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Prepared By Regulatory Affairs		Checked By Regulatory Affairs		Approved By Quality Assurance



Package leaflet: Information for the user

Mycophenolate Mofetil
Accord 250 mg capsules

Mycophenolate Mofetil

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- 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, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord
3. How to take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord is and what it is used for

Immunosuppressant.

Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord are used to prevent your body rejecting a transplanted kidney, heart or liver.
Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord may be used together with other medicines known as ciclosporin and corticosteroids.

2. What you need to know before you take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

WARNING

Mycophenolate causes birth defects and miscarriage. If you are a woman who could become pregnant, you must provide a negative pregnancy test before starting treatment and must follow the contraception advice given to you by your doctor.

Your doctor will speak to you and give you written information, particularly on the effects of mycophenolate on unborn babies. Read the information carefully and follow the instructions. If you do not fully understand these instructions, please ask your doctor to explain them again before you take mycophenolate. See also further information in this section under “Warnings and precautions” and “Pregnancy and breast-feeding”.

Do not take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord:

- If you are allergic to Mycophenolate Mofetil, Mycophenolic acid or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- If you are a woman who could be pregnant and you have not provided a negative pregnancy test before your first prescription, as mycophenolate causes birth defects and miscarriage.
- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant or think you may be pregnant.
- If you are not using effective contraception (see Pregnancy, contraception and breast-feeding).
- If you are breast-feeding.

Do not take this medicine if any of the above applies to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor straight away before taking Mycophenolate Mofetil if:

- you have a sign of infection such as a fever or sore throat
- you have any unexpected bruising or bleeding
- you have ever had a problem with your digestive system such as a stomach ulcer
- you are planning to become pregnant or if you get pregnant while taking Mycophenolate Mofetil.

If any of the above apply to you (or you are not sure), talk to your doctor straight away before taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord.

The effect of sunlight

Mycophenolate Mofetil reduces your body's defences. As a result, there is an increased risk of skin cancer. Limit the amount of sunlight and UV light you get. Do this by:

- wearing protective clothing which also covers your head, neck, arms and legs
- using a sunscreen with a high protection factor.

Other medicines and Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord:
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines obtained without a prescription, including herbal medicines. This is because Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord can affect the way some other medicines work. Also other medicines can affect the way Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord works.

In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines before you start Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord :

- azathioprine or other medicines which suppress your immune system – given after a transplant operation
- cholestyramine – used to treat high cholesterol
- rifampicin – an antibiotic used to prevent and treat infections such as tuberculosis (TB)
- antacids or proton pump inhibitors – used for acid problems in your stomach such as indigestion
- phosphate binders – used by people with chronic kidney failure to reduce how much phosphate gets absorbed into their blood.

Vaccines

If you need to have a vaccine (a live vaccine) while taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord, talk to your doctor or pharmacist first. Your doctor will have to advise you on what vaccines you can have.

You must not donate blood during treatment with Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord and for at least 6 weeks after stopping treatment. Men must not donate semen during treatment with Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord and for at least 90 days after stopping treatment.

Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord with food and drink

Taking food and drink has no influence on your treatment with Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord.

Pregnancy, contraception and breast-feeding:

Contraception in women taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

If you are a woman who could become pregnant you must always use two effective methods of contraception with Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord. This includes:

- Before you start taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord
- During your entire treatment with Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord
- For 6 weeks after you stop taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord.

Talk to your doctor about the most suitable contraception for you. This will depend on your individual situation. **Contact your doctor as soon as possible, if you think your contraception may not have been effective or if you have forgotten to take your contraceptive pill.**

You are a woman who is not capable of becoming pregnant if any of the following applies to you:

- you are post-menopausal, i.e. at least 50 years old and your last period was more than a year ago (if your periods have stopped because you have had treatment for cancer, then there is still a chance you could become pregnant)
- your fallopian tubes and both ovaries have been removed by surgery (bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy)
- your womb (uterus) has been removed by surgery (hysterectomy)
- your ovaries no longer work (premature ovarian failure, which has been confirmed by a specialist gynaecologist)
- you were born with one of the following rare conditions that make pregnancy impossible: the XY genotype, Turner's syndrome or uterine agenesis
- you are a child or teenager who has not started having periods.

