CO-CODAMOL 8/500 TABLETS
Phosphate and Paracetamol

1. WHAT CO-CODAMOL IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

The name of your medicine is Co-codamol 8/500 Tablets (called co-codamol throughout this leaflet). Co-codamol contains two different medicines called codeine phosphate and paracetamol. Co-codamol belongs to a group of medicines called opioid analgesics which act to relieve pain. It can be used on its own or in combination with other painkillers such as paracetamol. Co-codamol is not recommended in children under the age of 12 years.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE CO-CODAMOL

This medicine contains codeine which can cause addiction if you take it continuously for more than 3 days. This can give you withdrawal symptoms from the medicine when you stop taking it longer than a few days:

• You are allergic to the active substances or any of the other ingredients in your medicine (see section 4.4).

• You have problems with your liver or kidneys

• You are taking a benzodiazepine

• You are taking any sedative medicine

• You have had a blood transfusion or organ transplant

Children and adolescents

Co-codamol is not recommended in children with breathing problems, since the symptoms of morphine toxicity may be worse in these children. If you are not sure of the above applies to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking co-codamol.

3. HOW TO TAKE CO-CODAMOL

Always take co-codamol exactly as instructed on the leaflet. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. Do not take more than the recommended dose.

• Swallow the tablets whole with a glass of water.

Use in children aged 12 to 18 years:

1 tablet every 4 to 6 hours when necessary up to a maximum of 8 tablets in 24 hours.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. If you get any of the following side effects, or other symptoms which worry you, tell your doctor or pharmacist:

• You get infections or bruise more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood problem.

• Difficulty in passing water

• Constipation, feeling sick (nausea), being sick (vomiting)

• Headache, being drowsy

• Swelling of feet, ankles, face, throat or tongue

• You have a heavy cold

• You feel hot, you may experience a rash

• You have back pain

• You have heart or chest pain

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

• You get infections or bruise more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood problem.

• Becoming addicted to codeine

Reporting of side effects

If you get any other side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

5. HOW TO STORE CO-CODAMOL

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children. Do not use this medicine after the expiry date shown on the pack. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 25°C.

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

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Co-codamol 8/500 Tablets contain

• The active substances are codeine phosphate and paracetamol. Each tablet contains 8mg of codeine (codeine phosphate) and 500mg of paracetamol.

• The other ingredients are maize starch, povidone, potassium sorbate, microcrystalline cellulose, steatic acid, magnesium stearate and the binder, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

What Co-codamol 8/500 Tablets look like and contents of the pack

Flat white tablets, marked 8/500 on one side. They come in cartons of 32 tablets.

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