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Prascend 1 mg tablets for horses

Species: Horses only

Therapeutic indication:Pharmaceuticals: Neurological preparations: Others

Active ingredient: Pergolide

Product: Prascend® 1 mg tablets for horses

Product index: Prascend

Withdrawal notes: Not authorised for use in horses intended for human consumption. Treated horses may never be slaughtered for human consumption. The horse must have been declared as not intended for human consumption under national horse passport legislation. Not authorised for use in mares producing milk for human consumption.

Incorporating:

Presentation

QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each tablet contains:

Active substance:

1.0 mg pergolide (as pergolide mesylate 1.31 mg)

Excipients:

Qualitative composition of excipients and other constituents

Croscarmellose sodium

Ferric oxide red (E172)

Lactose monohydrate

Magnesium stearate

Povidone K30

Pink, rectangular scored tablet, engraved on one side with the Boehringer Ingelheim logo and the letters “PRD”. The tablets can be divided into 2 equal parts.

Uses

Target species

Horses (non food-producing)

Indications for use for each target species

Symptomatic treatment of clinical signs associated with Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (PPID) (Equine Cushing’s Disease).

Dosage and administration

Administration routes and dosage

Oral use.

The veterinary medicinal product should be administered, once daily.

To facilitate administration, the required daily dose should be placed in a small amount of water and/or mixed with molasses or other sweetener and agitated until dissolved. In this case, the dissolved tablets should be administered with a syringe. The whole amount should be administered immediately. Tablets should not be crushed. Do not use the veterinary medicinal product if you notice visible signs of deterioration or if the blister is breached.

Starting dose

The starting dose is 2 µg pergolide/kg (dose range: 1.3 to 2.4 µg/kg) body weight. Studies from the published literature cite the most common, average dose as 2 µg pergolide/kg with a range from 0.6 to 10 µg pergolide/kg (0.25 mg to 5 mg total daily dose per horse). The starting dose (2 µg pergolide/kg) should then be titrated according to the individual response as determined by monitoring (see below). Starting doses are recommended as follows:

Horse Body Weight	Number of Tablets	Starting Dose
200 - 400 kg	½	0.5 mg
401 - 600 kg	1	1.0 mg
601 - 850 kg	1 ½	1.5 mg

851 - 1000 kg	2	2.0 mg

Maintenance dose

Life long treatment is anticipated for this disease.

Most horses respond to therapy and are stabilised at an average dose of 2 µg pergolide/kg body weight. Clinical improvement with pergolide is expected within 6 to 12 weeks. Horses may respond clinically at lower or varying doses; it is therefore recommended to titrate to the lowest effective dose per individual based on response to therapy, whether it is effectiveness or signs of intolerance. Some horses may require doses as high as 10 µg pergolide/kg body weight per day. In these rare situations, appropriate additional monitoring is advised.

Following initial diagnosis, repeat endocrinologic testing for dose titration and monitoring of treatment at intervals of 4 to 6 weeks until stabilisation or improvement of clinical signs and/or diagnostic testing occurs.

Clinical signs are: hypertrichosis, polyuria, polydipsia, muscle wasting, abnormal fat distribution, chronic infections, laminitis, sweating, etc.

The approach to treatment is the dose titration to the lowest effective dose per individual, based on response to therapy, whether it is effectiveness or signs of intolerance. Depending on the severity of the disease, time to treatment response may vary among individuals.

If clinical signs or the diagnostic testing have not yet improved at the first 4 to 6 week interval, the total daily dose may be increased by 0.5 mg. In case clinical signs have improved but are not yet normalised, the veterinarian may decide to titrate or not to titrate the dose, considering the individual's response/tolerance to the dose.

In case clinical signs are not adequately controlled (clinical evaluation and/or diagnostic testing) it is recommended to increase the total daily dose by 0.5 mg increments every 4 to 6 weeks until stabilisation occurs and if the drug is tolerated at that dose. If signs of dose intolerance develop, treatment should be stopped for 2-3 days and reinstated at one-half of the previous dose. The total daily dose may then be titrated back up to the desired clinical effect by 0.5 mg increments every 2-4 weeks. If a dose is missed, the next scheduled dose should be administered as prescribed.

Following stabilisation, regular clinical assessment and diagnostic testing should be performed every 6 months to monitor treatment and dose. Where there is no apparent response to treatment, the diagnosis should be re-evaluated.

Contra-indications, warnings, etc

Contraindications

Do not use in cases of hypersensitivity to the active substance or other ergot derivatives or to any of the excipients.

Do not use in horses less than 2 years of age.

Special warnings

Appropriate endocrinologic laboratory tests should be conducted as well as evaluation of clinical signs in order to establish a diagnosis of PPID.

Special precautions for use

Special precautions for safe use in the target species:

As the majority of cases of PPID are diagnosed in aged horses, other pathological processes are frequently present. For monitoring and frequency of testing, see section Dosage and administration.

Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals:

Pergolide, like other ergot derivatives, may cause emesis, dizziness, lethargy or low blood pressure.

Severe adverse events such as collapse have been observed. Ingestion may be harmful and associated with severe adverse events, especially in children or people with pre-existing heart conditions. Do not ingest this veterinary medicinal product.

In order to reduce the risk of accidental ingestion:

- Store and handle this veterinary medicinal product separately away from human medicinal products and handle it with great care.

- Tablets prepared for administration should be administered immediately and not left unattended.

In case of accidental ingestion, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician. Avoid driving or operating machinery following ingestion of this veterinary medicinal product.