Contraception in men taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

You must always use condoms during treatment and for 90 days after you stop taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord.

If you are planning to have a child, your doctor will talk to you about the risks and the alternative treatments you can take to prevent rejection of your transplant organ.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine. Your doctor will talk to you about the risks in case of pregnancy and the alternatives you can take to prevent rejection of your transplant organ if:

- You plan to become pregnant.
- You miss or think you have missed a period, or you have unusual menstrual bleeding, or suspect you are pregnant.
- You have sex without using an effective method of contraception.

If you do become pregnant during the treatment with mycophenolate, you must inform your doctor immediately. However, keep taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord until you see him or her.

Pregnancy

Mycophenolate causes a very high frequency of miscarriage (50%) and of severe birth defects (23 - 27%) in the unborn baby. Birth defects which have been reported include anomalies of ears, of eyes, of face (cleft lip/palate), of development of fingers, of heart, oesophagus (tube that connects the throat with the stomach), kidneys and nervous system (for example spina bifida (where the bones of the spine are not properly developed)).Your baby may be affected by one or more of these.

If you are a woman who could become pregnant, you must provide a negative pregnancy test before starting treatment and must follow the contraception advice given to you by your doctor. Your doctor may request more than one test to ensure you are not pregnant before starting treatment.

Breast-feeding

Do not take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord if you are breast-feeding. This is because small amounts of the medicine can pass into the mother's milk.

Driving and using machines:



Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord not likely to affect you being able to drive or use any tools or machines.

3. How to take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

How much to take

The amount you take depends on the type of treatment you have had. The usual doses are shown below. Treatment will continue for as long as you need to prevent you from rejecting your transplant organ.

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Kidney Transplant

Adults:

The first dose will be given within 72 hours after the transplant operation. The recommended daily dose is 8 capsules (2 g of the active ingredient) taken as 2 separate doses. This means taking 4 capsules in the morning then 4 capsules in the evening.

Children (aged 2 to 18 years):

The dose given will vary depending on the size of the child. Your doctor will decide the most appropriate dose based on body surface area (height and weight). The recommended dose is 600 mg/m² taken twice a day.

Heart Transplant

Adults:

The first dose will be given within 5 days following the transplant operation. The recommended daily dose is 12 capsules (3 g of the active ingredient) taken as 2 separate doses. This means taking 6 capsules in the morning then 6 capsuls in the evening.

Children:

No data are available to recommend the use of Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord in children who have received a heart transplant.

Liver Transplant

Adults:

The first dose of oral Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord will be given to you at least 4 days after the transplant operation and when you are able to swallow oral medications. The recommended daily dose is 12 capsules (3 g of the active ingredient) taken as 2 separate doses. This means taking 6 capsules in the morning then 6 capsules in the evening.

Children:

No data are available to recommend the use of Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord in children who have received a liver transplant.

Method and Route of Administration

- Swallow your capsules whole with a glass of water.
- Do not break or crush them and do not take any capsules that have broken or split open.
- Avoid contact with any powder that spills out from damaged capsules.
- If a capsule breaks open accidentally, wash any powder from your skin with soap and water. If any powder gets into your eyes or mouth, rinse thoroughly with plenty of plain, fresh water.
- Treatment will continue for as long as you need immunosuppression to prevent you rejecting your transplanted organ.

If you take more Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord than you should

If you take more Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord than you have been told to take, or if someone else accidentally takes your medicine, immediately see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away.

If you forget to take Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

If you forget to take your medicine at any time, take it as soon as you remember; then continue to take it at the usual times. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop taking Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

Stopping your treatment with Mycophenolate Mofetil may increase the chance of rejection of your transplanted organ. Do not stop taking your medicine unless your doctor tells you to.

