NAME OF THE DRUG
Rabeprazole sodium

DESCRIPTION
Rabeprazole sodium is a substituted benzimidazole and belongs to the class of proton pump inhibitors. Its solubility in water is pH dependent, being very soluble in water at pH 9 to 11, and only slightly soluble in water at pH 8. It is very soluble in methanol, freely soluble in dichloromethane and practically insoluble in hexane.

The chemical name for rabeprazole sodium is (±) 2-[(4-(3-methoxypropoxy)-3-methylpyridin-2-yl)-methylsulphinyl]-1H-benzimidazole sodium. Rabeprazole has one chiral centre and is a racemate of two enantiomers. It has the following structural formula:

![Chemical structure of rabeprazole sodium]

\[ \text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_{3}\text{NaO}_{3}\text{S} \quad \text{MW: } 381.43 \]

CAS-117976-89-3 (rabeprazole)                CAS-117976-90-6 (rabeprazole sodium)

PARIET 10 is available as enteric coated tablets containing 10 mg rabeprazole sodium (equivalent to 9.42 mg rabeprazole).

PARIET 10 tablets contain the inactive ingredients mannitol, magnesium oxide, hydroxypropylcellulose, magnesium stearate, ethylcellulose, hypromellose phthalate, diacetylated monoglycerides, purified talc, titanium dioxide and carnauba wax, iron oxide red CI 77491 and Edible Ink Gray F6.

PHARMACOLOGY
Rabeprazole sodium suppresses gastric acid secretion by the specific inhibition of the H⁺/K⁺-ATPase enzyme (proton pump) at the secretory surface of the gastric parietal cell thereby blocking the final step of acid production. This effect is dose-related and leads to inhibition of both basal and stimulated acid secretion irrespective of the stimulus. Animal studies indicate that after administration, rabeprazole sodium rapidly disappears from both the plasma and gastric mucosa.
Pharmacodynamics

Anti-Secretory Activity: Oral administration of a 20 mg dose of PARIET provides rapid and effective reduction of gastric acid secretion. The onset of the anti-secretory effect occurs within one hour with the maximum effect occurring within two to four hours. Inhibition of basal and food-stimulated acid secretion 23 hours after the first dose of rabeprazole sodium is 69% and 82% respectively, and the duration of inhibition lasts up to 48 hours. The duration of pharmacodynamic action is much longer than the pharmacokinetic half-life (approximately one hour) would predict. This effect is probably due to the prolonged binding of rabeprazole sodium to the parietal H⁺/K⁺-ATPase enzyme. The inhibitory effect of rabeprazole sodium on acid secretion increases slightly with repeated once daily dosing, achieving steady state inhibition after three days. When the drug is discontinued, secretory activity normalises over 2 to 3 days.

Serum Gastrin Effects: In clinical studies, patients were treated once daily with 10 or 20 mg rabeprazole sodium for up to 12 months duration. Serum gastrin levels increased during the first 2 to 8 weeks reflecting the inhibitory effects on acid secretion. Gastrin values returned to pre-treatment levels, usually within 1 to 2 weeks after discontinuation of therapy. In a maintenance study, which was subsequently extended up to 5 years duration, serum gastrin levels were only modestly raised in most patients.

Enterochromaffin-Like (ECL) Cell Effects: Increased serum gastrin secondary to antisecretory agents stimulates proliferation of gastric ECL cells which, over time, may result in ECL cell hyperplasia in rats and mice and gastric carcinoids in rats, especially females (see Carcinogenicity, Mutagenicity and Impairment of Fertility).

In over 400 patients treated with PARIET (10 or 20 mg/day) for up to one year, the incidence of ECL cell hyperplasia increased with time and dose, which is consistent with the pharmacological action of the proton pump inhibitor. No patient developed the adenomatoid, dysplastic or neoplastic changes of ECL cells in the gastric mucosa. No patient developed the carcinoid tumours observed in rats.

Pharmacokinetics

Absorption: PARIET 10 tablets are enteric coated to allow rabeprazole sodium, which is acid labile, to pass through the stomach intact. Absorption is rapid, with peak plasma levels of rabeprazole sodium occurring approximately 3.5 hours after a 20 mg dose. Peak plasma concentrations (C_max) of rabeprazole sodium and AUC are linear over the dose range of 10 mg to 40 mg.

Absolute bioavailability of an oral 20 mg dose (compared to intravenous administration) is about 52%, largely due to pre-systemic metabolism. Additionally, the bioavailability does not appear to increase with repeat administration. In healthy subjects, the plasma half-life is approximately one hour (range 0.7 to 1.5 hours) and the total body clearance is estimated to be 283 ± 98 mL/min.

