

Summary of Product Characteristics

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

NAVELBINE 20 mg soft capsule

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each soft capsule contains 20 mg vinorelbine (as tartrate).

Excipients: Each 20 mg capsule contains:

- Ethanol anhydrous 5.00 mg
- Sorbitol 10.54 mg

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

- Soft capsule
- Light brown soft capsule printed N20

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

- Treatment of non small cell lung cancer in adult patients.
- Treatment of advanced breast cancer stage 3 and 4.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

In adult patients  
As a single agent, the recommended regimen is:

First three administrations  
60mg/m<sup>2</sup> of body surface area, administered once weekly

Subsequent administrations  
Beyond the third administration, it is recommended to increase the dose of Navelbine to 80mg/m<sup>2</sup> once weekly except in those patients for whom the neutrophil count dropped once below 500/mm<sup>3</sup> or more than once between 500 and 1000/mm<sup>3</sup> during the first three administrations at 60mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

| Neutrophil count during the first 3 administrations of 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /week | Neutrophils > 1000 | Neutrophils ≥ 500 and < 1000 (1 episode) | Neutrophils ≥ 500 and < 1000 (2 episodes) | Neutrophils < 500 |
|---|--------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| Recommended dose starting with the 4 <sup>th</sup> administration                 | 80                 | 80                                       | 60  | 60                |

**Dose modification**

For any administration planned to be given at 80mg/m<sup>2</sup>, if the neutrophil count is below 500/mm<sup>3</sup> or more than once between 500 and 1000 / mm<sup>3</sup> the administration should be delayed until recovery and the dose reduced from 80 to 60mg/m<sup>2</sup> per week during the 3 following administrations.

|  |                       |   |  |                      |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|----------------------|
| Neutrophil count<br>beyond the 4 <sup>th</sup> administration<br>of 80 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /week | Neutrophils<br>> 1000 | Neutrophils<br>≥ 500<br>and < 1000<br>(1 episode) | Neutrophils<br>≥ 500<br>and < 1000<br>(2 episodes) | Neutrophils<br>< 500 |
| Recommended dose<br>starting with the next<br>administration                                   | 80                    |   | 60   |                      |

It is possible to re-escalate the dose from 60 to 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> per week if the neutrophil count did not drop below 500/mm<sup>3</sup> or more than once between 500 and 1000/mm<sup>3</sup> during 3 administrations given at 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> according to the rules previously defined for the first 3 administrations.

**For combination regimens, the dose and schedule will be adapted to the treatment protocol.**

Based on clinical studies, the oral dose of 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> was demonstrated to correspond to 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of the iv form and 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> to 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.  
This has been the base for combination regimens alternating iv and oral forms improving patient convenience.

Capsules of different strengths (20, 30, 80 mg) are available in order to choose the adequate combination for the right dosage.

The following table gives the dose required for appropriate ranges of body surface area (BSA).

|                       | 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> | 80 mg/m <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| BSA (m <sup>2</sup> ) | Dose (mg)            | Dose (mg)            |
| 0.95 to 1.04          | 60                   | 80                   |
| 1.05 to 1.14          | 70                   | 90                   |
| 1.15 to 1.24          | 70                   | 100                  |
| 1.25 to 1.34          | 80                   | 100                  |
| 1.35 to 1.44          | 80                   | 110                  |
| 1.45 to 1.54          | 90                   | 120                  |
| 1.55 to 1.64          | 100                  | 130                  |
| 1.65 to 1.74          | 100                  | 140                  |
| 1.75 to 1.84          | 110                  | 140                  |
| 1.85 to 1.94          | 110                  | 150                  |
| ≥ 1.95                | 120                  | 160                  |

**Even for patients with BSA≥ 2 m<sup>2</sup> the total dose should never exceed  
120 mg per week at 60 mg /m<sup>2</sup> and 160 mg per week at 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup>**

**Administration**

Navelbine must be given strictly by the oral route.  
Navelbine must be swallowed whole with water, without chewing, sucking or dissolving the capsule.  
It is recommended to administer the capsule with some food.

