

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Alfemol Capsules B.P 50/325mg

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each capsule contains:

Diclofenac Sodium B.P.....50mg
Paracetamol B.P.....325mg

Excipients with known effect:

For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

- Capsules, hard
- Red and cream capsules printed with 'ALBEN'.

4. Clinical Particulars

4.1 Therapeutic indications

It is indicated for relief of mild to moderate pain, fever also in case of common cold, headache, upper respiratory tract infections & rheumatic originated pain.

Paracetamol is mild analgesic and antipyretic it is recommended for headaches, include migrains and tension headache, backache, rheumatic and muscle pain, nerve pain, toothache and for relieving the fever, aches and pains of colds and flu.

Diclofenac is in a group of drugs called nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). It works by reducing hormones that cause inflammation and pain in the body. Relieves pain and reduces inflammation (swelling). It is used to treat headaches, muscle aches, dental pain, and athletic injuries. It is commonly used to treat the pain, swelling and stiffness associated with arthritis. Diclofenac is used commonly to treat mild to moderate post-operative or post-traumatic pain, particularly when inflammation is also present, and is effective against menstrual pain

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

Adults: Two capsules 2-3 times daily depending on the severity of the pain.

Children above 12years: One capsule 2-3 times daily depending on the severity of the pain.

Alfemol is not recommended for children below 12years.

Method of administration

For oral administration

The capsules are to be taken whole, not divided or chewed, with a full glass of water, with or after food.

4.3 Contraindications

It should not be used in

- Hypersensitivity against diclofenac & paracetamol.
- History of allergic reactions (bronchospasm, shock, rhinitis, urticaria) following the use of Aspirin or another NSAID.
- Third-trimester pregnancy.
- Active stomach and/or duodenal ulceration or gastrointestinal bleeding.
- Inflammatory intestinal disorders such as Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.
- Severe insufficiency of the heart.

4.4 Special warnings and precaution for use

Paracetamol

Skin rashes and other allergic reactions may occur. The rash is usually erythematous or urticarial but sometimes more serious and may be accompanied by drug fever and mucosal lesions. The use of paracetamol has been associated with the occurrence of neutropenia, pancytopenia and leucopenia.

Diclofenac is contra-indicated in aspirin allergy, severe inflammation of the bowel, stomach ulceration and the last third of pregnancy. Reported possible side effects include - stomach pain/upset; bleeding from the stomach, headache, dizziness and rash. Rarely, it has been reported as causing abnormalities of the general blood picture, kidney and liver function; and ulceration of the stomach.

4.5 Interactions with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Interactions:

Alcohol: UNSAFE

It is unsafe to consume alcohol with Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet.

Kidney: CAUTION

Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet should be used with caution in patients with kidney disease. Dose adjustment of Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet may be needed. Please consult your doctor.

Liver: CAUTION

Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet should be used with caution in patients with liver disease. Dose adjustment of Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet may be needed. Please consult your doctor.

However, the use of Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet is not recommended in patients with severe liver disease and active liver disease.

4.6 Pregnancy and Lactation

Pregnancy: Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet is unsafe to use during pregnancy as there is definite evidence of risk to the developing baby. However, the doctor may rarely prescribe it in some life-threatening situations if the benefits are more than the potential risks. Please consult your doctor.

Lactation: Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet is probably safe to use during breastfeeding. Limited human data suggests that the drug does not represent any significant risk to the baby.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet may cause side effects which could affect your ability to drive. Diclofenac Sodium & Paracetamol 50mg/325mg Tablet may cause headaches, blurred vision, dizziness or drowsiness in some patients. This may affect your ability to drive.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Nausea, Vomiting, Stomach pain/epigastric pain, Heartburn, Diarrhea, Loss of appetite.

4.9 Overdose

Overdose symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, drowsiness, black or bloody stools, coughing up blood, shallow breathing, and fainting.

Acute paracetamol overdose is defined as an ingestion of a toxic amount of paracetamol occurring within a period of 8 hours or less. A number of steps in the management of such an overdose are important to achieve an optimal clinical outcome.

5. Pharmacological properties:

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Diclofenac is an acetic acid nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug (NSAID) with analgesic and antipyretic properties. Diclofenac is used to treat pain, dysmenorrhea, ocular inflammation, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, and actinic keratosis.

Paracetamol is a widely used analgesic and antipyretic drug that is used for the relief of fever, headaches, and other minor aches and pains. It is a major ingredient in numerous cold and flu medications and many prescription analgesics. It is extremely safe in standard doses, but because of its wide availability, deliberate or accidental overdoses are not uncommon. Acetaminophen, unlike other common analgesics such as aspirin and ibuprofen, has no anti-inflammatory properties or effects on platelet function, and it is not a member of the class of drugs known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or NSAIDs. At therapeutic doses acetaminophen does not irritate the lining of the stomach nor affect blood coagulation, kidney function, or the fetal ductus arteriosus (as NSAIDs can). Like NSAIDs and unlike opioid analgesics, acetaminophen does not cause euphoria or alter mood in any way. Acetaminophen and NSAIDs have the benefit of being completely free of problems with addiction, dependence, tolerance and withdrawal. Acetaminophen is used on its own or in combination with pseudoephedrine, dextromethorphan, chlorpheniramine, diphenhydramine, doxylamine, codeine, hydrocodone, or oxycodone.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Diclofenac is a NSAID (NSAID). Paracetamol is an analgesic and antipyretic. When used together, the actions of paracetamol set in earlier and provide pain relief before the effects of diclofenac Na set in.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

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

1. Pharmaceutical particulars

6.1 List of excipients

- Starch
- Talc
- Magnesium stearate

6.2 Incompactibilities

- None relevant known.

6.3 Shelf life

- 36 Months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

- Store below 30°C
- Store in a cool dry place protected from light and out of reach of children.

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

PVC/Al blister packs of 10 capsules in a monocarton.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal<and other handling>

- None.

7. Applicant/Manufacturer

- Name: Alben Healthcare Industries Limited.
- Address: Km 15 Old Onitsha-Awka Road Ogidi, Anambra State, Nigeria.
- Phone No: 08068056661.
- Email Address:albenng@rocketmail.com.