Distribution: Rabeprazole sodium is approximately 97% bound to human plasma proteins. After intravenous administration the volume of distribution is 0.34 L/kg.

Metabolism: Rabeprazole sodium is metabolised through the cytochrome P450 (CYP450) hepatic drug metabolism system (see Interactions with Other Drugs). In humans, the thioether (M1) and carboxylic acid (M6) are the main plasma metabolites with the sulphone (M2), desmethyl thioether (M4) and mercapturic acid conjugate (M5) minor metabolites observed at lower levels. Only the desmethyl metabolite (M3) has a small amount of anti-secretory activity, but its presence in plasma is minimal.

Elimination and Excretion: Following a single 20 mg ¹⁴C-labelled oral dose of rabeprazole sodium, no unchanged drug was excreted in the urine. Approximately 90% of the dose was eliminated in urine mainly as the two metabolites: a mercapturic acid conjugate (M5) and a carboxylic acid (M6), plus two unknown metabolites also found in the species used in the toxicology studies. The remainder of the dose was recovered in faeces. Total recovery was 99.8%. This suggests low biliary excretion of the metabolites; with bio-transformation and urinary excretion of water soluble metabolites as the primary route of elimination.
**Renal Disease:** In patients with stable, end-stage, renal failure requiring maintenance haemodialysis (creatinine clearance ≤ 5 mL/min/1.73 m²), the pharmacokinetics of rabeprazole sodium was very similar to that in healthy volunteers.

**Hepatic Disease:** In a single dose study of 10 patients with chronic mild to moderate compensated cirrhosis of the liver who were administered a 20 mg dose of rabeprazole, AUCₐ₀-₂₄ was approximately doubled, the elimination half-life was 2- to 3-fold higher, and total body clearance was decreased to less than half compared to values in healthy men.

In a multiple dose study of 12 patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment administered 20 mg rabeprazole once daily for eight days, AUC₀-∞ and CMAX values increased approximately 30% compared to values in healthy age- and gender-matched subjects. These increases were not statistically significant.

No information exists on rabeprazole disposition in patients with severe hepatic impairment. Please refer to the **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** section for information on dosage adjustments in patients with hepatic impairment.

**Geriatrics:** Elimination of rabeprazole sodium was decreased in the elderly. Following 7 days of daily dosing with 20 mg of rabeprazole sodium, the AUC approximately doubled and the Cmax increased by 60% as compared to young healthy volunteers. However, there was no evidence of rabeprazole sodium accumulation.

**Clinical trials**

**Symptomatic Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease (GORD):** On-demand treatment was assessed in a European multicentre, double-blind placebo-controlled randomised withdrawal study (n=418) in endoscopically negative patients.

Following an acute open-label phase, patients were randomised to receive rabeprazole 10 mg or placebo taken once daily, when required, over a six month period. Efficacy of rabeprazole 10 mg on-demand, in patients with complete heartburn relief at baseline was primarily evaluated by the unwillingness to continue the trial because of inadequate heartburn control. Overall, the proportion of patients discontinuing due to inadequate heartburn control was significantly higher for placebo (20%) compared to rabeprazole (6%) (p<0.00001).

Patients were instructed to take study drug until they had experienced a full 24 hours free of heartburn, most patients in the rabeprazole group had maximum episode duration of 4 days or less. In addition, antacid use was about 2-fold higher in the placebo group than in the rabeprazole group (p=0.0011). Treatment failure was associated with an increased antacid consumption.

The efficacy of rabeprazole 10 mg or 20 mg daily versus placebo was assessed in a randomised, double blind, parallel group study (n=199) over a four week interval in subjects with moderately severe gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and grade 0 or 1 oesophagitis at endoscopy. The primary efficacy variable was defined as the time in days for subjects to achieve their first 24 hour interval without heartburn. Results showed that the average times were 6.541 +/- 0.923 days for rabeprazole 10 mg, 10 +/- 1.258 days for rabeprazole 20 mg and 16.347 +/- 1.105 days for placebo. There was no significant difference between the rabeprazole groups.

**INDICATIONS**

PARIET 10 is indicated for:

- Symptomatic relief of heartburn and other symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

PARIET 10 is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to rabeprazole sodium, proton pump inhibitors, or any ingredient of this product.
PRECAUTIONS

Symptomatic response to therapy with PARIET 10 does not preclude the presence of gastric malignancy, therefore the possibility of malignancy should be excluded prior to commencing treatment with PARIET 10.

Patients on PARIET 10 should be further reviewed and/or investigated if symptoms persist or recur within 2 weeks of completing the course.