**Administration in the elderly**

Clinical experience has not detected any significant differences among elderly patients with regard to the response rate, although greater sensitivity in some of these patients cannot be excluded. Age does not modify the pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine (see section 5.2).

**Administration in children**

Safety and efficacy in children have not been established and administration is therefore not recommended, (see section 5.1).

**Administration in patients with liver insufficiency**

Navelbine can be administered at the standard dose of 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/week in patients with mild hepatic disorder (bilirubin < 1.5 x ULN, and ALT and/or AST between 1.5 and 2.5 x ULN).

In patients with moderate hepatic disorder (bilirubin between 1.5 and 3 x ULN independent of ALT and AST level), Navelbine needs to be administered at a dose of 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/week.

Administration of Navelbine to patients with severe hepatic disorder **is not recommended because there is insufficient data in this population in order to determine the pharmacokinetics, efficacy and safety**, (see sections 4.4, 5.2).

**Administration in patients with renal insufficiency**

Given the minor renal excretion, there is no pharmacokinetic justification for reducing the dose of Navelbine in patients with serious renal insufficiency, (see section 4.4, 5.2).

Specific instructions must be observed for handling Navelbine (see section 6.6).

**4.3 Contraindications**

- Known hypersensitivity to vinorelbine or other vinca-alkaloids or to any of the constituents.
- Disease significantly affecting absorption
- Previous significant surgical resection of stomach or small bowel.
- Neutrophil count < 1500/mm<sup>3</sup> or severe infection current or recent (within 2 weeks).
- Platelet count < 100000/mm<sup>3</sup>
- Lactation (see section 4.6)
- Patients requiring long-term oxygen therapy
- In combination with yellow fever vaccine (see section 4.5).

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

Navelbine should be prescribed by a physician who is experienced in the use of chemotherapy with facilities for monitoring cytotoxic drugs.

If the patient chews or sucks the capsule by error, the liquid is an irritant. Proceed to mouth rinses with water or preferably a normal saline solution.

In the event of the capsule being cut or damaged, the liquid content is an irritant, and so may cause damage if in contact with skin, mucosa or eyes. Damaged capsules should not be swallowed and should be returned to the pharmacy or to the doctor in order to be properly destroyed. If any contact occurs, immediate thorough washing with water or preferably with normal saline solution should be undertaken.

In the case of vomiting within a few hours after drug intake, do not re-administer. Supportive treatment such as 5HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists (e.g. ondansetron, granisetron) may reduce the occurrence of this (see section 4.5).

Navelbine soft capsule is associated with a higher incidence of nausea/vomiting than the intravenous formulation. Primary prophylaxis with antiemetics and administration of the capsules with some food is recommended as this has also been shown to reduce the incidence of nausea and vomiting (see section 4.2).

Patients receiving concomitant morphine or opioid analgesics: laxatives and careful monitoring of bowel mobility are recommended. Prescription of laxatives may be appropriate in patients with prior history of constipation.

Due to sorbitol content, patients with rare hereditary problems with fructose intolerance should not take the capsules.

This medicinal product contains small amounts of ethanol (alcohol), less than 100mg per dose

Close haematological monitoring must be undertaken during treatment (determination of haemoglobin level and the leucocyte, neutrophil and platelet counts on the day of each new administration).

Dosing should be determined by haematological status:

- If the neutrophil count is below  $1500 /\text{mm}^3$  and/or the platelet count is below  $100000/\text{mm}^3$ , then the treatment should be delayed until recovery.
- For dose escalation from 60 to  $80 \text{ mg/m}^2$  per week, after the third administration: see section 4.2.

For the administrations given at  $80\text{mg/m}^2$ , if the neutrophil count is below  $500/\text{mm}^3$  or more than once between 500 and  $1000 /\text{mm}^3$ , then the treatment should be delayed until recovery. The administration should not only be delayed but also reduced to  $60\text{mg/m}^2$  per week. It is possible to reescalate the dose from 60 to  $80 \text{ mg/m}^2$  per week (see section 4.2).

During clinical trials where treatments were initiated at  $80 \text{ mg/m}^2$ , a few patients developed excessive neutropenic complications including those with a poor performance status. Therefore it is recommended that the starting dose should be  $60 \text{ mg/m}^2$  escalating to  $80 \text{ mg/m}^2$  if the dose is tolerated as described in section 4.2.