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 have side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Talk to a doctor straight away if you notice any of the following serious side effects – you may need urgent medical treatment:

- you have a sign of infection such as a fever or sore throat
- you have any unexpected bruising or bleeding
- you have a rash, swelling of your face, lips, tongue or throat, with difficulty breathing - you may be having a serious allergic reaction to the medicine (such as anaphylaxis, angioedema).

Usual problems

Some of the more usual problems are diarrhoea, fewer white cells or red cells in your blood, infection and vomiting. Your doctor will do regular blood tests to check for any changes in:

- the number of your blood cells
- the amount in your blood of things like sugar, fat or cholesterol.

Children may be more likely than adults to have some side effects. These include diarrhoea, infections, fewer white cells and fewer red cells in the blood.

Fighting infections

Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord reduces your body's defences. This is to stop you rejecting your transplant. As a result, your body will not be as good as normal at fighting infections. This means you may catch more infections than usual. This includes infections of the brain, skin, mouth, stomach and gut, lungs and urinary system.

Lymph and skin cancer

As can happen in patients taking this type of medicine (immune-suppressants), a very small number of Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord patients have developed cancer of the lymphoid tissues and skin.

General unwanted effects

You may get general side effects affecting your body as a whole. These include serious allergic reactions (such as anaphylaxis, angioedema), fever, feeling very tired, difficulty sleeping, pains (such as stomach, chest, joint or muscle, pain on passing urine), headache, flu symptoms and swelling.

Other unwanted effects may include:

Skin problems such as:

- acne, cold sores, shingles, skin growth, hair loss, rash, itching.

Urinary problems such as:

- kidney problems or the urgent need to pass water (urine).

Digestive system and mouth problems such as:

- swelling of the gums and mouth ulcers
- inflammation of the pancreas, colon or stomach
- gut problems including bleeding, liver problems
- constipation, feeling sick (nausea), indigestion, loss of appetite, flatulence.

Nervous system problems such as:

- feeling dizzy, drowsy or numb
- tremor, muscle spasms, convulsions
- feeling anxious or depressed, changes in your mood or thoughts.

Heart and blood vessel problems such as:

- change in blood pressure, unusual heartbeat, widening of blood vessels.

Lung problems such as:

- pneumonia, bronchitis
- shortness of breath, cough, which can be due to bronchiectasis (a condition in which the lung airways are abnormally dilated) or pulmonary fibrosis (scarring of the lung). Talk to your doctor if you develop a persistent cough or breathlessness
- fluid on the lungs or inside the chest
- sinus problems.

Other problems such as:

- weight loss, gout, high blood sugar, bleeding, bruising.

Reporting of side effects

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

5. How to store Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord

- 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 label or carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store below 30°C.
- Do not use this medicine if you notice any visible signs of deterioration.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord contains:

The active substance is Mycophenolate Mofetil.

Each capsule contains 250 mg of Mycophenolate Mofetil.

The other ingredients are: cellulose microcrystalline, hydroxy propyl cellulose, povidone K 90, croscarmellose sodium, talc & magnesium stearate.

Capsule Shell composition: Gelatin, sodium lauryl sulfate, titanium dioxide (E171), iron oxide red (E172), iron oxide yellow (E172), FD & C Blue 2 (E132).

Black Ink composition: Shellac, Black iron oxide

What Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord looks like and content of the pack:

Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord 250 mg capsules are light blue/peach size '1' hard gelatin capsules with imprinting with 'MMF' on cap and '250' on body, containing white to off white powder.

Mycophenolate Mofetil Accord 250 mg Capsules are available in blister in packs of 100 and 300' capsules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing authorization holder:

Accord Healthcare Limited
Sage House,
319, Pinner Road,
North Harrow,
Middlesex, HA1 4HF,
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Manufacturer:

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