



COMPOSITION

Inosita® Plus 50/500 mg Tablet
Each film coated tablet contains:
Sitagliptin.....50mg (as phosphate monohydrate) USP /Metformin HCl USP....500mg

Inosita® Plus 50/850mg Tablet
Each film coated tablet contains:
Sitagliptin.....50mg (as phosphate monohydrate) USP/Metformin HCl USP.....850mg

Inosita® Plus 50/1000mg Tablet
Each film coated tablet contains:
Sitagliptin.....50mg (as phosphate monohydrate) USP/Metformin HCl USP.....1000mg (PharmEvo Specs.)

WARNING: LACTIC ACIDOSIS
Lactic acidosis is a rare, but serious complication that can occur due to metformin accumulation. The risk increases with conditions such as sepsis, dehydration, excess alcohol intake, hepatic impairment, renal impairment, and acute congestive heart failure. The onset is often subtle, accompanied by nonspecific symptoms such as malaise, myalgia, respiratory distress, increasing somnolence and abdominal distress. Laboratory abnormalities include low pH, increased anion gap and elevated blood lactate. If acidosis is suspected, Sitagliptin/metformin should be discontinued and the patient hospitalized immediately for appropriate treatment.

DESCRIPTION

Inosita Plus tablets contain two oral hypoglycemic drugs used in the management of Type II diabetes: Sitagliptin phosphate monohydrate and Metformin hydrochloride. Sitagliptin is an orally-active inhibitor of the dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) enzyme. Sitagliptin phosphate monohydrate is described chemically as 7-[(3R)-3-amino-1-oxo-4-(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)butyl]-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]pyrazine phosphate (1:1) monohydrate with a molecular formula of C16H15F6N5O·H3PO4·H2O. Metformin hydrochloride belongs to Biguanide class which is chemically designated as (N, N-dimethylimidodicarbonimidic diamide hydrochloride) with a molecular formula of C4H11N5·HCl.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacodynamics

Mechanism of Action
Inosita Plus combines two antihyperglycaemic drugs with complementary mechanisms of action to improve glycaemic control in patients with Type II diabetes: sitagliptin phosphate, a dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP-4) inhibitor and metformin hydrochloride, a member of the biguanide class.

Sitagliptin
Sitagliptin is a DPP-4 inhibitor, which exerts its actions in patients with Type II diabetes by slowing the inactivation of incretin hormones. Concentrations of the active intact incretin hormones are increased by sitagliptin, thereby increasing and prolonging the action of these hormones. Incretin hormones, including glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) and glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide (GIP), are released by the intestine throughout the day, and levels are increased in response to a meal. These hormones are rapidly inactivated by the enzyme DPP-4. By increasing and prolonging active incretin levels, sitagliptin increases insulin release and decreases glucagon levels in the circulation in a glucose-dependent manner. Sitagliptin demonstrates selectivity for DPP-4 and does not inhibit DPP-8 or DPP-9 activity in vitro at concentrations approximating those from therapeutic doses.

Metformin hydrochloride
Metformin improves glucose tolerance in patients with Type II diabetes, lowering both basal and postprandial plasma glucose. Metformin decreases hepatic glucose production, decreases intestinal absorption of glucose, and improves insulin sensitivity by increasing peripheral glucose uptake and utilization. Metformin increases the transport capacity of specific types of membrane glucose transporters (GLUT-1 and GLUT-4). It also stimulates intracellular glycogen synthesis by acting on glycogen synthase. Unlike sulfonylureas, metformin does not produce hypoglycemia (except in special circumstances) and does not cause hyper-insulinemia. With metformin therapy, insulin secretion remains unchanged while fasting insulin levels and day-long plasma insulin response may actually decrease.

Pharmacokinetics
The pharmacokinetics of Sitagliptin and metformin combination tablets is comparable to co-administration of corresponding doses of sitagliptin and metformin as individual tablets.

Absorption

Sitagliptin
Following oral administration of a 100-mg dose to healthy subjects, sitagliptin was rapidly absorbed, with peak plasma concentrations (median Tmax) occurring 1 to 4 hours post-dose, mean plasma AUC of sitagliptin was 8.52 µM•hr, Cmax was 950 nM. The absolute bioavailability of sitagliptin is approximately 87 %. Since co-administration of a high-fat meal with sitagliptin had no effect on the pharmacokinetics, sitagliptin may be administered with or without food. Plasma AUC of sitagliptin increases in a dose-proportional manner.