If patients present signs or symptoms suggestive of infection, a prompt investigation should be carried out.

### Special precautions for use

Special care should be taken when prescribing for patients with:

- history of ischemic heart disease (see section 4.8)
- poor performance status

Navelbine should not be given concomitantly with radiotherapy if the treatment field includes the liver.

This product is specifically contra-indicated with yellow fever vaccine and its concomitant use with other live attenuated vaccines is not recommended (see section 4.3).

Caution must be exercised when combining Navelbine and strong inhibitors or inducers of CYP3A4 (see section 4.5), and its combination with phenytoin (like all cytotoxics) and with itraconazole (like all vinca alkaloids) is not recommended.

Oral Navelbine has been studied in patients with hepatic disorder at the following dosages:

- $60 \text{ mg/m}^2$  in 7 patients with mild hepatic disorder (bilirubin  $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ , and ALT and/or AST between  $1.5$  and  $2.5 \times \text{ULN}$ );
- $50 \text{ mg/m}^2$  in 6 patients with moderate hepatic disorder (bilirubin between  $1.5$  and  $3 \times \text{ULN}$ , independent of ALT and AST level).

The safety and pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine were not changed in these patients at the tested doses.

Oral Navelbine has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic disorder, therefore the use in these patients is **not recommended**, (see sections 4.2, 5.2).

As there is a low level of renal excretion there is no pharmacokinetic rationale for reducing the dose of Navelbine in patients with impaired kidney function (see sections 4.2, 5.2).

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

### Concomitant use contraindicated

Yellow fever vaccine: as with all cytotoxics, risk of fatal generalised vaccine disease (see section 4.3).

### Concomitant use not recommended

Live attenuated vaccines: (for yellow fever vaccine, see concomitant use contraindicated) as with all cytotoxics, risk of generalised vaccine disease, possibly fatal. This risk is increased in patients already immunodepressed by their underlying disease. It is recommended to use an inactivated vaccine when one exists (e.g. poliomyelitis) (see section 4.4).

Phenytoin: as with all cytotoxics, risk of exacerbation of convulsions resulting from the decrease of phenytoin digestive absorption by cytotoxic drug or loss of efficacy of the cytotoxic drug due to increased hepatic metabolism by phenytoin.

Itraconazole: as with all vinca-alkaloids, increased neurotoxicity of vinca-alkaloids due to the decrease of their hepatic metabolism.

### Concomitant use to take into consideration

Cisplatin: There is no mutual pharmacokinetic interaction when combining Navelbine with cisplatin over several cycles of treatment. However, the incidence of granulocytopenia associated with Navelbine use in combination with cisplatin is higher than associated with Navelbine single agent.

Mitomycin C: risk of bronchospasm and dyspnoea are increased, in rare case an interstitial pneumonitis was observed.

Ciclosporin, tacrolimus: excessive immunodepression with risk of lymphoproliferation.

As vinca-alkaloids are known as substrates for P-glycoprotein, and in the absence of specific study, caution should be exercised when combining Navelbine with strong modulators of this membrane transporter.

The combination of Navelbine with other drugs with known bone marrow toxicity is likely to exacerbate the myelosuppressive adverse effects.

No clinically significant pharmacokinetic interaction was observed when combining Navelbine with several other chemotherapeutic agents (paclitaxel, docetaxel, capecitabine and oral cyclophosphamide).

As CYP3A4 is mainly involved in the metabolism of vinorelbine, combination with strong inhibitors of this isoenzyme (e.g. azole antifungals such as ketoconazole and itraconazole) could increase blood concentrations of vinorelbine and combination with strong inducers of this isoenzyme (e.g. rifampicin, phenytoin) could decrease blood concentrations of vinorelbine.

Anti-emetic drugs such as 5HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists (e.g. ondansetron, granisetron) do not modify the pharmacokinetics of Navelbine soft capsules (see section 4.4).

