Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Amsalyo 75 mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion
Amsacrine

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Amsalyo is and what it is used for

This medicine is an anticancer (cytostatic) agent. It is used in combination with other chemotherapeutic (anticancer) agents to treat a form of cancer of the white cells in your blood, acute myeloid leukaemia. It prevents the growth of certain cells.

Amsalyo is mainly indicated in case of recurrence or failure of conventional treatments.

2. What you need to know before you use Amsalyo

Do not use Amsalyo

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to amsacrine or any of the other ingredients of this medicine listed in section 6.
- if your bone marrow does not produce enough blood cells following the administration of other chemotherapy products and/or radiation therapy.
- during breast-feeding.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor before taking Amsalyo:
Your doctor will take special care if any of the following conditions apply to you.
- this medicine can cause a decrease in the production of white blood cells and platelets where severe infections and haemorrhages may occur. Your doctor will check this by blood samples and reduce the dose and interrupt treatment if necessary.
- there is a risk of kidney impairment, this will be monitored by blood samples.
- if you suffer from kidney or liver impairment your doctor will adjust the dose for you.
- your doctor will keep you under observation for allergic reactions when you receive this medicine.
- if your blood potassium or magnesium levels are too low (hypokalaemia/hypomagnesemia), it will be adjusted before you get this medicine.
- the rhythm of your heart will be checked, as some patients are at risk of arrhytmia.

- inform your doctor if you suffer from porphyria (group of rare inherited blood disorders).

Contraception in males and females
See section Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

Other medicines and Amsalyo

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or may take any other medicines. A large number of medicines can interact with Amsalyo and significantly alter their effect.

Vaccination should be avoided during treatment with this medicine, ask your doctor for further information.

Medicines where the effect can be altered include:
- Other medicines used in the treatment of cancer
- Methotrexate, used in the treatment of e.g. cancer or rheumatoid arthritis

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine.

Pregnancy
This medicine should be given during pregnancy only if absolutely necessary. If you become pregnant during treatment, tell your doctor immediately. The benefit of treatment must be outweighed against the risk to the unborn baby.

Contraception
If you are a woman of child-bearing age, you must use an effective contraceptive method during treatment and for 3 months after stopping the treatment.

If you are a man, you must take appropriate precautions, including the use of an effective contraceptive method, so as not to conceive a child during the amsacrine treatment period or during the 6 months after stopping the treatment.

Breast-feeding
You must not breast-feed during treatment with Amsalyo.

Fertility
Amsalyo can have a negative impact on fertility.

Driving and using machines

Some of the side effects listed in this information have an effect on the ability to drive and use machines. If you experience side effects such as e.g. dizziness, visual disturbances or confusion you should not drive or use machines.

3. How to use Amsalyo

The dose is calculated by your doctor depending on your general condition and other concomitant treatment you are receiving. It is given as a slow infusion into the vein (intravenous infusion).

If you use more Amsalyo than you should

As the infusion will be given under supervision of a doctor, it is unlikely that you will be given more than necessary. However, if you have concerns about the dose of your medicine discuss them with your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.
Tell your doctor or nurse immediately:
- If after the treatment you feel sick and vomit, have a fever, infection or if you notice bleeding or bruises, as this product may reduce the white blood cells and platelet levels in your blood.

Very common side effects (affect more than 1 in 10 patients)

- Low blood pressure;
- Feeling sick, vomiting or diarrhoea;
- Abdominal pain;
- Inflammation of the mouth;
- Red spots on the skin(purpura);
- Local inflammation of the vein into which the infusion was given;
- Increased liver enzymes levels.

Common side effects (affect 1 in 10 out of 100 patients)

- Infection;
- Reduced platelet levels in blood, increasing the risk of haemorrhaging;
- Low blood potassium levels (hypokalaemia);
- Mood changes (emotional lability);
- Epileptic fits;
- Heart function impairment, irregular heart rhythm and congestive heart failure;
- Breathing difficulties (dyspnoea);
- Gastrointestinal bleeding;
- Hepatitis, jaundice, liver impairment;
- Hair loss;
- Hives and skin rashes;
- Blood in urine;
- Fever;
- Local irritation at the injection site, tissue death (necrosis), inflammation of the skin.