Metformin hydrochloride
After an oral dose of metformin, Tmax is reached in 2.5 h. Absolute bioavailability of a 500 mg

metformin tablet is approximately 50-60 % in healthy subjects. After an oral dose, the non-absorbed fraction recovered in faeces was 20-30 %. After oral administration, metformin absorption is saturable and incomplete. It is assumed that the pharmacokinetics of metformin absorption is non-linear. At the usual metformin doses and dosing schedules, steady state plasma concentrations are reached within 24-48 h and are generally less than 1 µg/mL. Food decreases the extent and slightly delays the absorption of metformin. Following administration of a dose of 850 mg, a 40 % lower plasma peak concentration, a 25 % decrease in AUC and a 35 min prolongation of time to peak plasma concentration was observed. The clinical relevance of this decrease is unknown.

Distribution

Sitagliptin
The mean volume of distribution at steady state following a single 100-mg intravenous dose of sitagliptin to healthy subjects is approximately 198 liters. The fraction of sitagliptin reversibly bound to plasma proteins is low (38%).

Metformin Hydrochloride
Plasma protein binding is negligible. Metformin partitions into erythrocytes. The blood peak is lower than the plasma peak and appears at approximately the same time. The red blood cells most likely represent a secondary compartment of distribution. The mean Vd ranges between 63 – 276 L.

Metabolism

Sitagliptin
Sitagliptin is primarily eliminated unchanged in urine, and metabolism is a minor pathway. Approximately 79% of sitagliptin is excreted unchanged in the urine. Following a [14C] sitagliptin oral dose, approximately 16% of the radioactivity is excreted as metabolites of sitagliptin. Six metabolites were detected at trace levels and are not expected to contribute to the plasma DPP-4 inhibitory activity of sitagliptin. In vitro studies have indicated that the primary enzyme responsible for the limited metabolism of sitagliptin is CYP3A4, with contribution from CYP2C8.

Metformin Hydrochloride
Metformin is excreted unchanged in the urine and does not undergo hepatic metabolism nor biliary excretion.

Excretion

Sitagliptin
Following administration of an oral [14C] sitagliptin dose to healthy subjects, approximately 100 % of the administered radioactivity was eliminated in faeces (13%) or urine (87%) within one week of dosing. The apparent terminal t½ following a 100-mg oral dose of sitagliptin is approximately 12.4 hours. Sitagliptin accumulates only minimally with multiple doses. The renal clearance is approximately 350 mL/min. Elimination of sitagliptin occurs primarily via renal excretion and involves active tubular secretion. Sitagliptin is a substrate for human organic anion transporter-3 (hOAT-3) and p-glycoprotein, which may also be involved in mediating the renal elimination of Sitagliptin

Metformin hydrochloride
Renal clearance is approximately 3.5 times greater than creatinine clearance, which indicates that tubular secretion is the major route of metformin elimination. Following oral administration, approximately 90% of the absorbed drug is eliminated via the renal route within the first 24 hours, with a plasma elimination half-life of approximately 6.2 hours. In blood, the elimination half-life is approximately 17.6 hours, suggesting that the erythrocyte mass may be a compartment of distribution.

INDICATIONS

- Inosita plus is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in adults with Type II diabetes mellitus when treatment with both sitagliptin and metformin is appropriate.
- Inosita Plus is indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin alone or in those already taking separate tablets of sitagliptin and metformin.
- Inosita plus is indicated in combination with a sulphonylurea (i.e., triple combination therapy) as an adjunct to diet and exercise in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a sulphonylurea.
- Inosita plus is indicated as triple combination therapy with a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma (PPARγ) agonist (i.e., a thiazolidinedione) as an adjunct to diet and exercise in patients inadequately controlled on their maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a PPARγ agonist.
- Inosita plus is also indicated as add-on to insulin (i.e., triple combination therapy) as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycaemic control in patients when stable dose of insulin and metformin alone do not provide adequate glycaemic control.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The dosage of Inosita plus should be individualized on the basis of the patient’s current regimen, effectiveness, and tolerability while not exceeding the maximum recommended daily dose of 100 mg sitagliptin and 2000 mg metformin. Inosita Plus should generally be given twice daily with meals, with gradual dose escalation, to reduce the gastrointestinal (GI) side effects due to metformin.

- **For patients inadequately controlled on maximal tolerated dose of metformin monotherapy**
For patients not adequately controlled on metformin alone, the usual starting dose should provide sitagliptin dosed as 50 mg twice daily (100 mg total daily dose) plus the dose of metformin already being taken.
- **For patients switching from co-administration of sitagliptin and metformin**
For patients switching from co-administration of sitagliptin and metformin, Inosita plus should be initiated at the dose of sitagliptin and metformin already being taken.
- **For patients inadequately controlled on dual combination therapy with the maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a sulphonylurea**
The dose should provide sitagliptin dosed as 50 mg twice daily (100 mg total daily dose) and a dose of

metformin similar to the dose already being taken. When Inosita plus is used in combination with a sulphonylurea, a lower dose of the sulphonylurea may be required to reduce the risk of hypoglycaemia.

- **For patients inadequately controlled on dual combination therapy with the maximal tolerated dose of metformin and a PPARγ agonist**
The dose should provide sitagliptin dosed as 50 mg twice daily (100 mg total daily dose) and a dose of metformin similar to the dose already being taken.