An increased incidence of grade 3/4 neutropenia has been suggested when intravenous vinorelbine and lapatinib were associated in one clinical phase I study. In this study, the recommended dose of intravenous form of vinorelbine in a 3-weekly schedule on day 1 and day 8 was 22.5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> when combined with daily lapatinib 1000 mg. This type of combination should be administered with caution.

Anticoagulant treatment: as with all cytotoxics, the frequency of INR (International Normalised Ratio) monitoring should be increased due to the potential interaction with oral anticoagulants and increased variability of coagulation in patients with cancer.

Food does not modify the pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

There are insufficient data available on the use of vinorelbine in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown embryotoxicity and teratogenicity (see section 5.3). On the basis of the results of animal studies and the pharmacological action of the medicinal product, there is a potential risk of embryonic and foetal abnormalities. Navelbine should therefore not be used during pregnancy, unless the individual awaited benefit clearly outweighs the potential risks. If pregnancy occurs during treatment, the patient should be informed about the risks for the unborn child and be monitored carefully. The possibility of genetic counselling should be considered.

Women of child-bearing potential

Women of child-bearing potential must use effective contraception during treatment and up to 3 months after treatment.

Lactation

It is unknown whether vinorelbine is excreted in human breast milk. The excretion of vinorelbine in milk has not been studied in animal studies. A risk to the suckling child cannot be excluded therefore breast feeding must be discontinued before starting treatment with Navelbine (see section 4.3).

Fertility

Men being treated with Navelbine are advised not to father a child during and minimally up to 3 months after treatment. Prior to treatment advice should be sought for conserving sperm due to the chance of irreversible infertility as a consequence of treatment with vinorelbine.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed but on the basis of the pharmacodynamic profile vinorelbine does not affect the ability to drive and use machines. However, caution is necessary in patients treated with vinorelbine considering some adverse effects of the drug: see section 4.8.

4.8 Undesirable effects

The overall reported frequency of undesirable effects was determined from clinical studies in 316 patients (132 patients with non-small cell lung cancer and 184 patients with breast cancer) who received the recommended regimen of Navelbine (first three administrations at 60mg/m<sup>2</sup>/week followed by 80mg/m<sup>2</sup>/week).

Adverse reactions reported are listed below, by system organ and by frequency.

Additional Adverse reactions from Post Marketing experience have been added according to the MedDRA classification with the frequency *Not known*.

The reactions were described using the NCI common toxicity criteria

|             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| Very common | ≥1/10                  |
| Common      | ≥1/100, <1/10          |
| Uncommon    | ≥1/1,000, <1/100       |
| Rare        | ≥1/10,000, <1/1,000    |
| Very rare   | <1/10,000              |
| Not known   | Post marketing reports |

**Undesirable effects reported with Navelbine soft capsule:**

**Pre-marketing experience:**

The most commonly reported adverse drug reactions are bone marrow depression with neutropenia, anaemia and thrombocytopenia, gastrointestinal toxicity with nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, stomatitis and constipation. Fatigue and fever were also reported very commonly.

**Post-marketing experience:**

Navelbine soft capsule is used as single agent or in combination with other chemotherapeutic agents such as cisplatin, or capecitabine.

The most commonly system organ classes involved during post-marketing experience are: ‘Blood and lymphatic system disorders’, ‘Gastrointestinal disorders’ and ‘General disorders and administration site conditions’. This information is consistent with the pre-marketing experience.

**Infections and Infestations**

- Very common:** Bacterial, viral or fungal infections without neutropenia at different sites G1-4: 12.7%; G3-4: 4.4%,
- Common:** Bacterial, viral or fungal infections resulting from bone marrow depression and/or immune system compromise (neutropenic infections) are usually reversible with an appropriate treatment. Neutropenic infection G3-4: 3.5%
- Not known:** Neutropenic sepsis  
Complicated septicaemia and sometimes fatal

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders**

- Very common:** Bone marrow depression resulting mainly in neutropenia G1-4: 71.5 %; G3: 21.8 %; G 4: 25.9 %, is reversible and is the dose limiting toxicity.  
Leucopenia G1-4: 70.6 %; G3: 24.7 %; G4: 6 %,  
Anemia G1-4: 67.4 %; G3-4: 3.8 %,  
Thrombocytopenia G1-2: 10.8 %,
- Common:** G4 Neutropenia associated with fever over 38 °C including febrile neutropenia: 2.8 %.

