

Meloxicam

1. Name of the medicinal product: Moven 7.5 mg/Moven 15 mg

2. Qualitative and quantitative composition:

Moven 7.5 mg Tablets - Each tablet contains 7.5 mg of Meloxicam Moven 15 mg Tablets - Each tablet contains 15 mg of Meloxicam For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. Pharmaceutical form

4. Clinical particulars: 4.1 Therapeutic indications– Short-term symptomatic treatment of exacerbations of osteoarthritis.

4.2 Long-term symptomatic treatment of rheumatoid arthritis or ankylosing spondylitis.

4.3 Dosage and method of administration Oral use The total daily amount should be taken as a single dose, with water or during the day. The minimum daily dose is the lowest effective dose. Patients with severe renal impairment should be treated with caution. Necessary to control symptoms see section 4.4. The patient's need for symptomatic relief and response to therapy should be re-evaluated periodically, especially in patients with osteoarthritis.

– Exacerbations of osteoarthritis: 7.5 mg/day. If necessary, in the absence of improvement, the dose may be increased to 15 mg/day – Rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis: 15 mg/day. If necessary, see also section 'Special populations' below

4.4 Contraindications The medicinal product is contraindicated in the following situations:

- known hypersensitivity to meloxicam or any of the excipients listed in section 6.1 or hypersensitivity to substances with a similar action, e.g. NSAIDs, aspirin. Meloxicam should not be given to patients who have developed signs of asthma, nasal polyps, angioneurotic edema or urticaria following the administration of aspirin or other NSAIDs - history of gastrointestinal bleeding or perforation and/or history of recurrent gastrointestinal ulcer/haemorrhage; two or more distinct episodes of proven ulceration or bleeding - severely impaired liver function, non-dialysed severe renal failure, sepsis
- 4.3.4 Hepatic impairment (see section 4.3.4.3) Hepatic impairment (see section 5.2): No dose reduction is required in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment (see patients with severely impaired liver function, see section 4.3).

Children and adolescents: Moven 15 mg tablets is contraindicated in children and adolescents aged under 16 years (see section 4.3).

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Lithium NSAIDs have been reported to increase blood lithium levels via decreased renal excretion of lithium, which may reach toxic values. The concomitant use of lithium and NSAIDs is not recommended (see section 4.4). If this combination appears necessary, lithium plasma concentrations should be monitored carefully during the initiation, adjustment and withdrawal of meloxicam treatment. Methotrexate/NSAIDs can reduce the tubular secretion of methotrexate thereby increasing the plasma concentrations of methotrexate. For this reason, for patients on high doses of methotrexate (more than 15 mg/week) the concomitant use of NSAIDs is not recommended (see section 4.5).

The risk of an interaction between NSAID preparations and methotrexate, should be considered also in patients on low dosage of methotrexate, especially in patients with impaired renal function. In case combination treatment is necessary blood cell count and the renal function should be monitored. Caution should be taken in case both NSAID and methotrexate are given within 3 days, in which case the plasma level of methotrexate may increase and cause increased toxicity. Although the pharmacokinetics of methotrexate were not clearly affected by concomitant meloxicam treatment, it should be considered that the haematological toxicity of methotrexate can be amplified by treatment with NSAID drugs (see above). (See section 4.8).

Pharmacokinetic Interactions: Effect of other drugs on the pharmacokinetics of meloxicam

