PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER
Ubretid 5mg Tablets
Distigmine bromide

Is this leaflet hard to see or read?
Phone 01483 505515 for help

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine
• 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. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
• If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:
1. What Ubretid is and what it is used for
2. Before you take Ubretid
3. How to take Ubretid
4. Possible side effects
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1. What Ubretid is and what it is used for
Ubretid contains a medicine called distigmine bromide. This belongs to a group of medicines called ‘anticholinesterases’.
It works by stopping the breakdown of something called acetylcholine. Acetylcholine is found naturally in the body. It works by helping muscles to contract.
Ubretid can be used to:
• Stop some complications following an operation. These include paralysis of the bowel muscle (paralytic ileus), paralysis of the intestine (intestinal atony) and difficulty passing water (urinary retention)
• Help with nerve problems which make passing water difficult (neurogenic bladder)
• Treat an illness called ‘myasthenia gravis’. This is a disease that causes muscle weakness.

2. Before you take Ubretid
Do not take this medicine and tell your doctor if:
• You are suffering from a serious blood circulation problem associated with illness or after surgery
• You are allergic (hypersensitive) to distigmine bromide or any of the other ingredients of Ubretid (listed in Section 6)
• Signs of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue
• You have asthma
• You have serious blood circulation problems
• You have severe constipation
• You have a blockage that is stopping you from passing water
• You have a blockage in your bowel or paralysis of the bowel muscle or any other serious bowel problem

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

Take special care with Ubretid
Do not take this medicine and tell your doctor if:
• You are feeling dizzy or lightheaded, fainting. These could be signs of low blood pressure.
• You have difficulty breathing, wheezing or tightness in the chest
• You have heart problems
• You have a stomach ulcer
• You have indigestion or heartburn
• You have epilepsy
• You have Parkinson’s disease

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Ubretid.

Taking other medicines
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any medicines. This includes medicines you buy without a prescription, including herbal medicines. This is because Ubretid can affect the way some other medicines work. Also some medicines can affect the way Ubretid works.
In particular, tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following:
• Other medicines used for weak muscles (in patients with myasthenia gravis)
• Medicines used for relaxing muscles such as suxamethonium
• Medicines used for high blood pressure and heart problems such as propranolol
• Medicines for numbing a small part of the body (local anaesthetics)

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
Talk to your doctor before taking this medicine if:
• You are pregnant, might become pregnant or think you may be pregnant
• You are breast-feeding or planning to breast-feed

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines
You may have blurred vision while taking Ubretid. If this happens, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

Important information about some of the ingredients of Ubretid
This medicine contains lactose, which is a type of sugar. If you have been told by your doctor that you cannot tolerate some sugars, talk to your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. How to take Ubretid
Always take Ubretid exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Taking this medicine
• Take this medicine by mouth
• Take half an hour before breakfast on an empty stomach
• Swallow the tablets whole with a drink of water. Do not crush or chew your tablet.
• The amount you take will depend on your illness.
• If you feel the effect of this medicine is too weak or too strong, do not change the dose yourself, but ask your doctor.

How much to take
Complications following an operation (paralysis of the bowel or intestine or difficulty passing water)
The usual dose is one tablet each day.

Nerve conditions which make passing water difficult
The usual dose is one tablet each day or every other day.

Myasthenia gravis
• The usual starting dose is one tablet each day.
• This may be increased every 3-4 days.
• The maximum number you can take each day is four tablets.

Children
For children, the dose depends on the age of the child. The maximum number for a child is two tablets each day.

If you take more Ubretid than you should
If you take more Ubretid than you should, tell a doctor or go to a hospital casualty department straight away. Take the medicine pack with you. This is so the doctor knows what you have taken.

The following effects may happen: muscle weakness, tiredness and difficulty moving (paralysis). You may also sweat more than usual, have breathing problems and a slow heartbeat.

If you forget to take Ubretid
If you forget a dose, take it as soon as you remember it. However, if it is nearly time for the next dose, skip the missed dose. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

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

4. Possible side effects
Like all medicines, Ubretid can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop taking Ubretid and see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away if:
• You have an allergic reaction. The signs may include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.

Stop taking Ubretid and see a doctor straight away if you notice any of the following serious side effects - you may need urgent medical treatment:
• Breathing problems such as wheezing, shortness of breath and tightness in the chest.
• Chest pain.
• Slow heartbeat.
• Feeling dizzy or lightheaded, fainting. These could be signs of low blood pressure.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of the following side effects gets serious or lasts longer than a few days, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet:
• Increased sweating.
• Increased production of saliva (mouth watering).
• Watery eyes.
• Muscle twitching.
• Stomach cramps.
• Increased need to pass water.
• A cough producing mucus or phlegm.
• Diarrhoea.
• Blurred vision due to the pupil of the eye becoming smaller.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if any of the side effects gets serious or lasts longer than a few days, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

If you take Ubretid tablets
Ubretid tablets are available in blister packs containing 30 tablets.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer
Sanofi-aventis
One Onslow Street
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4YS
UK
Tel: 01483 505515
Fax: 01483 535432
email: uk-medicalinformation@sanofi-aventis.com

Marketing Authorisation Holder
Sanofi-aventis
One Onslow Street
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4YS
UK
Tel: 01483 505515
Fax: 01483 535432
email: uk-medicalinformation@sanofi-aventis.com

Manufacturer
Osny Pharma S.A.S. 17 rue de Pontoise
95200 Osny France

This leaflet does not contain all the information about your medicine. If you have any questions or are not sure about anything, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

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