

1. Composition

Each film-coated tablet contains 60& 90 mg of etoricoxib.

2. Therapeutic indications

COXIPRO is indicated in adults and adolescents 16 years of age and older for the symptomatic relief of osteoarthritis (OA), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), ankylosing spondylitis, and the pain and signs of inflammation associated with acute gouty arthritis.

COXIPRO is indicated in adults and adolescents 16 years of age and older for the short-term treatment of moderate pain associated with dental surgery.

3. Posology and method of administration

Posology

(a) Osteoarthritis

The recommended dose is 30 mg once daily. In some patients with insufficient relief from symptoms, an increased dose of 60 mg once daily may increase efficacy

(b) Rheumatoid arthritis

The recommended dose is 60 mg once daily. In some patients with insufficient relief from symptoms, an increased dose of 90 mg once daily may increase efficacy. Once the patient is clinically stabilized, down-titration to a 60 mg once daily dose may be appropriate.

(c) Ankylosing spondylitis

The recommended dose is 60 mg once daily. In some patients with insufficient relief from symptoms, an increased dose of 90 mg once daily may increase efficacy. Once the patient is clinically stabilized, down-titration to a 60 mg once daily dose may be appropriate.

(d) Acute pain conditions

For acute pain conditions, etoricoxib should be used only for the acute symptomatic period.

Acute gouty arthritis

The recommended dose is 120 mg once daily. In clinical trials for acute gouty arthritis, etoricoxib was given for 8 days.

(d) Postoperative dental surgery pain

The recommended dose is 90 mg once daily, limited to a maximum of 3 days. Some patients may require other post-operative analgesia in addition to COXIPRO during the three day treatment period.

Doses greater than those recommended for each indication have either not demonstrated additional efficacy or have not been studied. Therefore:

The dose for OA should not exceed 60 mg daily.

The dose for RA and ankylosing spondylitis should not exceed 90 mg daily.

The dose for acute gout should not exceed 120 mg daily, limited to a maximum of 8 days treatment.

The dose for postoperative acute dental surgery pain should not exceed 90 mg daily, limited to a maximum of 3 days.

Special populations

(e) Elderly patients

No dosage adjustment is necessary for elderly patients. As with other drugs, caution should be exercised in elderly patients

Patients with hepatic impairment

Regardless of indication, in patients with mild hepatic dysfunction a dose of 60 mg once daily should not be exceeded. In patients with moderate hepatic dysfunction, regardless of indication, the dose of 30 mg once daily should not be exceeded. Patients with renal impairment

No dosage adjustment is necessary for patients with creatinine clearance ≥ 30 ml/min. The use of etoricoxib in patients with creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min is contra-indicated.

(f) Pediatric population

Etoricoxib is contra-indicated in children and adolescents under 16 years of age.

4. Method of administration

COXIPRO is administered orally and may be taken with or without food. The onset of the effect of the medicinal product may be faster when COXIPRO is administered without food. This should be considered when rapid symptomatic relief is needed.

5. Contraindications

- Active peptic ulceration or active gastro-intestinal (GI) bleeding.
- Patients who, after taking acetylsalicylic acid or NSAIDs including COX-2 (cyclooxygenase-2) inhibitors, experience bronchospasm, acute rhinitis, nasal polyps, angioneurotic edema, urticaria, or allergic-type reactions.
- Pregnancy and lactation.
- Severe hepatic dysfunction (serum albumin < 25 g/l or Child-Pugh score ≥ 10).
- Estimated renal creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min.
- Children and adolescents under 16 years of age.
- Inflammatory bowel disease.
- Congestive heart failure.
- Patients with hypertension whose blood pressure is persistently elevated above 140/90 mmHg and has not been adequately controlled.
- Established ischaemic heart disease, peripheral arterial disease, and/or cerebrovascular disease.

6. Special warnings and precautions for use

Gastrointestinal effects

Upper gastrointestinal complications [perforations, ulcers or bleedings (PUBs)], some of them resulting in fatal outcome, have occurred in patients treated with etoricoxib.

Cardiovascular effects

Clinical trials suggest that the selective COX-2 inhibitor class of drugs may be associated with a risk of thrombotic events (especially myocardial infarction (MI) and stroke), relative to placebo and some NSAIDs.

Renal effects

Renal prostaglandins may play a compensatory role in the maintenance of renal perfusion. Therefore, under conditions of compromised renal perfusion, administration of etoricoxib may cause a reduction in prostaglandin formation and, secondarily, in renal blood flow, and thereby impair renal function

Hepatic effects

Elevations of alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and/or aspartate aminotransferase (AST) (approximately three or more times the upper limit of normal) have been reported in approximately 1% of patients in clinical trials treated for up to one year with etoricoxib 30, 60 and 90 mg daily.

7. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

Etoricoxib is contraindicated in pregnancy. If a woman becomes pregnant during treatment, etoricoxib must be discontinued.

Breastfeeding

It is not known whether etoricoxib is excreted in human milk. Etoricoxib is excreted in the milk of lactating rats. Women who use etoricoxib must not breast feed.

Fertility

The use of etoricoxib, as with any drug substance known to inhibit COX-2, is not recommended in women attempting to conceive.

8. Pharmacological properties

Mechanism of Action

Etoricoxib is an oral, selective cyclo-oxygenase-2 (COX-2) inhibitor within the clinical dose range.

Across clinical pharmacology studies, Etoricoxib produced dose-dependent inhibition of COX-2 without inhibition of COX-1 at doses up to 150 mg daily. Etoricoxib did not inhibit gastric prostaglandin synthesis and had no effect on platelet function. Cyclooxygenase is responsible for generation of prostaglandins. Two isoforms, COX-1 and COX-2, have been identified. COX-2 is the isoform of the enzyme that has been shown to be induced by pro-inflammatory stimuli and has been postulated to be primarily responsible for the synthesis of prostanoid mediators of pain, inflammation, and fever. It may also play a role in ulcer healing.

9. Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Orally administered etoricoxib is well absorbed. The absolute bioavailability is approximately 100%. Following 120 mg once-daily dosing to steady state, the peak plasma concentration was observed at approximately 1 hour (T_{max}) after administration to fasted adults.

Distribution

Etoricoxib is approximately 92% bound to human plasma protein over the range of concentrations of 0.05 to 5 µg/ml. The volume of distribution at steady state (V_{dss}) was approximately 1,20l in humans.

Biotransformation

Etoricoxib is extensively metabolized with <1% of a dose recovered in urine as the parent drug. The major route of metabolism to form the 6'-hydroxymethyl derivative is catalyzed by CYP enzymes. CYP3A4 appears to contribute to the metabolism of etoricoxib in vivo

Elimination

Following administration of a single 25-mg radiolabeled

intravenous dose of etoricoxib to healthy subjects, 70% of radioactivity was recovered in urine and 20% in faeces, mostly as metabolites. Less than 2% was recovered as unchanged drug.

Elimination of etoricoxib occurs almost exclusively through metabolism followed by renal excretion. Steady state concentrations of etoricoxib are reached within seven days of once daily administration of 120 mg, with an accumulation ratio of approximately 2, corresponding to a half-life of approximately 22 hours.

10. Storage Condition:

Store COXIPRO in cool, dry place protected from light and moisture. Keep away from the reach of children.

11. Dosage forms and Packaging available:

COXIPRO[®]-60

Each box contains 20 Capsules x 5 Blisters

COXIPRO[®]-90

Each box contains 10 Capsules x 10 Blisters

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