**Metabolism and nutrition disorders**

- Not Known:** Severe hyponatraemia

**Psychiatric disorders**

- Common:** Insomnia: G1-2: 2.8%

**Nervous system disorders**

- Very common:** Neurosensory disorders G1-2: 11.1 % were generally limited to loss of tendon reflexes and infrequently severe.
- Common:** Neuromotor disorders G1-4: 9.2%; G3-4: 1.3%.  
Headache: G1-4: 4.1%, G3-4: 0.6%.  
Dizziness: G1-4: 6%; G3-4: 0.6%.  
Taste disorders: G1-2: 3.8%.
- Uncommon:** Ataxia grade 3: 0.3%,

**Eye disorders**

- Common:** Visual disorders G1-2: 1.3%

**Cardiac disorders**

**Uncommon:** Heart failure and cardiac dysrhythmia  
**Not Known:** Myocardial infarction in patients with cardiac medical history or cardiac risk factors.

**Vascular disorders**

**Common:** Hypertension G1-4: 2.5%; G3-4: 0.3%;  
Hypotension G1-4: 2.2%; G3-4: 0.6%

**Respiratory system, thoracic and mediastinal disorders**

**Common:** Dyspnoea G1-4: 2.8%; G3-4: 0.3%.  
Cough: G1-2: 2.8%

**Gastrointestinal disorders**

**Very Common:** Nausea G1-4: 74.7%; G3-4: 7.3%;  
Vomiting G1-4: 54.7%; G 3-4: 6.3%; Supportive treatment such as 5HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists (ondansetron) may reduce the occurrence of nausea and vomiting (see section 4.4);  
Diarrhoea G1-4: 49.7 %; G3-4: 5.7%;  
Anorexia G1-4: 38.6%; G 3-4: 4.1%.  
Stomatitis G1-4:10.4 %; G3-4: 0.9%,  
Abdominal pain: G1-4: 14.2%,  
Constipation G1-4: 19%; G3-4: 0.9% Prescription of laxatives may be appropriate in patients with prior history of constipation and /or who receive concomitant treatment with opioid analgesics (see section 4.4),  
Gastric disorders: G1-4: 11.7%,  
**Common:** Oesophagitis G1-3: 3.8%; G3: 0.3%,  
Dysphagia: G1-2: 2.3%  
**Uncommon:** Paralytic ileus G3-4: 0.9% [exceptionally fatal] treatment may be resumed after recovery of normal bowel mobility  
**Not Known:** Gastrointestinal bleeding

**Hepatobiliary disorders**

**Common:** Hepatic disorders: G1-2: 1.3%

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders**

**Very common:** Alopecia usually mild in nature G1-2: 29.4% may occur.  
**Common:** Skin reactions G1-2: 5.7%

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders**

**Common:** Arthralgia including jaw pain,  
Myalgia: G1-4: 7 %, G3-4: 0.3%

**Renal and urinary disorders**

**Common:** Dysuria G1-2: 1.6%  
Other genitourinary disorders G1-2: 1.9%

**General disorders and administration site conditions**

**Very common:** Fatigue/malaise G1-4: 36.7 %; G3-4: 8.5 %;  
Fever G1-4: 13.0%, G3-4: 12.1%  
**Common:** Pain including pain at the tumour site G1-4: 3.8%, G3-4: 0.6%.  
Chills: G1-2: 3.8%

**Investigations**

**Very common:** Weight loss G1-4: 25%, G3-4: 0.3%  
**Common:** Weight gain G1-2: 1.3%

**Undesirable effects with Navelbine, concentrate for infusion:**

Some undesirable effects were observed with Navelbine, concentrate for solution for infusion during pre- and post-marketing experience which were not reported with Navelbine soft capsule.

