**SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

**IMAZOLE 500 V**

**(Clotrimazole Pessaries BP 500 mg)**

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

IMAZOLE 500 V

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each Pessary contains Clotrimazole BP 500 mg

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Pessary

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic Indications

IMAZOLE 500 V Pessary is recommended for the treatment of candidal vaginitis.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

The Pessary should be inserted into the vagina as gently and deeply as comfortably possible into the vagina, preferably at night, for three days.

Adults - One IMAZOLE 500 V pessary should be inserted at night. The pessary should be inserted as high as possible into the vagina. This is best achieved when lying back with legs bent up. A second treatment may be carried out if necessary.

Clotrimazole pessaries need moisture in the vagina in order to dissolve completely, otherwise undissolved pieces of the pessary might crumble out of the vagina. Pieces of undissolved pessary may be noticed by women who experience vaginal dryness. To help prevent this it is important that the pessary is inserted as high as possible into the vagina at bedtime.

Generally:

Treatment during the menstrual period should not be performed due to the risk of the pessary being washed out by the menstrual flow. The treatment should be finished before the onset of menstruation.

Do not use tampons, intravaginal douches, spermicides or other vaginal products while using this product.

Vaginal intercourse should be avoided in case of vaginal infection and while using this product because the partner could become infected.

Children: Paediatric usage is not recommended.

**4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to Clotrimazole or any ingredient in this medicine.

**4.4 Special warnings and precautions**

Medical advice should be sought if this is the first time the patient has experienced symptoms of candidal vaginitis.

Before using IMAZOLE 500 V Pessaries, medical advice must be sought if any of the following are applicable:

- More than two infections of candidal vaginitis in the last 6 months.
- Previous history of sexually transmitted disease or exposure to partner with sexually transmitted disease.
- Pregnancy or suspected pregnancy. - aged under 16 or over 60 years.
- known hypersensitivity to imidazoles or other vaginal antifungal products.

IMAZOLE 500 V Pessaries should not be used if the patient has any of the following symptoms where upon medical advice should be sought:

- Irregular vaginal bleeding.
- Abnormal vaginal bleeding or a blood-stained discharge.
- Vulval or vaginal ulcers, blisters or sores.
- Lower abdominal pain or dysuria.
- Any adverse events such as redness, irritation or swelling associated with the treatment.
- Fever or chills.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhoea.
- foul smelling vaginal discharge.

Patients should be advised to consult their physician if the symptoms have not been relieved within one week of using IMAZOLE 500 V Pessary. IMAZOLE 500 V Pessary can be used again if the candidal infection returns after 7 days. However, if the candidal infection recurs more than twice within six months, patients should be advised to consult their physician.

**4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other form of interactions:**

Laboratory tests have suggested that, when used together, this product may cause damage to latex contraceptives. Consequently the effectiveness of such contraceptives may be reduced. Patients should be advised to use alternative precautions for at least five days after using this product. Concomitant medication with vaginal Clotrimazole and oral tacrolimus (FK-506; immunosuppressant) might lead to increased tacrolimus plasma levels. Patients should thus be closely monitored for signs and symptoms of tacrolimus overdosage, if necessary by determination of the respective plasma levels.

**4.6 Fertility, Pregnancy and Lactation**

Fertility:

No human studies of the effects of clotrimazole on fertility have been performed, however, animal studies have not demonstrated any effects of the drug on fertility.

Pregnancy:

There are limited amount of data from the use of clotrimazole in pregnant women. Animal studies with clotrimazole have shown reproductive toxicity at high oral doses. At the low systemic exposures of clotrimazole following vaginal treatment, harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity are not predicted.

Clotrimazole can be used during pregnancy, but only under the supervision of a physician or midwife

During pregnancy the pessary should be inserted without using an applicator.

Lactation:

Available pharmacodynamic/toxicological data in animals have shown excretion of clotrimazole /metabolites in milk after intravenous administration. A risk to the suckling child cannot be excluded. A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or to discontinue/abstain from clotrimazole therapy taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

**4.7 Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines**

Not applicable.

**4.8 Undesirable effects:**

As the listed undesirable effects are based on spontaneous reports, assigning accurate frequency of occurrence for each is not possible.

Immune system disorders:

Allergic reaction (syncope, hypotension, dyspnea, urticaria, pruritus) Reproductive system and breast disorders:

Genital peeling, pruritus, rash, oedema, discomfort, burning, irritation, pelvic pain

Gastrointestinal disorders: Abdominal pain

**4.9 Overdose**

No risk of acute intoxication is seen as it is unlikely to occur following a single vaginal or dermal application of an overdose (application over a large area under conditions favourable to absorption) or inadvertent oral ingestion. There is no specific antidote.

However, in the event of accidental oral ingestion, routine measures such as gastric lavage should be performed only if clinical symptoms of overdose become apparent (e.g. dizziness, nausea or vomiting). Gastric lavage should be carried out only if the airway can be protected adequately.

## 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES:

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties:

Clotrimazole is an imidazole derivative with a broad spectrum of antimycotic activity.

**Mechanism of Action**

Clotrimazole acts against fungi by inhibiting ergosterol synthesis. Inhibition of ergosterol synthesis leads to structural and functional impairment of the cytoplasmic membrane.

**Pharmacodynamic Effects**

Clotrimazole has a broad antimycotic spectrum of action in vitro and in vivo, which includes dermatophytes, yeasts moulds etc. The mode of action of Clotrimazole is fungistatic or fungicidal depending on the concentration of Clotrimazole at the site of infection. In-vitro activity is limited to proliferating fungal elements; fungal spores are only slightly sensitive. Primarily resistant variants of sensitive fungal species are very rare; the development of secondary resistance by sensitive fungi has so far only been observed in very isolated cases under therapeutic conditions.

### 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties:

Pharmacokinetic investigations after vaginal application have shown that only a small amount of Clotrimazole (3– 10% of the dose) is absorbed. Due to the rapid hepatic metabolism of absorbed Clotrimazole into pharmacologically inactive metabolites the resulting peak plasma concentrations of Clotrimazole after vaginal application of a 500mg dose were less than 10 mg/ml, reflecting that Clotrimazole applied intravaginally does not lead to measurable systemic effects or side effects.

### 5.3 Preclinical safety data

Not Available

## 6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

### 6.1 List of Excipients

Polyethylene - Glycol 1500, Polyethylene - Glycol 6000, Methyl Paraben, Propyl Paraben, Butylated, Hydroxytoluene

### 6.2 Incompatibilities

Not known

**6.3 Shelf Life**

36 months

**6.4 Special precaution for storage**

Store at temperature not exceeding 30°C, Protect from light.

**6.5 Nature and content of container**

IMAZOLE 500 V Pessaries are packed in polyvinylchloride foil coated with Polyethylene. A strip containing 1 Pessary is packed in one mono carton along with pack insert.

**6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling**

No special requirements.

**7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

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