

PACKAGE INSERT

☞ Tranexamic Acid Injection BP Solution for Injection 100 mg/mL

THERAPEUTIC CLASSIFICATION

Antifibrinolytic Agent

ACTION

Tranexamic Acid Injection BP produces an antifibrinolytic effect by competitively inhibiting the activation of plasminogen to plasmin. It is also a weak non-competitive inhibitor of plasmin. These properties make possible its clinical use as an antifibrinolytic in the treatment of both general and local fibrinolytic hemorrhages. It has an action mechanism similar to, but about 10 times more potent *in vitro*, than that of E amino caproic acid (EACA).

Absorption from the human gastrointestinal tract is not complete (40%).

Tranexamic acid binds considerably more strongly than EACA to both the strong and weak sites in the plasminogen molecule in a ratio corresponding to the difference in potency between the compounds. The pharmacological significance of the binding to these different sites has not yet been evaluated.

Tranexamic acid does not bind to serum albumin. The plasma protein binding seems to be fully accounted for by its binding to plasminogen and appears to be negligible at therapeutic plasma levels of 5-10 mg/L.

Possible routes of biotransformation are acetylation or deamination followed by oxidation or reduction. After oral administration approximately 50% of the parent compound, 2% of the deaminated dicarboxylic acid, and 0.5% of the acetylated product are excreted.

Tranexamic acid is eliminated by glomerular filtration, excretion being about 30% at one hour, 55% at three hours and 90% at 24 hours after intravenous administration of 10 mg per kg body weight. After oral administration of 10-15 mg per kg body weight, excretion was 1% at one hour, 7% at three hours and 39% at 24 hours.

Intravenous administration of 10 mg per kg body weight gave plasma concentrations of 18.3 µg, 9.6 µg and 5 µg per mL one, three and five hours after the injection.

When administered 36-48 hours before surgery in four doses of 10-20 mg per kg body weight, an antifibrinolytically active concentration (10 µg/mL) of tranexamic acid remained up to 17 hours in the tissues investigated, and up to 7-8 hours in the serum (Andersson et al, 1968).

Tranexamic acid crosses the placenta. After an intravenous injection of 10 mg per kg the concentration can rise to about 30 µg per mL of fetal serum.

Tranexamic acid also passes over into the breast milk during lactation in concentrations 1/100 of the corresponding serum levels.

After both oral and intravenous administration tranexamic acid passes into the semen and inhibits its fibrinolytic activity, but without affecting the motility of the spermatozoa (Liedholm, 1973).

The ability of tranexamic acid to cross the blood-brain barrier has been demonstrated when administered to patients with ruptured intracranial aneurysms.

Tranexamic acid diffuses rapidly to the joint fluid and to the synovial membrane. In the joint fluid the same concentration was obtained as in the serum. The biological half-life in the joint fluid was about 3 hours.

Three hours after a single oral dose of 25 mg per kg body weight, the peak serum level was 15.4 mg per L and the aqueous humour level was 1.6 mg per L.

INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

Increased local fibrinolysis when the diagnosis is indicative of hyper-fibrinolysis, as with dental extraction in patients with coagulopathies (in conjunction with antihæmophilic factor).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Patients with a history or risk of thrombosis should not be given Tranexamic Acid Injection BP, unless at the same time it is possible to give treatment with anticoagulants. The preparation should not be given to patients with acquired disturbances of colour vision. If disturbances of vision arise during the course of treatment the administration of the preparation should be discontinued.

Patients with active thromboembolic disease, such as deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism and cerebral thrombosis.

Patients with subarachnoid hæmorrhage: the limited clinical experience shows that a reduced risk for re-bleeding is offset by an increase in the rate of cerebral ischaemia.



Haematuria (see WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS).

Hypersensitivity to tranexamic acid or any of the ingredients.

WARNINGS

Visual disturbances including visual impairment, vision blurred, impaired colour vision have been reported with tranexamic acid. For patients who are to be treated for several weeks with tranexamic acid an ophthalmic check-up is advisable (sharpness of vision, colour vision, fundus, field of vision, etc.) if possible, before treatment is initiated and regularly during treatments.

Patients with irregular menstrual bleeding should not use Tranexamic Acid Injection BP until the cause of the irregularity has been established.

Patients should consult their doctor if menstrual bleeding is not reduced after three menstrual cycles.

If menstrual bleeding is not adequately reduced by Tranexamic Acid Injection BP, an alternative treatment should be considered.

Venous and arterial thrombosis or thromboembolism has been reported in patients treated with tranexamic acid. Patients with a high risk for thrombosis (a previous thromboembolic event and a family history of thromboembolic disease) should use Tranexamic Acid Injection BP only if there is a strong medical indication and under strict medical supervision.

Patients with disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), who require treatment with Tranexamic Acid Injection BP, must be under the strict supervision of a physician experienced in treating this disorder.