In order to provide the complete information and to further the safety of use of Navelbine soft capsule, these effects are presented below:

**Undesirable effects with Navelbine, concentrate for infusion:**

Some undesirable effects were observed with Navelbine, concentrate for infusion during pre- and post-marketing experience which were not reported with Navelbine soft capsule:

In order to provide the complete information and to further the safety of use of Navelbine soft capsule, these effects are presented below:

**Infections and Infestations**

**Uncommon:** Septicemia (very rarely fatal)

**Immune system disorders**

**Not known:** Systemic allergic reactions were reported as anaphylaxis, anaphylactic shock or anaphylactoid type reaction.

**Endocrine disorders**

**Not known:** Inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH)

**Vascular disorders**

**Uncommon:** Flushing and peripheral coldness

**Rare:** Severe hypotension, collapse

**Respiratory system, thoracic and mediastinal disorders**

**Uncommon:** Bronchospasm may occur as with other vinca alkaloids.

**Rare:** Interstitial pneumonopathy has been reported in particular in patients treated with Navelbine in combination with mitomycin.

**Gastrointestinal disorders**

**Rare:** Pancreatitis

**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](http://www.hpra.ie); e-mail: [medsafety@hpra.ie](mailto:medsafety@hpra.ie).

**4.9 Overdose****Symptoms**

Overdosage with Navelbine soft capsules could produce bone marrow hypoplasia sometimes associated with infection, fever, paralytic ileus and hepatic disorders.

**Emergency procedure**

General supportive measures together with blood transfusion, growth factors, and broad spectrum antibiotic therapy should be instituted as deemed necessary by the physician.

A close monitoring of hepatic function is recommended.

### Antidote

There is no known antidote for overdosage of Navelbine.

## 5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Vinca alkaloids and analogues

ATC Code: L01C A04

Navelbine is an antineoplastic drug of the vinca alkaloid family but unlike all the other vinca alkaloids, the catharantine moiety of vinorelbine has been structurally modified. At the molecular level, it acts on the dynamic equilibrium of tubulin in the microtubular apparatus of the cell. It inhibits tubulin polymerization and binds preferentially to mitotic microtubules, affecting axonal microtubules at high concentrations only. The induction of tubulin spiralization is less than that produced by vincristine.

Navelbine blocks mitosis at G2-M, causing cell death in interphase or at the following mitosis.

Safety and efficacy of Navelbine in paediatric patients have not been established. Clinical data from two Phase II studies using intravenous vinorelbine in 33 and 46 paediatric patients with recurrent solid tumours, including rhabdomyosarcoma, other soft tissue sarcoma Ewing sarcoma, liposarcoma, synovial sarcoma, fibrosarcoma, central nervous system cancer, osteosarcoma, neuroblastoma, at doses of 30 to 33.75mg/m<sup>2</sup> D1 and D8 every 3 weeks or once weekly for 6 weeks every 8 weeks, showed no meaningful clinical activity. The toxicity profile was similar to that reported in adult patients. (see section 4.2)

### 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Pharmacokinetic parameters of vinorelbine were evaluated in blood.

#### Absorption

After oral administration, vinorelbine is rapidly absorbed and the T<sub>max</sub> is reached between 1.5 to 3 h with a blood concentration peak (C<sub>max</sub>) of approximately 130 ng/ml after a dose of 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Absolute bioavailability is approximately 40% and a simultaneous intake of food does not alter the exposure to vinorelbine.

Oral vinorelbine at 60 and 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> leads to blood exposure comparable to that achieved with intravenous vinorelbine at 25 and 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively.

The blood exposure to vinorelbine increases proportionally with the dose up to 100mg/m<sup>2</sup>. Interindividual variability of the exposure is similar after administration by intravenous and oral routes.

#### Distribution

The steady-state volume of distribution is large, on average 21.2 l.kg<sup>-1</sup>(range: 7.5 - 39.7 l.kg<sup>-1</sup>), which indicates extensive tissue distribution.

Binding to plasma proteins is weak (13.5%), vinorelbine binds strongly to blood cells and especially to platelets (78%).

There is a significant uptake of vinorelbine in lungs, as assessed by pulmonary surgical biopsies which showed concentration up to a 300- fold higher concentration than in serum. Vinorelbine is not found in the central nervous system.