Rare side effects (affect 1 in 10 out of 10000 patients)

- Reduction in red and white blood cells (anaemia and increasing risk of infection);
- Allergic reactions, severe allergic reactions (anaphylactic reactions), oedema;
- Weight loss or gain;
- Lethargy and confusion;
- Headache;
- Reduced sensitivity (hypoaesthesia);
- Dizziness;
- Numbing (peripheral neuropathy);
- Heart rhythm disorders and other changes of the heart function;
- Increased blood levels of bilirubin, urea, alkaline phosphates and creatinine;
- Visual disturbances;

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance Website: www.hpra.ie. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Amsalyo

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the vial. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 30°C.

After preparing (reconstitution) the product must be used immediately.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Amsalyo contains

The active substance is 75 mg amsacrine.

The other ingredient is lactic acid.

What Amsalyo looks like and contents of the pack

This medicine is available as a powder for concentrate for solution for infusion. Powder in a 50 ml vial (brown glass) with a stopper. Box of 5 vials.

Marketing authorisation holder

EUROCEPT INTERNATIONAL BV
TRAPGANS 5
1244 RL ANKEVEEN
THE NETHERLANDS

Manufacturer

THISSEN LABORATORIES
2-6 RUE DE LA PAPYREE
21420 BRAINE L'ALLEUD
BELGIUM

This leaflet was last revised

The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:

Posology

Treatment should be supervised by a physician experienced in the management of patients with AML. Before treatment is started the potassium level in serum must be controlled and corrected. A serum potassium level >4 mEq/L prior to administration is recommended. Amsacrine is given in combination with other cytostatic drugs.

Numerous dose levels and dosing schedules exist and depend on concomitant therapy, patient and disease characteristics, bone marrow reserve and hematoxicity, and response to therapy. Refer to the protocol by which the patient is being treated and to applicable guidelines. Dosing schedules reported for induction treatment with combination chemotherapy typically include doses of 90 to 150 mg/m2 per day, for three to five consecutive days. For consolidation treatment, lower doses may be considered.

Method of administration

Like for all cytotoxic agents, the preparation and handling of this product require a set of precautions that guarantee the protection of the operator and his/her environment, under the safety conditions required for the patient.

The following is required in addition to the usual precautions to preserve the sterility of preparations for injection:

- wear a long-sleeve tight cuff laboratory coat, in order to prevent any projection of the solution on the skin,
- also wear a disposable surgical mask and wrap-around safety eyeglasses,
- wear disposable PVC gloves, not latex, after aseptically washing the hands,
- prepare the solution on a work liner,
- stop the infusion in case of injection outside the vein,
- dispose of any material used for the preparation of the solution (syringes, compresses, liners, vial) in a container reserved for this purpose,
- destroy the toxic waste,
- handle excreta and vomit with care.

Pregnant women must avoid handling cytotoxic agents.

After introducing 50 ml of water for injections in the vial containing the lyophilisate, it is essential to mix the vial gently, without shaking, and allow to rest for approximately 15 minutes. If necessary, repeat until obtaining a clear intense orange solution. For the stability of the reconstituted solution see section 5: “How to store Amsalyo”.

The solution thus prepared, should only be injected by IV route, as an infusion.
To prepare the infusion, remove 50 ml of the 500 ml isotonic glucose serum bag and replace them by the reconstituted amsacrine solution.
Solutions other than glucose, like isotonic saline solution, must not be used during preparation (risk of precipitation of amsacrine).
This medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

The administration is performed exclusively as an intravenous infusion over no less than 60 minutes, to prevent any local irritation (risk of phlebitis). Stop the infusion in case of injection outside the vein.

In case of daily or continuous 24 hour infusion, it is recommended to insert a central catheter to prevent the risk of veinitis.
In case of extravasation, the administration will be interrupted immediately.