

Summary of Product Characteristics

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Gaviscon Extra Oral Suspension

Sodium alginate 500 mg

Sodium bicarbonate 213 mg

Calcium carbonate 325 mg

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each 10 ml dose contains sodium alginate 500 mg, sodium bicarbonate 213 mg and calcium carbonate 325 mg.

Excipients: Methyl parahydroxybenzoate (E218) 40mg/10ml
Propyl parahydroxybenzoate (E216) 6mg/10ml

For a full list of excipients, see Section 6.1.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Oral suspension.

An off-white suspension with the odour and flavour of peppermint.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

Treatment of acid related symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux such as acid regurgitation, heartburn and indigestion, for example following meals or during pregnancy.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

For oral administration.

Adults and children 12 years and over: 10-20 ml after meals and at bedtime, up to four times per day.

Children under 12 years: Should be given only on medical advice.

Elderly: No dose modifications necessary for this age group.

4.3 Contraindications

This medicinal product is contraindicated in patients with known or suspected hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Each 10 ml dose has a sodium content of 127.25 mg (5.53 mmol). This should be taken into account when a highly restricted salt diet is recommended, e.g. in some cases of congestive cardiac failure and renal impairment.

Each 10 ml contains 130 mg (3.25 mmol) of calcium. Care needs to be taken in treating patients with hypercalcaemia, nephrocalcinosis and recurrent calcium containing renal calculi.

If symptoms do not improve after seven days, the clinical situation should be reviewed.

Contains methyl parahydroxybenzoate (E218) and propyl parahydroxybenzoate (E216) which may cause allergic reactions (possibly delayed).

Prolonged use should be avoided.

As with other antacid products, taking Gaviscon Extra Oral Suspension can mask the symptoms of other more serious, underlying medical conditions.

Gaviscon Extra Oral Suspension should not be used in the following cases:

- Patients with server/impaired renal function/-insufficiency
- Patients with hypophosphatemia

There is a possibility of reduced efficacy in patients with very low levels of gastric acid.

There is increased risk for hypernatremia in children with gastroenteritis or suspected renal insufficiency.

Treatment of children younger than 12 years of age is not generally recommended, except on medical advice.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Due to the presence of calcium and carbonates which act as an antacid, a time-interval of 2 hours should be considered between Gaviscon intake and the administration of other medicinal products, especially H₂-antihistaminics, tetracyclines, digoxine, fluoroquinolone, iron salts, thyroid hormones, ketoconazole, neuroleptics, thyroxine, penicilamine, beta-blockers (atenolol, metoprolol, propranolol), glucocorticoid, chloroquine, estramustine and diphosphonates. See also section 4.4.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy:

A moderate amount of data on pregnant women (between 300-1000 pregnancy outcomes) indicate no malformative or fetoneonatal toxicity of the active substances.

Based on this and previous experience the medicinal product may be used during pregnancy and lactation, if clinically needed.

Nevertheless, taking into account the presence of calcium carbonate it is recommended to limit the treatment duration as much as possible.

Breastfeeding:

No effects of the active substances have been shown in breastfed newborns/infants of treated mothers. This product can be used during breast-feeding.

Fertility:

Pre-clinical animal investigations have revealed alginate has no negative effect on parental or offspring fertility or reproduction.

Clinical data do not suggest that this product has an effect on human fertility.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

This product has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Adverse events which have been associated with sodium alginate, sodium bicarbonate and calcium carbonate are given below, tabulated by system organ class and frequency. Frequencies are defined as: Very common ($\geq 1/10$); Common ($\geq 1/100$ and $< 1/10$); Uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$ and $< 1/100$); Rare $\geq 1/10,000$ and $< 1/1000$); Very rare ($< 1/10,000$); Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data). Within each frequency grouping, adverse events are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

System Organ Class	Frequency	Adverse Events
Immune System Disorders	Very Rare	Anaphylactic reaction, anaphylactoid reaction. Hypersensitivity reactions such as urticaria.
Metabolism and Nutritional Disorders	Not Known	Alkalosis ¹ , Hypercalcaemia ¹ , Milk-alkali Syndrome ¹
Respiratory, Thoracic and Mediastinal Disorders	Not known	Respiratory effects such as bronchospasm.
Gastrointestinal Disorders	Very Rare	Abdominal pain, acid rebound, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting
	Not Known	Constipation ¹
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders	Very Rare	Rash Pruritic

Description of Selected Adverse Reactions
1 Usually occurs following larger than recommended dosages.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions
Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via HPRA Pharmacovigilance, Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2; Tel: +353 1 6764971; Fax: +353 1 6762517. Website: www.hpra.ie; e-mail: medsafety@hpra.ie.

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms
Some abdominal distension may be noticed.

Management
In the event of overdosage symptomatic treatment should be given

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: A02BX, Other drugs for peptic ulcer and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease.

The medicinal product is a combination of two antacids (calcium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate) and an alginate.

On ingestion, the medicinal product reacts rapidly with gastric acid to form a raft of alginic acid gel having a near neutral pH and which floats on the stomach contents effectively impeding gastro-oesophageal reflux. In severe cases the raft itself may be refluxed into the oesophagus, in preference to the stomach contents and exert a demulcent effect.

Calcium carbonate neutralises gastric acid to provide fast relief from indigestion and heartburn. This effect is increased by the addition of sodium bicarbonate which also has a neutralising action. The total neutralising capacity of the product at the lowest dose of 10 ml is approximately 10 mEqH⁺.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

The mode of action of the medicinal product is physical and does not depend on absorption into the systemic circulation.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

No pre-clinical findings of any relevance to the prescriber have been reported.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Carbomer,
Methyl parahydroxybenzoate
Propyl parahydroxybenzoate,
Saccharin sodium,
Peppermint flavour,
Sodium hydroxide
Purified water.

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

Two years.

Use within six months of opening.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 30°C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Amber glass bottles with a polypropylene cap with a polyethylene tamper-evident band lined with expanded polyethylene wad with either a measuring device (natural polypropylene) containing 5 ml, 10 ml, 15 ml, and 20 ml graduations, or a measuring spoon (crystal polystyrene) containing 2.5 ml and 5 ml measure, and containing 150, 200, 300 and 600 ml.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed. The carton and measuring device or spoon may not be made available in all markets/pack sizes.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

None required.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Reckitt Benckiser Ireland Limited
7 Riverwalk
Citywest Business Campus
Dublin 24

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

PA0979/015/011

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 1st October 2010
Date of last renewal: 26th January 2011

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

June 2016