Patients should be referred to their doctor for review if:

- they have unintentional weight loss, anaemia, gastrointestinal bleeding, dysphagia, persistent vomiting or vomiting with blood, malaena, gastric ulcer is suspected or present or gastrointestinal surgery, as treatment with pantoprazole may alleviate symptoms and delay diagnosis. In these cases, malignancy should be excluded.

- they have had to take other medication for indigestion or heartburn continuously for four or more weeks in order to control their symptoms.

- they are being treated for symptomatic GORD and require PARIET 10 for more than 14 days.

- they have any other significant medical condition.

*Acute Interstitial Nephritis*

Acute interstitial nephritis has been observed in patients taking proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs) including rabeprazole sodium. Acute interstitial nephritis may occur at any point during PPI therapy and is generally attributed to an idiopathic hypersensitivity reaction. Discontinue rabeprazole sodium if acute interstitial nephritis develops.

*Cyanocobalamin (vitamin B-12) Deficiency*

Daily treatment with acid-suppressing medicines over a long period of time (e.g. longer than 3 years) may lead to malabsorption of cyanocobalamin (vitamin B-12) caused by hypo- or achlorhydria.

Use in Patients with Hepatic Impairment.

No dosage adjustment is necessary for patients with hepatic impairment. While no evidence of significant drug related safety problems was observed in patients with hepatic impairment, it is advised to exercise caution when treatment with PARIET 10 is first initiated in patients with severe hepatic dysfunction (see DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION).

Patients should be referred to their doctor for review if they have severe hepatic impairment (eg. cirrhosis).

Hypomagnesemia

Hypomagnesemia, symptomatic and asymptomatic, has been reported rarely in patients treated with PPIs. Serious adverse events include tetany, arrhythmias, and seizures. In most patients, treatment of hypomagnesemia required magnesium replacement and discontinuation of the PPI.

For patients expected to be on prolonged treatment or who take PPIs with medications such as digoxin or drugs that may cause hypomagnesemia (e.g. diuretics), health care professionals may consider monitoring magnesium levels prior to initiation of PPI treatment and then periodically while treatment continues (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Fractures

Observational studies suggest that proton pump inhibitor (PPI) therapy may be associated with an increased risk for osteoporosis-related fractures of the hip, wrist, or spine. The risk of fracture was increased in patients who received high-dose, and long-term PPI therapy (a year or longer).
Concomitant use of Rabeprazole with Methotrexate

Literature suggests that concomitant use of PPIs with methotrexate (primarily at high dose; see methotrexate prescribing information) may elevate and prolong serum levels of methotrexate and/or its metabolite, possibly leading to methotrexate toxicities. In such high-doses methotrexate administration, a temporary withdrawal of the PPI may be considered in some patients.

Clostridium difficile

Treatment with proton pump inhibitors may possibly increase the risk of gastrointestinal infections such as Clostridium difficile.

Carcinogenicity, Mutagenicity and Impairment of Fertility

Note: In the following section, the relative exposure levels in animals have been calculated using a human dose of 20mg/day.

In an 88/104 week carcinogenicity study in CD-1 mice, rabeprazole at oral doses up to 100 mg/kg/day did not produce any increased tumour occurrence. The highest tested dose produced a systemic exposure to rabeprazole (AUC) of 1.40 µg.hr/mL which is 1.6 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day.

In a 104-week carcinogenicity study in SD rats, males were treated with oral doses of 5, 15, 30 and 60mg/kg/day and females with 5, 15, 30, 60 and 120 mg/kg/day. Rabeprazole produced gastric enterochromaffin-like (ECL) cell hyperplasia in male and female rats and ECL cell carcinoid tumours in female rats at all doses. The lowest dose (5 mg/kg/day) produced a systemic exposure to rabeprazole (AUC) of about 0.1 µg.hr/mL which is about 0.1 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day. In male rats, no treatment-related tumours were observed at doses up to 60 mg/kg/day producing a rabeprazole plasma exposure (AUC) of about 0.2 µg.hr/mL (0.2 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day).

Rabeprazole was positive in assays for gene mutations (the AMES test, forward gene mutation tests in Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO/HGPRT) and mouse lymphoma cells (L5178Y/TK+/-)). Its demethylated-metabolite was also positive in the AMES test. Rabeprazole was negative in assays for chromosomal damage (the in vitro Chinese hamster lung cell chromosome aberration test, the in vivo mouse micronucleus test), and in vitro and ex vivo rat hepatocyte unscheduled DNA synthesis (UDS) tests.