Cholestyramine: Cholestyramine accelerates the elimination of meloxicam by interrupting the enterohepatic circulation so that clearance for meloxicam increases by 50% and the half-life decreases to 13.6 hrs. This interaction is of clinical significance. No clinically relevant pharmacokinetic drug-drug interactions were detected with respect to the concomitant administration of antacids, cimetidine and digoxin.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation/Fertility: The use of meloxicam, as with any drug known to inhibit cyclo-oxygenase/prostaglandin synthesis, may impair fertility. This may be associated with a small increased risk of arterial thrombotic events (for example conceiving or who are undergoing investigation of infertility, withdrawal of meloxicam should be considered. Pregnancy: Inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis may adversely affect the pregnant and/or the embryofetal development. Data from embryological studies suggest an increased risk of miscarriage and of cardiac malformation and gastroesophageal after use of a prostaglandin synthesis inhibitor in early pregnancy. The absolute risk for cardiovascular malformation was increased from less than 1% to approximately 2% with the use of meloxicam. In the rat, meloxicam inhibited the embryonic development of fetuses. Administration of a prostaglandin synthesis inhibitor has been shown to result in increased pre- and post-implantation loss and embryo-fetal lethality. In addition, increased incidences of various malformations, including cardiovascular, have been reported in animals given a prostaglandin synthesis inhibitor during the organogenic period.

During lactation: It is not known if meloxicam should be given unless clearly necessary. If meloxicam is used by a woman attempting to conceive, or during the first and second trimester of pregnancy, the dose should be kept as low and duration of treatment as short as possible. During the third trimester of pregnancy, all prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors may expose the fetus to: - cardiopulmonary toxicity (with premature closure of the ductus arteriosus and pulmonary hypertension); renal dysfunction, which may progress to renal failure with oligo-nephromia; - the mother and the neonate, at the end of pregnancy, to a possible prolongation of bleeding time; - an anti-epileptic effect which may occur even at very low doses; - inhibition of uterine contractions resulting in delayed or prolonged labour. Consequently, meloxicam is contraindicated during the third trimester of pregnancy. Lactation: While no specific experience exists for meloxicam, NSAIDs are known to pass into mother's milk. Administration therefore is not recommended in women who are breastfeeding.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines: No specific studies on the effect on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, on the basis of the pharmacodynamic profile and reported adverse drug reactions, meloxicam is likely to have no or negligible influence on these abilities. However, when visual disturbances including blurred vision, dizziness, drowsiness, vertigo or other central nervous system disturbances occur, it is advisable to refrain from driving and operating machinery.

4.8 Undesirable effects: A general Description/Clinical trial and epidemiological data suggest that use of some NSAIDs (particularly at high doses) and in long-term treatment may be associated with a small increased risk of arterial thrombotic events (for example myocardial infarction or stroke) (see section 4.4). Oedema, hypertension, and cardiac failure, have been reported in association with NSAID treatment. The most commonly-observed adverse events are gastrointestinal in nature. Peptic ulcers, perforation or GI bleeding, sometimes fatal, particularly in the elderly, may occur (see section 4.4). Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, flatulence, constipation, dyspepsia, abdominal pain, melana, haematemesis, ulcerative stomatitis, exacerbation of colitis and Crohn's disease (see section 4.4).

4.9 Adverse reactions and precautions: The following adverse reactions may occur when meloxicam is given. Less frequently, patients have been observed to have adverse drug reactions that have come to light as a result of reports received in relation to administration of the marketed Meloxicam products are included.

Adverse reactions have been ranked under headings of frequency using the following convention:

Very common (>10%); common (≥1/100 to <10%); uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100); rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000); very rare (<1/10,000); not known cannot be estimated from the available data.

b) Table of adverse reactions:

Blood and lymphatic system disorders:Uncommon: Anaemia,Rare: Blood count abnormal (including differential white cell count, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia,Very rare: cases of agranulocytosis have been reported (see section 4.5).

Immune system disorders:Uncommon: Allergic reactions other than anaphylactic or anaphylactoid reactions,Not known: Anaphylactic reactions, anaphylactoid reactions,Rare: Allergic reactions, anaphylactic reactions, anaphylactoid reactions,Not known: Anaphylactic reactions, anaphylactoid reactions

Psychiatric disorders:Rare: Mood altered, nightmares,Not known: Confusional state, disorientation

Nervous system disorders:Common: Headache,Uncommon: Dizziness, somnolence

Eye disorders:Rare: Visual disturbance including vision blurred, conjunctivitis,Ear and labyrinth disorders:Uncommon: Vertigo,Rare: Tinnitus

Cardiac disorders:Rare: Palpitations,Cardiac failure has been reported in association with NSAID treatment.

