

ORUVAIL

Ketoprofen 2.5% w/w gel

NAME OF THE MEDICINE

Non-proprietary Name

Ketoprofen

DESCRIPTION

Ketoprofen is DL-2-(3-benzoylphenyl) propionic acid. It is a white or off-white powder with melting point of about 93°C. MW: 254.3. Ketoprofen is very slightly soluble in water at 20°C, 2% soluble in dimethylformide and readily soluble in benzene, ethanol, chloroform, acetone and ethyl acetate at 20°C. Oruvail 2.5% Gel is a colourless, non-greasy, non-staining gel for topical application only. Excipients are lavender oil, carbomer 980, triethanolamine, alcohol and water.

PHARMACOLOGY

Ketoprofen is a potent non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic agent of the propionic acid group derived from arylcarboxylic acid. Ketoprofen is a strong inhibitor of prostaglandin synthetase, has antibradykinin activity, as well as having lysosomal membrane-stabilising action. Ketoprofen has anti-inflammatory, antipyretic and central and peripheral analgesic activity.

Pharmacokinetics

Applied locally as a gel, ketoprofen is absorbed very slowly and there is no accumulation in the body. The bioavailability of the gel relative to oral forms of ketoprofen is around 5%, enabling local effect without systemic activity.

The main metabolite of ketoprofen identified in man is the glucuronide conjugate and traces of ring hydroxylated derivatives have also been found. The metabolites do not appear to be pharmacologically active. Ketoprofen and its metabolites are mainly excreted in the urine. Faecal excretion of ketoprofen accounts for up to 10% of orally administered doses. Ketoprofen is very highly bound to plasma protein.

INDICATIONS

Topical application is indicated in the treatment of musculoskeletal inflammation and injury, especially sports injuries; sprains, musculotendinous bruising and swelling.

As with other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, ketoprofen does not cure the underlying disease.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

The gel should not be used by patients who have experienced hypersensitivity reactions, such as symptoms of asthma, allergic rhinitis or urticaria, to other formulations of ketoprofen or are sensitive to aspirin or other non steroidal anti-inflammatory agents. The gel should not be used where the patient has a history of hypersensitivity to one of the excipients.

ORUVAIL gel should not be applied to exudative dermatoses, acne, eczema, infected skin lesions or broken skin.

Ketoprofen is also contraindicated during the third trimester of pregnancy.

PRECAUTIONS

Although plasma levels after administration of ketoprofen gel are much lower than those reached after oral administration, caution should still be exercised in patients with a history of or active gastrointestinal bleeding, peptic ulcer, inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract or severe renal impairment.

Should a skin rash occur after gel application, cease treatment.

Do not apply to mucous membranes, eyes, broken skin, exudative dermatoses, eczema, infected skin lesions or sores.

Although systemic effects are minimal, the gel should be used with caution in patients with reduced heart, liver and renal function.

As is the case with other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, ketoprofen does not cure the underlying disease and may mask the usual signs of infection.

The gel should not be used with occlusive dressings.

Direct sunlight, including solarium, must be avoided during treatment and for two weeks following treatment, in order to avoid phototoxicity reactions and photoallergy. Protect the treated region with clothing when outdoor, even in the absence of direct sun. Careful and prolonged hand washing should be carried out after each use of the gel.

Use in Pregnancy

(Category C)

During the first and second trimester:

As the safety of ketoprofen in pregnant women has not been evaluated, the use of ketoprofen during the first and second trimester of pregnancy should be avoided.

During the third trimester:

During the third trimester of pregnancy, all prostaglandin synthetase inhibitors may induce cardiopulmonary (premature closure of the ductus arteriosus) and renal toxicity in the fetus, and result in persistent pulmonary hypertension in the neonate. At the end of pregnancy, prolonged bleeding time in both mother and child may occur, and labour may be delayed. Therefore ketoprofen is contraindicated during the last trimester of pregnancy.

Use in Lactation

Trace amounts of ketoprofen are excreted in breast milk. Avoid use of ketoprofen unless considered essential.

Ketoprofen was not mutagenic in in-vitro tests and showed no carcinogenic activity in long-term feeding studies. Ketoprofen had no teratogenic properties in a series of animal studies.

Paediatric Use

Not recommended as safety in children has not been established.

INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES

As the plasma levels following administration of ketoprofen gel are low, interactions with other drugs are less likely than with oral administration. Nevertheless, it would be wise to use with caution when used concomitantly with diuretics, anticoagulants and aspirin. The combination of ketoprofen with probenecid or methotrexate is not recommended.

Warfarin: Concurrent use of NSAIDs and warfarin has been associated with severe, sometimes fatal haemorrhage. The exact mechanism of the interaction between NSAIDs and warfarin is unknown, but may involve enhanced bleeding from NSAID-induced gastrointestinal ulceration, or an additive effect of anticoagulation by warfarin and inhibition of platelet function by NSAIDs.

Ketoprofen should be used in combination with warfarin only if absolutely necessary, and patients taking this combination of drugs should be closely monitored.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

In all cases of major adverse effects ORUVAIL should be withdrawn at once. Should any skin rash occur after gel application, treatment should stop. Local reactions can occur and may include pain or a burning sensation. Allergic skin reactions, including pruritus, eczema and localised erythema have occurred, particularly during exposure to sunlight or UV light (see CONTRAINDICATIONS). It is recommended that exposure to UV light should be avoided during treatment with ketoprofen gel.

Rare cases of photosensitivity reactions, dermatitis bullous and urticaria have been reported.
Very rare cases of aggravation of previous renal insufficiency have been reported.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Gently massage sufficient gel (for example, a circular mass approximately 3 cm across for a knee injury) into the affected area 2-4 times daily for up to 7 days. Total daily dose should not exceed 15 grams per day.

Elderly

Elderly patients are more prone to adverse effects. Caution must be taken with dosage in this group and also in patients with renal impairment.

Paediatric Dosage

Not established.

OVERDOSAGE

The risk of overdose is minimal with topical application. If accidentally ingested, the gel may cause systemic adverse effects depending on the amount ingested. If overdose should occur, treat symptomatically and supportively.

Contact the Poisons Information Centre for advice on management of overdose.

PRESENTATION AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

ORUVAIL gel is a clear, colourless, transparent gel for topical application containing 2.5% w/v of ketoprofen.

Oruvail gel is available in 30g and 60g tubes.

Store in a dry place below 25°C.

MEDICINE CLASSIFICATION

General Sale Medicine

NAME AND ADDRESS OF SPONSOR

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