

VOCET

Levocetirizine

5 mg Tablet

DESCRIPTION

Vocet (Levocetirizine) is a third generation antihistamine. It is a therapeutically active isomer (Levo isomer) of Cetirizine and has a two-fold higher affinity for H₁-receptors than Cetirizine. It acts by reversible-competitive blocking of H₁-receptors that reduce or prevent most of the physiologic effects of histamine at H₁-receptor site. It does not prevent histamine release nor bind with histamine that has already been released. Antihistaminic effects of Levocetirizine include inhibition of respiratory, vascular, and GI smooth muscle constriction; decreased capillary permeability which reduces the wheal, flare, and itch response; and decreased histamine-activated exocrine secretions (e.g., salivary, lacrimal).

Vocet (Levocetirizine) has a rapid and long-lasting antihistaminic action & this action is selective for peripheral H₁-receptors and does not appear to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB); therefore, appears to have a low potential for sedation in usual doses. Moreover, Levocetirizine has some mast-cell stabilizing activity and is virtually free of antimuscarinic activity (this makes it suitable for use in obstructive pulmonary diseases like bronchitis, asthma)- these properties make Levocetirizine superior to 1st generation antihistamines. Also Levocetirizine appears to be better than 2nd generation & other 3rd generation antihistamines in terms of onset of action, efficacy, potency and tolerability.

COMPOSITION

Vocet Tablet : Each tablet contains Levocetirizine Dihydrochloride INN 5 mg.

INDICATION

Vocet (Levocetirizine) is indicated-

- for the treatment of symptoms associated with allergic conditions such as seasonal allergic rhinitis, perennial allergic rhinitis and hay fever
- for the relief of manifestations of immediate-type hypersensitivity reaction like, wheal, flare, and itch response; atopic dermatitis; and chronic idiopathic urticaria
- to reduce respiratory tract muscle constriction and histamine-activated exocrine secretions (e.g., salivary) in obstructive pulmonary diseases like bronchitis, asthma and emphysema.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults and children over 6 years of age : 5 mg (one Vocet tablet) once daily.

In renal impairment : The dosage should be reduced according to Creatinine Clearance (CC). CC 30-49 ml/min : 5 mg every other day. CC 10-29 ml/min : 5 mg every 3 days. CC < 10 ml/min : contraindicated.

CONTRAINDICATION

Vocet is contraindicated in known hypersensitivity to Levocetirizine or Cetirizine and in severe renal impairment (Creatinine Clearance < 10 ml/min).

PRECAUTION

Vocet (Levocetirizine) should be used with caution in **i.** renal and hepatic impairment **ii.** glaucoma **iii.** epilepsy **iv.** pregnancy & lactation. Although drowsiness is rare with Levocetirizine, nevertheless patients should be advised that drowsiness can occur and may affect performance of skilled tasks (e.g. driving).

IN PREGNANCY AND LACTATION

Pregnancy : The safety of Levocetirizine in pregnancy has not been established. Therefore, it should be used with caution during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the possible risk to the fetus. **Lactation** : Levocetirizine passes into breast milk. So, it should be used with caution in nursing mothers and only if the expected benefit to the mother is greater than the possible risk to the nursing infant.

SIDE EFFECT

Generally Levocetirizine is well tolerated. However, a few side effects like headache, dizziness, nausea, dry mouth, fatigue, weakness, somnolence, rash have been reported rarely.

DRUG INTERACTION

Alcohol, tricyclic antidepressants (amitriptylin), narcotics (morphine, codeine), benzodiazepines (diazepam), sedative antihistamines (Chlorpheniramine), other sleeping pills : there may be a risk of drowsiness if Levocetirizine is taken with any of these drugs.

STORAGE

Store in a cool dry place and away from light. Keep out of the reach of children.

HOW SUPPLIED

Vocet Tablet : Box containing 5 x 10's tablet in Alu-PVC strips.



Manufactured by
Apex Pharma Ltd.
Shafipur, Gazipur