- **For patients inadequately controlled on dual combination therapy with insulin and the maximal tolerated dose of metformin**
The dose should provide sitagliptin dosed as 50 mg twice daily (100 mg total daily dose) and a dose of metformin similar to the dose already being taken. When Inosita plus is used in combination with insulin, a lower dose of insulin may be required to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia. All patients should continue their recommended diet with an adequate distribution of carbohydrate intake during the day.

Dosing consideration in special populations:

Patients with Renal impairment
No dose adjustment is needed for patients with mild renal impairment (creatinine clearance [CrCl] ≥ 60 mL/min). Inosita plus must not be used in patients with moderate or severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 60 mL/min).

Patients with Hepatic impairment
Inosita plus must not be used in patients with hepatic impairment.

Administration requirements
Inosita plus should be given twice daily with meals to reduce the gastrointestinal adverse reactions associated with metformin. Inosita plus must not be split or divided before swallowing.

- CONTRAINDICATIONS**
- Moderate or severe Renal impairment creatinine clearance less than 60 mL/min), which may also result from conditions such as cardiovascular collapse (shock), acute myocardial infarction, intravascular administration of iodinated contrast agents, severe dehydration, severe infection and septicemia.
 - Acute or chronic disease which may cause tissue hypoxia such as: cardiac or respiratory failure, recent myocardial infarction, shock
 - Hepatic impairment.
 - Acute alcohol intoxication, alcoholism.
 - Acute or chronic metabolic acidosis including diabetic ketoacidosis, diabetic pre-coma. Diabetic ketoacidosis should be treated with insulin.
 - Hypersensitivity to sitagliptin phosphate monohydrate or metformin HCl, such as anaphylaxis or angioedema.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Type I diabetes and diabetic ketoacidosis
Sitagliptin and metformin should not be used in patients with Type I diabetes and must not be used for the treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis.

Lactic acidosis
Lactic acidosis is a very rare, but serious, metabolic complication that can occur due to metformin accumulation. Reported cases of lactic acidosis with metformin have occurred mainly in diabetic patients with significant renal impairment (including both intrinsic renal disease and renal hypoperfusion), often in the setting of multiple concomitant medical/surgical problems and multiple concomitant medications. Other risk factors include significant tissue hypoperfusion and hypoxemia (such as unstable or acute congestive heart failure) as well as advanced age. The risk may be reduced significantly by regular monitoring of renal function (esp. in elderly patients) and by use of the minimum effective dose of metformin. Metformin should be promptly withheld in the presence of conditions associated with hypoxemia, dehydration, or sepsis. Because impaired hepatic function may significantly limit the ability to clear lactate, metformin is not recommended in hepatic disease. Patients should be cautioned against excessive alcohol intake, when taking metformin, since alcohol potentiates the effects of metformin on lactate metabolism. In addition, metformin should be temporarily discontinued prior to any intravascular radio-contrast diagnostic test and for any surgical procedure. Lactic acidosis is characterized by malaise, myalgias, increasing somnolence, acidotic dyspnoea, abdominal pain, hypotension, bradyarrhythmias and hypothermia followed by coma. Diagnostic laboratory findings are decreased blood pH, plasma lactate levels above 5 mmol/L, and an increased anion gap and lactate/pyruvate ratio. Levels of lactate above the upper limit of normal but less than 5 mmol/L in patients taking metformin do not necessarily indicate lactic acidosis and may be due to other factors, such as poorly controlled diabetes, obesity or vigorous physical activity. Lactic acidosis should be suspected in any diabetic patient with metabolic acidosis lacking evidence of ketoacidosis (ketonuria and ketonemia). If acidosis is suspected, treatment with the drug should be discontinued and the supportive treatment should be instituted promptly. Metformin is dialyzable and prompt hemodialysis is recommended to correct the acidosis and remove the accumulated metformin which often results in prompt reversal of symptoms and recovery.

Pancreatitis
Use of DPP-4 inhibitors has been associated with a risk of developing acute pancreatitis. Patients should be informed of the characteristic symptoms persistent, severe abdominal pain. Resolution of pancreatitis has been observed after discontinuation of sitagliptin (with or without supportive treatment), but very rare cases of necrotising or hemorrhagic pancreatitis and/or death have been reported. If pancreatitis is suspected, drug should be discontinued; if acute pancreatitis is confirmed, drug should not be restarted. Caution should be exercised in patients with a history of pancreatitis.

Renal function
Metformin and sitagliptin are known to be substantially excreted by the kidney. There have been post-marketing reports of worsening renal function with Sitagliptin, including acute renal failure, sometimes requiring dialysis. Metformin-related lactic acidosis increases with the degree of impairment of renal function, therefore, serum creatinine concentrations should be determined regularly:

