

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. Name of the medicinal product: OBEREM TABLETS 4mg

Ondansetron Orally Disintegrating tablets USP 4mg

2. Qualitative and quantitative composition:

Each Uncoated tablet contains: O

ndansetron USP 4mg

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1

3. Pharmaceutical form:

Solid Dosage form (Tablets)

4. Clinical particulars:

4.1 Therapeutic indications:

Adults

Ondansetron hydrochloride is indicated for the management of nausea and vomiting induced by cytotoxic chemotherapy and radiotherapy, and for the prevention and treatment of post-operative nausea and vomiting.

Paediatric Population

Ondansetron hydrochloride is indicated for the management of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV) in children aged ≥ 6 months, and for the prevention and treatment of PONV in children aged ≥ 1 month.

4.2 Posology and method of administration:

Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy

Adults: The emetogenic potential of cancer treatment varies according to the doses and combinations of chemotherapy and radiotherapy regimens used. The route of administration and dose of Ondansetron hydrochloride should be flexible in the range of 8-32 mg/day and selected as shown below.

Emetogenic chemotherapy and radiotherapy: Ondansetron hydrochloride can be given either by rectal, oral (tablets or syrup), intravenous or intramuscular administration.

For most patients receiving emetogenic chemotherapy or radiotherapy, Ondansetron hydrochloride 8 mg should be administered as a slow intravenous or intramuscular injection immediately before treatment, followed by 8 mg orally twelve hourly.

To protect against delayed or prolonged emesis after the first 24 hours, oral or rectal treatment with Ondansetron

ronHydrochlorideshouldbecontinuedforuptofivedaysafteracourseoftreatment.

Highlyemetogenicchemotherapy:Forpatientsreceivinghighlyemetogenicchemotherapy,e.g..high-dosecisplatin,Ondansetronhydrochloridecanbegiveneitherbyrectal,intravenousorintramuscularadministration.

Ondansetronhydrochloridehasbeenshowntobeequallyeffectiveinthefollowingdoseschedulesoverthefirst24hoursofchemotherapy:

- Asingledoseof8mgbyslowintravenousorintramuscularinjectionimmediatelybeforechemotherapy.
- Adoseof8mgbyslowintravenousorintramuscularinjectionimmediatelybeforechemotherapy,follo-wedbytwofurtherintravenousorintramusculardosesof8mgtwotofourhours apart,orbyaconstantinfusionof1mg/hour forupto24hours.
- Asingledoseof32mgdilutedin50-100mlofsalineorothercompatibleinfusionfluidandinfusedovernotless than15minutesimmediatelybeforechemotherapy.

Theselectionofdoseregimensshouldbedeterminedbytheseverityoftheemetogenicchallenge.Theeffica-cyofondansetronhydrochlorideinhighlyemetogenicchemotherapymaybeenhancedbytheadditionofa singleintravenousdoseofdexamethasonesodiumphosphate,20mgadministeredprior tochemotherapy. Toprotectagainstdelayedorprolongedemesisafterthefirst24hours,oralorrectaltreatmentwithondansetr onhydrochlorideshouldbecontinuedforuptofivedaysafteracourseoftreatment.

PaediatricPopulation

CINVin childrenaged≥6monthsandadolescents.Weight-baseddosingresultsinhighertotaldailydoses compared to BSA-baseddosing.

DosingbyBSA

Ondansetronhydrochlorideshouldbeadministeredimmediatelybeforechemotherapyasasingleintrave-nous doseof5mg/m².Theintravenous dosemustnotexceed8mg.

Oraldosingcancommencetwelvehours laterandmay becontinuedforupto5days(Table1).Thetotaldailydosemustnotexceedadultdoseof32mg.

Table 1:BSA-baseddosingforChemotherapy-Childrenaged≥6months andadolescents

BSA	Day 1^(a,b)	Days 2-6^(b)
<0.6m ²	5mg/m ² i.v.plus 2mgsyrupafter12hrs	2mgsyrup every 12hrs
≥0.6m ²	5mg/m ² i.v.plus4mgsyruportabletafter12 hrs	4mgsyruportabletevery12hrs

aThe intravenous dose must not exceed 8mg.

bThe total daily dose must not exceed adult dose of 32mg

Dosing by body weight

Weight-based dosing results in higher total daily doses compared to BSA-

based dosing. Ondansetron hydrochloride should be administered immediately before chemotherapy as in
gle intravenous dose of 0.15mg/kg. The intravenous dose must not exceed 8mg.

Two further intravenous doses may be given in 4-hourly intervals. The total daily dose
must not exceed adult dose of 32mg.

Oral dosing can commence twelve hours later and may

be continued for up to 5 days (Table 2). Table 2: Weight-based dosing for Chemotherapy-

Children aged \geq 6 months and adolescents

Weight	Day 1^(a,b)	Days 2-6^(b)
\leq 10Kg	Upto 3 doses of 0.15mg/kg every 4hrs	2mg syrup every 12hrs
$>$ 10Kg	Upto 3 doses of 0.15mg/kg every 4hrs	4mg syrup or tablet every 12hrs

aThe intravenous dose must not exceed 8mg.

bThe total daily dose must not exceed adult dose of 32mg.

Elderly: Ondansetron hydrochloride is well tolerated by patients over 65 years and
no alteration of dosage, dosing frequency or route of administration are required.

Patients with Renal Impairment: No alteration of daily dosage or frequency of dosing, or route of administra-
tion are required.

Patients with hepatic Impairment: Clearance of Ondansetron hydrochloride is significantly reduced and se-
rum half-
life significantly prolonged in subjects with moderate or severe impairment of hepatic function. In such pa-
tients a total daily dose of 8mg should not be exceeded.

Post-operative nausea and vomiting (PONV):

Adults: For the prevention of PONV ondansetron hydrochloride can be administered orally
or by intravenous or intramuscular injection.

Ondansetron hydrochloride may be administered as a single dose of 4 mg given by intramuscular or slow intravenous injection at induction of anaesthesia.

For treatment of established PONV a single dose of 4 mg given by intramuscular or slow intravenous injection is recommended.

Paediatric population

PONV in children aged ≥ 1 month and adolescents

Oral formulation:

No studies have been conducted on the use of orally administered ondansetron in the prevention or treatment of post-operative nausea and vomiting; slow i.v. injection is recommended for this purpose.

For prevention of PONV in paediatric patients having surgery performed under general anaesthesia, a single dose of ondansetron may be administered by slow intravenous injection (not less than 30 seconds) at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg up to a maximum of 4 mg either prior to, at or after induction of anaesthesia.

For the treatment of PONV after surgery in paediatric patients having surgery performed under general anaesthesia, a single dose of ondansetron hydrochloride may be administered by slow intravenous injection (not less than 30 seconds) at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg up to a maximum of 4 mg. There are no data on the use of ondansetron hydrochloride in the treatment of PONV in children below 2 years of age.

Elderly: There is limited experience in the use of ondansetron hydrochloride in the prevention and treatment of

PONV in the elderly, however ondansetron hydrochloride is well tolerated in patients over 65 years receiving chemotherapy.

Patients with renal impairment: No alteration of daily dosage or frequency of dosing, or route of administration are required.

Patients with hepatic impairment: Clearance of ondansetron hydrochloride is significantly reduced and serum half-life significantly prolonged in subjects with moderate or severe impairment of hepatic function. In such patients a total daily dose of 8 mg should not be exceeded.

Patients with poor sparteine/debrisoquine metabolism: The elimination half-life of ondansetron hydrochloride is not altered in subjects classified as poor metabolisers of sparteine and debrisoquine. Consequently in such patients repeat dosing will give drug exposure levels no different from those of the general population. No alteration of daily dosage or frequency of dosing are required.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to any component of the preparation.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported in patients who have exhibited hypersensitivity to other selective 5HT₂ receptor antagonists. Respiratory events should be treated symptomatically and clinicians should pay particular attention to them as precursors of hypersensitivity reactions.

Rarely, transient

ECG changes including QT interval prolongation have been reported in patients receiving ondansetron. In addition, post-

marketing cases of Torsades de Pointes have been reported in patients using ondansetron. Ondansetron should be administered with caution to patients who have or may develop prolongation of QTc. These conditions include patients with electrolyte abnormalities, with congenital long QT syndrome, or patients taking other medicinal products that lead to QT prolongation. Therefore, cautions should be exercised in patients with cardiac rhythm or conduction disturbances, in patients treated with antiarrhythmic agents or beta-adrenergic blocking agents and in patients with significant electrolyte disturbances.

As ondansetron is known to increase large bowel transit time, patients with signs of subacute intestinal obstruction should be monitored following administration.

In patients with adenotonsillar surgery prevention of nausea and vomiting with ondansetron may mask occult bleeding. Therefore, such patients should be followed carefully after ondansetron.

Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine.

Paediatric Population

Paediatric patients receiving ondansetron with hepatotoxic chemotherapeutic agents should be monitored closely for impaired hepatic function.

CINV

When calculating the dose on an mg/kg basis and administering three doses at 4-hourly intervals, the total daily dose will be higher than if one single dose of 5 mg/m² followed by an oral dose is given. The comparative efficacy of these two different dosing regimens has not been investigated in clinical trials. Cross-trial comparison indicates similar efficacy for both regimens.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

There is no evidence that ondansetron either induces or inhibits the metabolism of other drugs commonly administered with it. Specific studies have shown that there are no pharmacokinetic interactions when ondansetron is administered with other medicinal products.

setron is administered with alcohol, temazepam, furosemide, alfentanil, tramadol, morphine, lidocaine, thiopental or propofol.

Ondansetron is metabolised by multiple hepatic cytochrome P-450 enzymes: CYP3A4, CYP2D6 and CYP1A2. Due to the multiplicity of metabolic enzymes capable of metabolising ondansetron, enzyme inhibition or reduced activity of one enzyme (e.g. CYP2D6 genetic deficiency) is normally compensated by other enzymes and should result in little or no significant change in overall ondansetron clearance or dose requirement.

Phenytoin, Carbamazepine and Rifampicin: In patients treated with potent inducers of CYP3A4 (i.e. phenytoin, carbamazepine, and rifampicin), the oral clearance of ondansetron was increased and ondansetron blood concentrations were decreased.

Tramadol: Data from small studies indicate that ondansetron may reduce the analgesic effect of tramadol. Use of ondansetron with QT-prolonging drugs may result in additional QT prolongation. Concomitant use of ondansetron with cardiotoxic drugs (e.g. anthracyclines) may increase the risk of arrhythmias.

4.6 Pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

The safety of ondansetron for use in human pregnancy has not been established.

Evaluation of experimental animal studies does not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to the development of the embryo, or foetus, the course of gestation and pre- and post-natal development. However, as animal studies are not always predictive of human response, the use of ondansetron in pregnancy is not recommended.

Lactation

Tests have shown that ondansetron passes into the milk of lactating animals. It is therefore recommended that mothers receiving ondansetron should not breast-feed their babies.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Not known

4.8 Undesirable effects

Adverse events are listed below by system organ class and frequency. Frequencies are defined as: very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$ to $< 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1000$) and very rare ($< 1/10,000$). Very common, common and uncommon events were generally determined from clinical trial data. The incidence in placebo was taken into account. Rare and very rare events were generally determined from post-marketing spontaneous data.

The following frequencies are estimated at the standard recommended doses of ondansetron according to

dication and formulation.

Immunesystem disorders	
Rare:	Immediate hypersensitivity reactions, sometimes severe including anaphylaxis.
Nervous system disorders	
Very common:	Headache.
Uncommon:	Seizures, movement disorders (including extrapyramidal reactions such as dystonic reactions, oculogyric crisis and dyskinesia), observed without definitive evidence of persistent clinical sequelae.
Rare:	Dizziness during rapid intravenous administration.
Eye disorders	
Rare:	Transient visual disturbances (e.g. blurred vision), predominantly during intravenous administration.
Very rare:	Transient blindness, predominantly during intravenous administration. The majority of the blindness cases reported resolved within 20 minutes. Most patients had received chemotherapeutic agents, which included cisplatin. Some cases of transient blindness were reported as cortical in origin.
Cardiac disorders	
Uncommon:	Arrhythmias, chest pain with or without ST segment depression, bradycardia.
Very rare:	Transient ECG changes including QT interval prolongation, predominantly with intravenous administration of ondansetron.
Vascular disorders	
Common:	Sensation of warmth or flushing.
Uncommon:	Hypotension.
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	

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 EFDA yellow Card Scheme, online at <https://primaryreporting.who-umc.org/ET> or toll free call 8482 to Ethiopian food and drug authority (EFDA).

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms and Signs

There is limited experience of ondansetron overdose. In the majority of cases, symptoms were similar to those already reported in patients receiving recommended doses. Manifestations that have been reported include visual disturbances, severe constipation, hypotension and a vasovagal episode with transient second degree AV block.

Treatment

There is no specific antidote for ondansetron, therefore in all cases of suspected overdose, symptomatic and supportive therapy should be given as appropriate.

The use of ipecacuanha to treat overdose with ondansetron is not recommended, as patients are unlikely to respond due to the anti-emetic action of ondansetron itself.

5. Pharmacological properties

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: selective 5-HT₃ receptor antagonist

ATC code:- A04AA01

Mode of action

Ondansetron is a potent, highly selective 5HT₃ receptor-antagonist. Its precise mode of action in the control of nausea and vomiting is not known. Chemotherapeutic agents and radiotherapy may cause release of 5HT in the small intestine initiating a vomiting reflex by activating vagal afferents via 5HT₃ receptors. Ondansetron blocks the initiation of this reflex. Activation of vagal afferents may also cause release of 5HT in the area postrema, located on the floor of the fourth ventricle, and this may also promote emesis through a central mechanism. Thus, the effect of ondansetron in the management of the nausea and vomiting induced by cytotoxic chemotherapy and radiotherapy is probably due to antagonism of 5HT₃ receptors on neurons located both in the peripheral and central nervous system. The mechanisms of action in post-operative nausea and vomiting are not known but there may be common pathways with cytotoxic induced nausea and vomiting.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic Properties

Following oral administration, ondansetron is passively and completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and undergoes first pass metabolism. Peak plasma concentrations of about 30 ng/ml are attained approximately 1.5 hours after an 8 mg dose. For doses above 8 mg the increase in ondansetron systemic exposure with dose is greater than proportional; this may reflect some reduction in first pass metabolism at higher oral doses. Bioavailability, following oral administration, is slightly enhanced by the presence of food but unaffected by antacids. Studies in

healthy elderly volunteers have shown slight, but clinically insignificant, age-related increases in both oral bioavailability (65%) and half-

life (five hours) of ondansetron. Gender differences were shown in the disposition of ondansetron, with females having a greater rate and extent of absorption following an oral dose

and reduced systemic clearance and volume of distribution (adjusted for

weight). The disposition of ondansetron following oral, intramuscular (IM) and intravenous (IV) doses is similar with a terminal half-life of about three hours and steady state volume of distribution of about 14

0L. Equivalent systemic exposure is achieved after IM and IV administration of ondansetron.

Ondansetron is not highly protein bound (70-

76%). Ondansetron is cleared from the systemic circulation predominantly by hepatic metabolism through multiple enzymatic pathways. Less than 5% of the absorbed dose is excreted unchanged in the urine.

The absence of

the enzyme CYP2D6 (the debrisoquine polymorphism) has no effect on ondansetron's pharmacokinetics. The pharmacokinetic properties of ondansetron are unchanged on repeat dosing.

Special Patient Populations

Children and Adolescents (aged 1 month to 17 years)

In paediatric patients aged 1 to

4 months (n=19) undergoing surgery, weight normalised clearance was approximately 30% slower than in patients aged 5 to 24 months (n=22) but comparable to the patients aged 3 to 12 years. The half-

life in the patient population aged 1 to 4 months was reported to average 6.7 hours compared to 2.9 hours for patients in the 5 to 24 month and 3 to 12 year age range. The differences in pharmacokinetic parameters in the

1 to 4 month patient population can be explained in part by the higher percentage of total body water in neonates and infants and a higher volume of distribution for water soluble drugs like ondansetron.

In paediatric patients aged 3 to 12 years undergoing elective surgery with general anaesthesia, the absolute values for both the clearance and volume of distribution of ondansetron were reduced in comparison to values with adult patients. Both parameters increased in a linear fashion with weight and by 12 years of age, the values were approaching those of young adults.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

There are no pre-clinical data of relevance

6. Pharmaceutical particulars

6.1 List of excipients:

Magna Sweet (Mono Ammonium Glycyrrhizinate)

Sucralose

Crospovidone

Mannitol DC (Perlitol SD 160)

Avicel 200 (Microcrystalline Cellulose 200)

Magnesium Stearate

Colour Sunset yellow Lake

Aerosil 200 (Colloidal anhydrous Silica)

Flavour Orange Powder (Trusil Bush Boake)

Flavour Peppermint DC-117

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not Applicable

6.3 Shelflife

36 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in

a dry place, below 25°C. Protect from light. Keep out of reach of

children.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

10 tablets packed in Alu Alu Strip and such 1 Strip packed in a printed mono carton with pack insert.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

NotApplicable

**7 MarketingauthorizationholderCach
etPharmaceuticalsPvt.Ltd.**

415,ShahNaharIndustrialEstate,
Dr. E.MosesRoad,Worli,
Mumbai-400018,Maharashtra,India.

NameandAddress of Manufacturer

CachetPharmaceuticalsPvt.Ltd

Village-Thana,Baddi,Dist-Solan,HimachalPradesh–
173205

8. MarketingAuthorizationNumbers

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9. DateofFirstAuthorization/RenewaloftheAuthorization

Date of first authorisation: 11/02/2019

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