Rabeprazole at intravenous doses up to 30 mg/kg/day (plasma AUC of 8.8 µg.hr/mL, about 10 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day) was found to have no effect on fertility and reproductive performance of male and female rats.

Use in Pregnancy

Category B1.

Teratology studies have been performed in rats at intravenous doses up to 50 mg/kg/day (plasma AUC of 11.8 µg.hr/mL, about 13 or 6.5 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day and 40mg/day respectively, and rabbits at intravenous doses up to 30 mg/kg/day (plasma AUC of 7.3 µg.hr/mL, about 8 or 4 times the human exposure at 20 mg/day and 40mg/day respectively) and have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the foetus due to rabeprazole. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women and post-marketing experience is very limited. Rabeprazole sodium should be used in pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus.

Use in Lactation

Following intravenous administration of 14C-labelled rabeprazole to lactating rats, radioactivity in milk reached levels that were about 2- to 7-fold higher than levels in the blood. Administration of rabeprazole to rats in gestation and during lactation at doses of 400 mg/kg/day (about 195-or 85-times a 20mg or 40mg human dose based on mg/m²) resulted in decreases in body weight gain of the pups.
It is not known whether rabeprazole sodium is excreted in human breast milk and there are no studies in lactating women. Since many drugs are excreted in milk and because of the potential for adverse reactions to nursing infants from rabeprazole sodium, a decision should be made to discontinue nursing or discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES

Effect of rabeprazole sodium on other drugs - demonstrated interactions

*In vitro* studies with human liver microsomes indicated that rabeprazole sodium is metabolised by isoenzymes of CYP450 (CYP2C19 and CYP3A4).

**Clopidogrel:** Clopidogrel is metabolised to its active metabolite by CYP2C19. Inhibition of CYP2C19 by rabeprazole would be expected to result in reduced drug levels of the active metabolite of clopidogrel and a reduction in its antiplatelet activity and therefore its clinical efficacy. Concomitant use of rabeprazole with clopidogrel should be discouraged.

**Cyclosporin:** *In vitro* incubations employing human liver microsomes indicated that rabeprazole inhibited cyclosporin metabolism with an IC₅₀ of 62 micromolar, a concentration that is over 50 times higher than the C_{max} in healthy volunteers following 14 days dosing with 20 mg rabeprazole. Although *in vitro* studies may not always be predictive of an *in vivo* status these findings indicate that no interaction is expected between rabeprazole and cyclosporin.

**Methotrexate:** case reports, published population pharmacokinetic studies, and retrospective analyses suggest that concomitant administration of PPIs and methotrexate (primarily at high dose; see methotrexate prescribing information) may elevate and prolong serum levels of methotrexate and/or its metabolite hydroxymethotrexate. However, no formal drug interaction studies of methotrexate with PPIs have been conducted.

**Digoxin:** A 22% increase in trough digoxin levels was observed in normal subjects given both drugs concomitantly.

**Ketoconazole:** A 33% decrease in ketoconazole levels was observed in normal subjects given both drugs concomitantly.

**Atazanavir:** Co-administration of atazanavir with other proton pump inhibitors resulted in a substantial reduction in atazanavir exposure. The absorption of atazanavir is pH dependent. Therefore, PARIET 10 should not be co-administered with atazanavir.

*Mycophenolate mofetil: co-administration of proton-pump inhibitors with mycophenolate mofetil in healthy and transplant patients has been reported to reduce the exposure to the active metabolite, mycophenolic acid. This is possibly due to a decrease in mycophenolate mofetil solubility at an increased gastric pH. The clinical relevance of reduced mycophenolic acid exposure on organ rejection has not been established in transplant patients receiving proton-pump inhibitors and mycophenolate mofetil. Use rabeprazole sodium with caution in transplant patients receiving mycophenolate mofetil.

Patients may need to be monitored when these drugs are taken together with PARIET 10.

Effect of rabeprazole sodium on other drugs - theoretical interactions

Rabeprazole sodium produces sustained inhibition of gastric acid secretion. An interaction with compounds whose absorption depends on gastric pH may occur due to the magnitude of acid suppression seen with rabeprazole sodium.

Effect of rabeprazole sodium on other drugs - potential interactions that have been excluded

Studies in healthy subjects have shown that rabeprazole sodium does not have clinically significant interactions with other drugs metabolised by the CYP450 system. These studies included the drugs warfarin and theophylline (as single oral doses), phenytoin (as a single intravenous dose with supplemental oral dosing), diazepam (as a single intravenous dose) and amoxycillin (as single and multiple oral doses).

