

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

Pirival Tablets

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

Each tablet contains 4 milligrams of chlorphenamine maleate

Round, circular, biconvex, white tablets engraved with a 'PRV' to one side; the reverse face has is plain.

## **3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Tablet.

## **4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indications**

Pirival tablets are indicated for symptomatic control of all allergic conditions responsive to antihistamines, including hay fever, vasomotor rhinitis, urticaria, angioneurotic oedema, food allergy, drug and serum reactions, insect bites.

Also indicated for the symptomatic relief of itch associated with chickenpox.

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

Oral Administration only

Do not exceed the stated dose or frequency of dosing

Minimum dosing interval: 4 hours

Do not use continuously for more than two weeks without consulting a doctor.

**Adults and children 12 years and over:** 1 tablet 4 to 6 hourly. Maximum daily dose: 6 tablets (24 mg) in any 24 hours

**Elderly:** The elderly are more likely to experience neurological anticholinergic effects. Consideration should be given to using a lower daily dose (e.g. a maximum of 12 mg in any 24 hours).

**Children aged 6 - 12 years:** ½ tablet 4 to 6 hourly. Maximum daily dose: 3 tablets (12mg) in any 24 hours

Not recommended for children under 6 years

### **Populations**

Patients with renal or hepatic impairment should seek doctor's advice prior to taking this medicine. (See Section 4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use).

### **4.3 Contraindications**

Pirival tablets are contra-indicated in patients who are hypersensitive to antihistamines or to any of the tablet ingredients.

The anticholinergic properties of chlorphenamine are intensified by monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs). Pirival Tablets is therefore contra-indicated in patients who have been treated with MAOIs within the last fourteen days.

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

Chlorphenamine, in common with other drugs having anticholinergic effects, should be used with caution in epilepsy; raised intra-ocular pressure including glaucoma; prostatic hypertrophy; severe hypertension or cardiovascular disease; bronchitis, bronchiectasis and asthma; hepatic impairment; renal impairment. Children and the elderly are more likely to experience the neurological anticholinergic effects and paradoxical excitation (eg. increased energy, restlessness, nervousness). Avoid use in elderly patients with confusion.

The anticholinergic properties of chlorphenamine may cause drowsiness, dizziness, blurred vision and psychomotor impairment in some patients which may seriously affect ability to drive and use machinery.

Concurrent use with drugs which cause sedation such as anxiolytics and hypnotics may cause an increase in sedative effects, therefore medical advice should be sought before taking chlorphenamine concurrently with these medicines.

The effects of alcohol may be increased and therefore concurrent use should be avoided.

Should not be used with other antihistamine containing products, including antihistamine containing cough and cold medicines.

Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine,

Keep out of sight and reach of children.

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

Concurrent use of chlorphenamine and hypnotics or anxiolytics may cause an increase in sedative effects, concurrent use of alcohol may have a similar effect therefore medical advice should be sought before taking chlorphenamine concurrently with these medicines.

Chlorphenamine inhibits phenytoin metabolism and can lead to phenytoin toxicity.

The anticholinergic effects of chlorphenamine are intensified by MAOIs (see Contra-indications).

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### **Pregnancy**

There are no adequate data from the use of chlorphenamine maleate in pregnant women. The potential risk for humans is unknown. Use during the third trimester may result in reactions in the newborn or premature neonates. Not to be used during pregnancy unless considered essentially by a physician.

##### **Lactation**

Chlorphenamine maleate and other antihistamine may inhibit lactation and may be secreted in breast milk. Not to be used during lactation unless considered essential by a physician

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

The anticholinergic properties of chlorphenamine may cause drowsiness, dizziness, blurred vision and psychomotor impairment, which can seriously hamper the patients' ability to drive and use machinery.

#### **4.8 Undesirable effects**

The following convention has been utilised for the classification of the frequency of adverse reactions: very common ( $>1/10$ ), common ( $>1/100$  to  $<1/10$ ), uncommon ( $>1/1000$  to  $<1/100$ ), rare ( $>1/10,000$  to  $<1/1000$ ) and very rare ( $<1/10,000$ ), not known (cannot be estimated from available data).