## Biotransformation

All metabolites of vinorelbine are formed by CYP3A4 isoform of cytochromes P450, except 4-O-deacetylvinorelbine likely to be formed by carboxylesterases. 4-O-deacetylvinorelbine is the only active metabolite and the main one observed in blood.

Neither sulfate nor glucuronide conjugates are found.

## Elimination

The mean terminal half-life of vinorelbine is around 40 hours. Blood clearance is high, approaching hepatic blood flow, and is  $0.72 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$  (range:  $0.32\text{-}1.26 \text{ l.h}^{-1}.\text{kg}^{-1}$ ).

Renal elimination is low (<5 % of the dose administered) and consists mostly in parent compound. Biliary excretion is the predominant elimination route of both unchanged vinorelbine, which is the main recovered compound, and its metabolites.

## Special patients groups

### Renal and liver impairment:

The effects of renal dysfunction on the pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine have not been studied. However, dose reduction in case of reduced renal function is not indicated with vinorelbine due to the low level of renal elimination.

Pharmacokinetics of orally administered vinorelbine were not modified after administration of  $60 \text{ mg/m}^2$  in 7 patients with mild hepatic disorder (bilirubin <  $1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ , and ALT and/or AST between  $1.5$  and  $2.5 \times \text{ULN}$ ) and of  $50 \text{ mg/m}^2$  in 6 patients with moderate hepatic disorder (bilirubin between  $1.5$  and  $3 \times \text{ULN}$ , independent of ALT and AST level).

The safety and pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine were not changed in these patients at the tested doses.

No data are available for patients with severe hepatic disorder, therefore the use of Navelbine in these patients is **not recommended**, (see sections 4.2, 4.4).

### Elderly patients

A study with oral vinorelbine in elderly patients ( $\geq 70$  years) with NSCLC demonstrated that pharmacokinetics of vinorelbine were not influenced by age. However, since elderly patients are frail, caution should be exercised when increasing the dose of Navelbine soft capsule (see section 4.2).

### Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamic relationships

A strong relationship has been demonstrated between blood exposure and depletion of leucocytes or PMNs.

## 5.3 Preclinical safety data

Vinorelbine induced chromosome damages but was not mutagenic in ames test.

It is assumed that vinorelbine can cause mutagenic effects (induction aneuploidy and polyploidy) in man.

In animal reproductive studies vinorelbine was embryo-feto-lethal and teratogenic.

No haemodynamic effects were found in dogs receiving vinorelbine at maximal tolerated dose; only some minor, non significant disturbances of repolarisation were observed as with other vinca alkaloids tested. No effect on the cardiovascular system was observed in primates receiving repeated doses of vinorelbine over 39 weeks.

## 6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

### 6.1 List of excipients

#### Fill solution:

Anhydrous ethanol  
Water purified  
Glycerol  
Macrogol 400

#### Shell capsule :

Gelatin  
Glycerol  
ANIDRISORB 85/70 (D-sorbitol and 1,4-sorbitan)  
Yellow iron oxide E172  
Titanium dioxide E171  
Medium chain triglycerides  
PHOSAL 53 MCT (phosphatidylcholine, glycerides, anhydrous ethanol).

#### Edible printing ink :

Carminic acid E120  
Sodium hydroxide  
Aluminium chloride hexahydrate  
Hypromellose  
Propylene glycol  
Isopropyl Alcohol  
Purified Water

### 6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

### 6.3 Shelf life

3 years

### 6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store at 2° C – 8° C (in a refrigerator). Store in the original container.

### 6.5 Nature and contents of container

PVDC/PVC/AL+PETP+Paper "peel-push" blister.  
Pack size : 1 capsule

### 6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

Instructions for use/handling

To open the packaging :

1. Cut the blister along the black dotted line

2. Peel the soft plastic foil off
3. Push the capsule through the aluminium foil

## **7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Pierre Fabre Ltd  
250 Longwater Avenue  
Green Park  
Reading RG2 6GP  
United Kingdom

## **8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER**

PA 1287/001/001

## **9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation : 13 April 2006

Date of last renewal: 13 April 2011

## **10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

February 2017