Vascular disorders:Uncommon: Blood pressure increased (see section 4.4), flushing

Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:Rare: Asthma in individuals allergic to aspirin or other NSAIDs

Gastrointestinal disorders:Very common: dyspepsia, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, constipation, flatulence, diarrhoea,Uncommon: Oesophagitis, gastroenteritis, constipation, diarrhoea, dyspepsia, abdominal pain,Flatulence, diarrhoea, gastroenteritis, oesophagitis,Very rare: Gastrointestinal perforation,Gastrointestinal haemorrhage, ulceration or perforation may sometimes be severe and potentially fatal, especially in elderly (see section 4.4).

Hepato-biliary disorders:Uncommon: Liver function disorder (e.g. raised transaminase levels or bilirubin),Very rare: Hepatitis

Genitourinary disorders:Uncommon: Acute tubular necrosis, interstitial nephritis, acute renal insufficiency, pruritus, rash

Rare: Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, urticaria

Rare: Dermatitis bullosa, erythema multiforme

Not known: Photosensitivity reaction

Renal and urinary disorders:Uncommon: Sodium and water retention, hyperkalaemia (see section 4.4)

Special warnings and precautions for use (see section 4.5): Anal function:Inflamed serum creatinine and/or serum urea

Very rare: Acute renal failure in particular in patients with risk factors (see section 4.4)

General disorders and administration site conditions:Uncommon: Oedema (including oedema of the lower limbs,

o) Information Characterising Individual Serious and/or Frequently Occurring Adverse Reactions:Very rare cases of agranulocytosis have been reported in patients treated with meloxicam and other potentially myelotoxic drugs (see section 4.5).

d) Possible Mechanism of Action:It is not known if there is any relationship between the observed effects which are generally attributable to other compounds in the class Organic renal injury probably resulting in acute renal failure: very rare cases of interstitial nephritis, acute tubular necrosis, nephrotic syndrome, and papillary necrosis have been reported (see section 4.4).

4.9 Overdose:Symptoms following acute NSAID overdose are usually limited to lethargy, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting and epigastric pain, which are generally self-limiting and supportive care. Gastrointestinal bleeding can occur. Severe poisoning may result in hypotension, acute renal failure, hepatocellular and/or respiratory failure, convulsions, cardiovascular collapse and cardiac arrest. Anaphylactoid reactions have been reported with therapeutic ingestion of NSAIDs and may occur following an overdose. Patients should be managed with symptomatic and supportive care following an NSAID overdose: Accelerated removal of meloxicam by a 4 oral doses of cholestyramine given three times a day was demonstrated in a clinical trial.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES:

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties:

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Non Steroidal Anti-inflammatory agent, Oxicams/Meloxicam is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) of the oxicam family, with anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antipyretic properties.

The anti-inflammatory activity of meloxicam has been proven in classical models of inflammation. As with other NSAIDs, its precise mechanism of action remains unknown. However, there is at least one common mode of action shared by all NSAIDs (including Meloxicam): inhibition of the cyclooxygenase (COX) pathway, which is generally accepted as the main pathway for prostaglandin synthesis.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties: Absorption:Meloxicam is well absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract, which is reflected by a high absolute bioavailability of about 90% following oral administration (capsule). Tablets, oral suspension and capsules were shown to be bioequivalent.

Following single dose administration of meloxicam, median maximum plasma concentrations are achieved within 2 hours for the suspension and within 5-8 hours with solid oral dosage forms (capsules and tablets). With multiple dosing, steady state conditions were reached within 3 to 5 days. Once daily dosing leads to mean drug plasma concentrations with a relatively small peak-trough fluctuation in the range of 0.4 - 1.0 µg/ml, for 7.5 mg doses and 0.8 - 2.0 µg/ml, for 15 mg doses, respectively (C_{min} and C_{max} at steady state, correspondingly). Mean maximum plasma concentrations of meloxicam at steady state are achieved within five to six hours for the suspension and within the oral suspension respectively.