

Cetirizine Hydrochloride BP

Description:

Rhinil (Cetirizine), a piperazine derivative and carboxylated metabolite of hydroxyzine, is a potent antihistamine with distinguishing features are: (1) Exquisite anti-H $_1$ specificity: Rhinil appears unique in being devoid of action on receptors other than the H $_1$ -receptor, (2) Potency: at unit dose Rhinil is the most potent antihistamine in the skin and lungs & (3) Absence of metabolism. Therefore, Rhinil is the choice of H $_1$ antagonist for the management of the immediate allergic reactions.

Rhinil, a new second generation H₁ antagonist, is the only antihistamine that possesses activity against both the histamine mediated 'early', phase of the allergic reaction and the 'late' phase response of immediate hypersensitivity characterized by migration of inflammatory cells to the site of the reaction. It is an effective and well tolerated treatment of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and chronic idiopathic urticaria. The nonsedating antihistamine Rhinil is also effective on the treatment of allergen-induced asthma. It has no significant anticholinergic and antiserotonic effects.

Composition:

Rhinil Tablet: Each film coated tablet contains Cetirizine Hydrochloride BP 10 mg.

Rhinil Liquid: Each 5ml liquid contains Cetirizine Hydrochloride BP 5 mg. Indications:

Rhinil is indicated for the prevention and relief of the following:

- Seasonal allergic rhinitis
- Perennial allergic rhinitis
- Ragweed-induced allergic rhinitis
- Allergic rhino-conjunctivitis
- Allergic rhinitis and concomitant perennial asthma
- Allergen-induced asthma
- Hay fever
- Chronic Idiopathic urticaria
- Pruritus and other cutaneous symptoms and children suffering from atopic eczema
- Psoriasis

Dosage and administration:

Rhinil Table:

Adults and children over 6 years : 1 tablet once daily or 1/2 tablet twice daily. Children 2-6 years : 1/2 tablet once dialy.

Rhinil liquid:

Adults and children over 6 years : 2 tea-spoonfuls once daily or 1 tea-spoonful twice daily.

Children 2-6 years: 1 tea-spoonful once daily or 1/2 tea- spoonful twice daily.

Children 6 months to less than 2 years: $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful once daily. The dose in children 12 to 23 months of age can be increased to a maximum dose of $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful every 12 hours.

Contraindication:

Rhinil is contraindicated in patients who have shown hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to it or to its parent compound, hydroxyzine.

Warning:

- --Caution should be taken with concomitant use of sedatives.
- --The drug is not usually administered to neonates.
- --Nursing mothers are advised not to take this medicine.
- --Some dose reduction may be required, if renal function is impaired.

Precaution:

Patients are advised not to exceed the recommended dose if driving car or operating machinery at therapeutic dose levels.

Rhinil does not show any potentiation of alcohol. However, care should be exercised.

Adverse Effect:

Rhinil is well tolerated and associated with fewer adverse effects compared with first generation antihistamines. Adverse effects include headache, dry mouth, dizziness, agitation and gastrointestinal upset. Rhinil does not produce anticholinergic effects.

Pregnancy and lactation:

No evidence of teratogenicity of **Rhinil** in animals. There is inadequate information about its safety during pregnancy. It should be used only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. The extent of **Rhinil** excretion in human breast milk is unknown but some animal studies have shown excretion in breast milk. Nursing mothers are advised not to take this medicine.

Storage:

- Store below 30°C, Keep in a dry place & protect from light.
- Keep out of the reach of children.

Packing:

Rhinil Tablet: Box containing 10x10's tablets in blister pack.

Rhinil Liquid: Bottle containing 60 ml liquid.