Adverse reactions identified during post-marketing use with chlorphenamine are listed below. As these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, the frequency of some reactions is unknown but likely to be rare or very rare:

<b>System Organ Class</b>	<b>Adverse Reaction</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Nervous system disorders*	Sedation, somnolence	Very common
	Disturbance in attention, abnormal coordination, dizziness headache	Common
Eye disorders	Blurred Vision	Common
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea, dry mouth	Common
	Vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, dyspepsia	Unknown
Immune system disorders:	Allergic reaction, angioedema, anaphylactic reactions	Unknown
Metabolism and nutritional disorders	Anorexia	Unknown

Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Haemolytic anaemia, blood dyscrasias	Unknown
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Muscle twitching, muscle weakness	Unknown
Psychiatric disorders	Confusion*, excitation*, irritability*, nightmares*, depression	Unknown
Renal and urinary disorders	Urinary retention	Unknown
Skin and subcutaneous disorders	Exfoliative dermatitis, rash, urticaria, photosensitivity	Unknown
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Thickening of bronchial secretions	Unknown
Vascular disorders	Hypotension	Unknown
Hepatobiliary disorders	Hepatitis, including jaundice	Unknown
Ear and labyrinth disorders	Tinnitus	Unknown
Cardiac disorders	Palpitations, tachycardia, arrhythmias	Unknown
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fatigue	Common
	Chest tightness	Unknown

\*Children and the elderly are more likely to experience the neurological anticholinergic effects and paradoxical excitation (eg. increased energy, restlessness, nervousness).

## 4.9 Overdose

### Symptoms and signs

The estimated lethal dose of chlorphenamine is 25 to 50mg/kg body weight. Symptoms and signs include sedation, paradoxical excitation of the CNS, toxic psychosis, convulsions, apnoea, anticholinergic effects, dystonic reactions and cardiovascular collapse including arrhythmias.

### Treatment

Management should be as clinically indicated or as recommended by the national poisons centres where available.

Symptomatic and supportive measures should be provided with special attention to cardiac, respiratory, renal and hepatic functions and fluid and electrolyte balance. If overdose is by the oral route, treatment with activated charcoal should be considered provided there are no contraindications for use and the overdose has been taken recently (treatment is most effective if given within an hour of ingestion). Treat hypotension and arrhythmias vigorously. CNS convulsions may be treated with i.v. diazepam. Haemoperfusion may be used in severe cases.

## 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

ATC Code R06AB02

Chlorphenamine is a potent antihistamine (H<sub>1</sub>-antagonist).

Antihistamines diminish or abolish the actions of histamine in the body by competitive reversible blockade of histamine H<sub>1</sub>-receptor sites on tissues. Chlorphenamine also has anticholinergic activity.

Antihistamines act to prevent the release of histamine, prostaglandins and leukotrienes and have been shown to prevent the migration of inflammatory mediators. The actions of chlorphenamine include inhibition of histamine on smooth muscle, capillary permeability and hence reduction of oedema and wheal in hypersensitivity reactions such as allergy and anaphylaxis.

### **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Chlorphenamine is well absorbed from the gastro-intestinal tract, following oral administration. The effects develop within 30 minutes, are maximal within 1 to 2 hours and last 4 to 6 hours. The plasma half-life has been estimated to be 12 to 15 hours.

Chlorphenamine is metabolised to the monodesmethyl and didesmethyl derivatives. About 22% of an oral dose is excreted unchanged in the urine.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

No additional data of relevance.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Microcrystalline Cellulose

Lactose

Maize Starch

Sodium Starch Glycolate

Magnesium Stearate

Talc Powder

Deionised Water

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

None reported.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

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

Store below 30°C.

### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

The tablets are supplied Alu/PVC blister packs containing 20, 250, or 100 tablets

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

For detailed instructions for use refer to the Patient Information Leaflet in every pack.

## **7. APPLICANT/MANUFACTURER**

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