. Folate metabolites are eliminated in the urine and folate in excess of body requirements is excreted unchanged in the urine. Folate is distributed into breast milk. Folic acid is removed by haemodialysis.

### Cyanocobalamin:

Cyanocobalamin bind to intrinsic factor, a glycoprotein secreted by the gastric mucosa, and are then actively absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract. Absorption is impaired in patients with an absence of intrinsic factor, with a malabsorption syndrome or with disease or abnormality of the gut, or after gastrectomy. Absorption from the gastro-intestinal tract can also occur by passive diffusion.

Cyanocobalamin is extensively bound to specific plasma proteins called transcobalamins; transcobalamin II appears to be involved in the rapid transport of the cobalamins to tissues. Cyanocobalamin is stored in the liver, excreted in the bile and undergoes extensive enterohepatic recycling; part of an administered dose is excreted in the urine, most of it in the first 8 hours; urinary excretion, however, accounts for only a small fraction in the reduction of total body stores acquired by dietary means. Cyanocobalamin diffuses across the placenta and also appears in breast milk.

## **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

### Toxicology

#### Iron:

Iron is a general cellular poison and is directly corrosive to the GI mucosa.

#### Cellular toxicity

The absorption of excessive quantities of ingested iron results in systemic iron toxicity. Severe overdose causes impaired oxidative phosphorylation and mitochondrial dysfunction, which can result in cellular death. The liver is one of the organs most affected by iron toxicity, but other organs such as the heart, kidneys, lungs, and the hematologic systems also may be impaired.

**MILD TO MODERATE POISONING:** Vomiting and diarrhea may occur within 6 hours of ingestion.

**SEVERE POISONING:** Severe vomiting and diarrhea, lethargy, metabolic acidosis, shock, GI hemorrhage, coma, seizures, hepatotoxicity, and late onset GI strictures.

### Folic acid:

The risk of toxicity from folic acid is low, because folate is a water-soluble vitamin and is regularly removed from the body through urine. One potential issue associated with high dosages of folic acid is that it has a masking effect on the diagnosis of pernicious anaemia (vitamin B12 deficiency).

### Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>:

Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> is usually considered a non-toxic substance. Even taking it by injection at high doses does not seem to increase the risk for toxicity.

### Alcohol:

Even though alcohol contributed to severe toxicity, DEXORANGE<sup>®</sup> Plus Syrup contains very low level of alcohol i.e. 0.87 ml/ 15ml as dosage recommended is twice a day hence 1.7ml per day at this low level alcohol may not lead to toxicity even during pregnancy. As the National Institute of Health and Clinical Trial Excellence (NICE) recommends that women should avoid alcohol during the 1st trimester, women who chose to drink alcohol are advised to drink no more than 1 – 2 UK units of alcohol once or twice a week. They further state that, *“Although there is uncertainty regarding a safe level of alcohol consumption in pregnancy, at this low level there is no evidence of harm to the unborn baby”*.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Sucrose B.P., Sodium Methyl Hydroxybenzoate B.P., Sodium Propyl Hydroxybenzoate B.P., Sorbitol Solution (70%) B.P. (Non- Crystallising), Liquid Glucose USP/NF, Caramel USP/NF, Erythrosine, Sodium Hydroxide B.P., Orange Oil Excellent, Purified Water B.P.

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

Not applicable.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

24 months

### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Store below 30°C.

**6.5 Nature and contents of container <and special equipment for use, administration or implantation>**

Primary packaging materials: 200ml amber coloured rectangular glass bottles with 28mm PP caps.

Secondary packaging material: Mono-carton

**6.6 Special precautions for disposal**

No special requirements.

**7. APPLICANT/MANUFACTURER**

FECCOX PHARMACY AND GENERAL ENTERPRISES LTD,  
JABA LAYOUT OFF AIRPORT RD KANO KANO