Taking PARIET 10 with antacids produces no clinically relevant changes in plasma rabeprazole sodium concentrations.
Plasma concentrations of rabeprazole and the active metabolite of clarithromycin are increased by 24% and 50% respectively during concomitant administration. This is considered to be a useful interaction during *H. pylori* eradication.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Rabeprazole was generally well tolerated during clinical trials. The observed side effects have generally been mild or moderate and transient in nature. In the majority of cases, the incidence of the adverse events in the rabeprazole treatment group was equal to or less than that observed in the placebo control treatment group.

Only headaches, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, asthenia, flatulence, rash and dry mouth have been associated with the use of rabeprazole.

The adverse events, which may or may not be causally related to rabeprazole, reported in clinical trials are listed below in descending order of frequency.

**Common (≥ 1% and < 10%)**

- **Nervous System:** headache, dizziness.
- **Gastrointestinal:** diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain, flatulence, vomiting, constipation.
- **Respiratory:** rhinitis, pharyngitis, cough.
- **Musculoskeletal:** non-specific pain, back pain, myalgia.
- **Skin:** rash.
- **Other:** asthenia, flu-like syndrome, infection, insomnia, chest pain.

**Uncommon (≥ 0.1% and < 1%)**

- **Gastrointestinal:** dyspepsia, eructation, dry mouth.
- **Respiratory:** sinusitis, bronchitis.
- **Musculoskeletal:** arthralgia, leg cramps.
- **Urinary:** urinary tract infection.

**Other:** fever, nervousness, somnolence, chills, peripheral oedema.

**Rare (≥ 0.01% and < 0.1%)**

- **Gastrointestinal:** anorexia, gastritis, weight gain, stomatitis.
- **Skin:** pruritis, sweating.
- **Special Senses:** vision or taste disturbances.
- **Haematologic:** leucocytosis.
- **Other:** depression.

**Post-Marketing Experience**

Erythema and rarely bullous reactions, urticarial skin eruptions and acute systemic allergic reactions, for example facial swelling, hypotension and dyspnoea have been reported in patients treated with rabeprazole. These usually resolved after discontinuation of therapy.

Erythema multiforme, interstitial nephritis, gynaecomastia, myalgia and potential allergic reactions including anaphylactic reactions have been reported rarely. Blood dyscrasias including thrombocytopenia, neutropenia, leukopenia, pancytopenia, agranulocytosis and bicytopenia have been reported rarely. Hypomagnesemia has also been reported rarely.

There have also been reports of increased hepatic enzymes and serious hepatic dysfunction such as hepatitis and jaundice. Rare reports of hepatic encephalopathy have been received in patients with underlying cirrhosis.

There have been very rare reports of toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

There have been post-marketing reports of bone fractures (see **PRECAUTIONS**).
DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults 18 years of age and over:

The recommended dose is one tablet per day to be taken at the same time each day (to facilitate treatment compliance) for at least 7 days and up to 14 days. If symptom control has not been achieved after two weeks of continuous treatment with PARIET 10, patients should be referred to their doctor. PARIET 10 tablets should not be chewed or crushed, but should be swallowed whole. PARIET 10 tablets were taken with or without food in the pivotal clinical trials.

Use in Children under 18 years of age

PARIET 10 is not recommended for use in children as there is no experience of its use in this group.

Use in Elderly Patients

No dosage adjustment is necessary in elderly patients.

Use in Patients with Hepatic or Renal Impairment

No dosage adjustment is necessary for patients with renal impairment. Patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment experience higher exposure to rabeprazole sodium at a given dose than do healthy patients. Caution should be exercised in patients with severe hepatic impairment (see PRECAUTIONS).

OVERDOSAGE

Experience to date with deliberate or accidental overdose is limited. The maximum established exposure has not exceeded 60 mg twice daily, or 160 mg once daily. Effects are generally minimal, representative of the known adverse event profile, and reversible without further medical intervention. No specific antidote is known. Rabeprazole sodium is extensively protein bound and is therefore not readily dialysable. As in any case of overdose, treatment should be symptomatic and general supportive measures should be used.

PRESENTATION AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

PARIET 10 tablets are pink, biconvex tablets, marked with “ε 241” in black ink on one side.

Supplied in blister packs of 7 and 14 tablets.

Storage Conditions

PARIET 10 tablets should be stored below 25°C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

Tablets are presented in an aluminium/aluminium blister.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SPONSOR

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Macquarie Park NSW 2113
Australia

POISON SCHEDULE OF THE MEDICINE

Schedule 3 – Pharmacist Only Medicine.

DATE OF FIRST INCLUSION IN THE ARTG

01 April 2010
DATE OF MOST RECENT AMENDMENT
9 April 2015

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*Please note change(s) presented as *italicised text in Product Information.