Tranexamic acid therapy is not indicated in hæmaturia caused by diseases of the renal parenchyma. Intravascular precipitation of fibrin frequently occurs in these conditions and may aggravate the disease. In addition, in cases of massive renal hemorrhage of any cause, anti-fibrinolytic therapy carries the risk of clot retention in the renal pelvis.

Convulsions have been reported in association with tranexamic acid treatment.

Hormonal Contraceptives

Combination hormonal contraceptives are known to increase the risk of venous thromboembolism, as well as arterial thromboses such as stroke and myocardial infarction. Because Tranexamic Acid Injection BP is an antifibrinolytic, concomitant use of hormonal contraception and Tranexamic Acid Injection BP may further exacerbate this increased thrombotic risk. Women using hormonal contraception should use Tranexamic Acid Injection BP only if there is a strong medical need and the benefit of treatment will outweigh the potential increased risk of a thrombotic event (see DRUG INTERACTIONS).

Patients taking anticoagulants (see DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION).

Use in pregnancy

The safety of Tranexamic Acid Injection BP during pregnancy has not yet been established. No harmful effects have been reported.

A woman with fibrinolytic bleeding in the fourth month of pregnancy was treated with tranexamic acid for a total of 64 days. The total dose was 256 g. The delivery occurred spontaneously in the 30th week of pregnancy and was normal in all other respects. The infant was healthy.

In a case of threatened placental abruption that was prevented by giving tranexamic acid, the patient had already lost two children in connection with placental abruption. In the 26th week of her third pregnancy bleeding occurred, indicating abruption. Pathological proteolysis with predominant activation of the fibrinolytic system was established. Between the 26th and 33rd week of pregnancy about 250 g of tranexamic acid were given, both intravenously and orally. The bleeding was arrested and a healthy child was delivered by Caesarean section.

Tranexamic acid crosses over to the fetus (Kullander and Nilsson, 1970). After an I.V. injection of 10 mg per kg the concentration can reach a level of about 30 µg per mL fetal serum. Fibrinolytic activity is very high in neonates. It is not known for certain whether a reduction of this activity during the first hours of life is harmful. Kullander and Nilsson who have wide experience with tranexamic acid in connection with childbirth have observed no negative effect on the infants.

PRECAUTIONS

Care should be taken in cases of renal insufficiency due to the risk of accumulation, and where there is pronounced hæmaturia from the upper urinary tract, since in isolated cases obstacles to passage have been observed in the tract (see DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION).

The following patients should consult their doctor prior to initiating treatment with Tranexamic Acid Injection BP: obese and diabetic, with polycystic ovary syndrome or a history of endometrial cancer in a first-degree relative, women receiving unopposed oestrogen or tamoxifen.

Nursing Mothers

Tranexamic acid is secreted in the mother's milk at a concentration only a hundredth of the corresponding serum levels (Erikson et al, 1971). The

investigators are of the opinion that tranexamic acid can be given during lactation without risk to the child.

Children

Clinical experience with Tranexamic Acid Injection BP in menorrhagic children under 18 years of age is not available.

Driving/Operating Machinery

Tranexamic acid may cause dizziness and therefore may influence the ability to drive or use machines.

Drug Interactions

No studies of interactions between Tranexamic Acid Injection BP and other drugs have been conducted. Because of the absence of interaction studies, simultaneous treatment with anticoagulants must take place under the strict supervision of a physician experienced in this field.

Potential drug-drug interactions leading to myocardial infarction after coadministration with hormonal contraceptives, hydrochlorothiazide, desmopressin, sulbactam-ampicillin, carbazochrome, ranitidine, or nitroglycerin.

Because Tranexamic Acid Injection BP is an antifibrinolytic, concomitant use of hormonal contraception and Tranexamic Acid Injection BP may further exacerbate the increased thrombotic risk associated with combination hormonal contraceptives (see WARNINGS).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Gastrointestinal Disorders: Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) occur but disappear when the dose is reduced.

Nervous System Disorders: Isolated cases of dizziness or reduced blood pressure have been reported.

Immune System Disorders: Allergic dermatitis have been reported less commonly.

Eye Disorders: To be observed by reason of experimental findings in animals: In the dog, retina changes have been observed after long-term administration of large doses of tranexamic acid and in the cat, after intravenous injection of 250 mg per kg body weight per day for 14 days. Such changes have not been obtained in the rat, where the maximum tolerated dose has been administered.

No retinal changes have been reported or observed at ophthalmic check-ups of patients treated with tranexamic acid for several weeks or months.

Post-market Surveillance:

Rare cases of adverse events have been reported with the use of tranexamic acid.

Vascular Disorders: thromboembolic events (acute myocardial infarction, thrombosis, arterial thrombosis limb, carotid artery thrombosis, cerebral infarction, cerebrovascular accident, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, cerebral thrombosis, acute renal cortical necrosis, and central retinal artery and vein obstruction). Hypotension may occur after fast injection.

Eye Disorders: impaired vision, blurred vision or colour vision impairment (chromatopsia).

Nervous System Disorders: dizziness and seizures.

SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT OF OVERDOSAGE

There is no known case of overdosage of Tranexamic Acid Injection BP in humans. Symptoms may be nausea, diarrhea, dizziness, headache, convulsions, vomiting, orthostatic symptoms and hypotension. Treatment of overdosage would consist of initiating vomiting, institution of gastric lavage, charcoal therapy, and symptomatic treatment. Maintain adequate diuresis.

It has been seen that 37 g of tranexamic acid caused mild intoxication in a seventeen-year-old after gastric lavage.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dental Surgery in Patients with Coagulopathies: 2 hours before the operation, Factor VIII and Factor IX should be given as well as Tranexamic Acid Injection BP, 10 mg intravenously per kg body weight. After the operation, 25 mg/kg tranexamic acid is given orally 3-4 times a day for 6-8 days. After the operation the patient does not generally require further substitution therapy.

Administration

Tranexamic Acid Injection BP is intended for intravenous administration (intravenous injection and infusion). Tranexamic Acid Injection BP should be administered intravenously by slow injection over a period of at least 5 minutes. The recommended rate of bolus infusion is 50 mg/min. To administer 50 mg/min to the patient directly via intravenous injection, 0.5 mL/min of undiluted Tranexamic Acid Injection BP (100 mg/mL) should be administered by slow intravenous injection. To administer

50 mg/min as an infusion, solutions diluted to 1% tranexamic acid (i.e. 1 g in 100 mL or 10 mg/mL), may be administered at 5 mL/min or solutions diluted to 2% tranexamic acid, may be administered at 2.5 mL/min.

For intravenous infusion Tranexamic Acid Injection BP may be mixed with:

- electrolyte solutions (e.g. 0.9% NaCl solution, Ringer's solution),
- carbohydrate solutions (e.g. 5% glucose solution),
- amino acid solutions and
- dextran solutions (e.g. dextran 40, dextran 70).

Heparin may be added to Tranexamic Acid Injection BP. Tranexamic Acid Injection BP should not be mixed with blood and infusion solutions containing penicillin.

The required volume of Tranexamic Acid Injection BP may be added to the chosen infusion solution to achieve final concentrations of 1 or 2 g in 100 mLs (10 or 20 mg/mL, 1% or 2%). A solution with a 100 mL final volume would be prepared as shown in the table below:

Preparation of Infusion Solutions	Solution 1% (10 mg/mL)	Solution 2% (20 mg/mL)
Tranexamic acid (g)	1 g	2 g
Compatible diluents*	qsp 100 mL	qsp 100 mL

*See above for compatible diluents.

NB: **1 g of tranexamic acid** is obtained from 1 vial of 10 mL or 2 vials of 5 mL;

2 g of tranexamic acid are obtained from 2 vials of 10 mL or 4 vials of 5 mL.

An example of preparation and administration of a solution for intra-venous infusion is summarized in the table below:

Infusion rates for undiluted and diluted tranexamic acid solutions				
		Bolus (50 mg/min)		
	Weight (kg)	Undiluted solution (100 mg/mL)	Diluted Solution	
			1% (10 mg/mL)	2% (20 mg/mL)
Infusion rate	—	0.5 mL/min	5 mL/min	2.5 mL/min
Example of a patient dosed at 10 mg/kg	70	7 mL (14 mins)	70 mL (14 mins)	35 mL (14 mins)

The mixture should be used immediately after preparation. If storage is necessary, the mixture should be stored at 15-30°C for a maximum of 24 hours. Mixture not used within 24 hours of preparation, should be discarded.

The vials of Tranexamic Acid Injection BP are sterile. Tranexamic Acid Injection BP is intended for single use. Unused product must be discarded. As with all parenteral drug products, Tranexamic Acid Injection BP should be inspected visually for clarity, particulate matter, precipitation, discoloration and leakage prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit.

Patients with Impaired Renal Function

In patients with serum creatine concentrations of 120 to 250 µmol/L, 10 mg intravenously tranexamic acid per kg body weight twice daily. At serum creatine levels of 250 to 500 µmol/L the dosage should be 10 mg intravenously per kg body weight at 24-hourly intervals, and at serum creatine levels of 500 µmol/L or more, the same dose should be given at intervals of 48 hours between doses.

COMPOSITION

Solution for injection (100 mg/mL)

Tranexamic Acid 100 mg/mL Water for Injection

pH: Tranexamic Acid Injection BP has pH 6.5-8.0.

Storage: Store all dosage forms at room temperature (15-30°C).

AVAILABILITY

Solution for injection: Vials containing 100 mg Tranexamic acid per mL.

Packages of 10 x 5 mL, 10 x 10 mL and 1 x 50 mL vials

The use of Pharmacy Bulk Vials is restricted to hospitals with a recognized parenteral admixture program. The Pharmacy Bulk Vial is intended for single puncture, multiple dispensing and for the preparation of admixtures only. Dispensing from a Pharmacy Bulk Vial should be completed as soon as possible after initial entry.

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