Children should not come into contact with the veterinary medicinal product.

This veterinary medicinal product may cause eye irritation, an irritating smell, or headache after splitting. Minimise exposure risks when splitting tablets. Tablets should not be crushed. Avoid contact with the eyes and inhalation when handling the tablets.

People with known hypersensitivity to pergolide or other ergot derivatives should avoid contact with the veterinary medicinal product and should not administer it.

Pregnant or lactating women should wear gloves when administering the veterinary medicinal product.

In case of contact with skin, wash exposed skin with water. In the event of pergolide exposure to the eye, flush the affected eye immediately with water and get medical advice. For nasal irritation, move to fresh air and seek for medical attention if breathing difficulty develops.

Wash hands after use.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment

Not applicable

Use during pregnancy, lactation or lay

Pregnancy:

Use only according to the benefit/ risk assessment by the responsible veterinarian. The safety of this product has not been demonstrated in pregnant mares. Laboratory studies in mice and rabbits have not produced any evidence of teratogenic effects. Reduced fertility was seen in mice at a dose of 5.6 mg/kg body weight per day.

Lactation:

The use is not recommended in lactating horses, in which the safety of this product has not been demonstrated. In mice, reduced body weights and survival rates in the progeny were attributed to the pharmacological inhibition of prolactin secretion resulting in lactation failure.

Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Use with caution in case the veterinary medicinal product is co-administered with other drugs known to affect protein binding.

Do not administer concurrently with dopamine antagonists, such as neuroleptics (phenothiazines - e.g. acepromazine), domperidone, or metoclopramide, as these agents may reduce the effectiveness of pergolide.

Symptoms of overdose (and where applicable, emergency procedures and antidotes)

There is no clinical experience with massive overdose.

Withdrawal periods

Not applicable.

Not authorised for use in horses intended for human consumption.

The horse must have been declared as not intended for human consumption under national horse passport legislation.

Not authorised for use in mares producing milk for human consumption.

Adverse events

Horses (non food-producing):

Rare	Inappetence; anorexia1; lethargy1
(1 to 10 animals / 10,000 animals treated):	Central nervous system disorder (e.g., ce ataxia)2
	Diarrhoea; colic

Very rare (< 1 animal / 10,000 animals treated, including isolated reports):	Sudation
1 Transient	
2 Mild	

If signs of dose intolerance develop, treatment should be stopped for 2 to 3 days and reinstated at one-half of the previous dose. The total daily dose may then be titrated back up to the desired clinical effect by 0.5 mg increments every 2 to 4 weeks.

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a veterinary medicinal product. Reports should be sent, preferably via a veterinarian, to either the marketing authorisation holder or its local representative or the national competent authority via the national reporting system. See the package leaflet for respective contact details.

Pharmaceutical precautions

Major incompatibilities

Not applicable.

Shelf life

Shelf-life of the veterinary medicinal product as packaged for sale: 3 years.

Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 25°C.

Keep the blister in the outer carton.

Nature and composition of immediate packaging

Cold-formed blister (nylon/ aluminium/ UPVC// vinyl heat seal coating/ aluminium) containing 10 or 7 tablets:

Cardboard box containing 60 (6 blisters of 10) tablets

Cardboard box containing 100 (10 blisters of 10) tablets

Cardboard box containing 160 (16 blisters of 10) tablets

Cardboard box containing 480 (3 x the pack size of 160) tablets

Cardboard box containing 91 (13 blisters of 7) tablets

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Special precautions for the disposal of unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived from the use of such products

Northern Ireland: Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Great Britain: Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater.

Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any national collection systems applicable to the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

Legal category

Legal category:POM-V

Packaging quantities

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Further information

PHARMACOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ATCvet code: QN04BC02

Pharmacodynamics

Pergolide is a synthetic ergot derivative and is a potent, long-acting dopamine receptor agonist. Both *in vitro* and *in vivo* pharmacological studies have demonstrated the activity of pergolide as a selective dopamine agonist with little or no effect on norepinephrine, epinephrine or serotonin pathways at therapeutic doses. As with other dopamine agonists, pergolide inhibits the release of prolactin. In horses with Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (PPID) pergolide exerts its therapeutic effect by stimulating dopamine receptors. Further, in horses with PPID, pergolide has been shown to decrease the plasma levels of ACTH, MSH and other pro-opiomelanocortin peptides.

Pharmacokinetics

Pharmacokinetic information in the horse is available for oral doses of 2 µg pergolide/kg body weight and 10 µg pergolide/kg body weight. It has been demonstrated that pergolide is rapidly absorbed with a short time to peak concentration.

Peak concentrations (Cmax) following the dose of 10 µg/kg were low and variable with a mean of ~ 4 ng/mL and a mean terminal half life (T1/2) of ~ 6 hours. The median time of peak concentration (Tmax) was ~0.4 hrs and the area under the curve (AUC) was ~ 14 ng*h/ml. The terminal half life in this study was much shorter than reported in humans. This is likely due to the sensitivity of the

analytical assay in this study which did not allow for complete elucidation of the concentration - time profile. Therefore the rapid estimated rate of elimination in this study may not be a true reflection of the elimination phase.

In a more sensitive analytical assay, plasma concentrations following the dose of 2 µg pergolide/kg were very low and variable with peak concentrations ranging from 138 to 551 pg/ml. The peak concentrations occurred at 1.25 +/- 0.5 hours (Tmax). Plasma concentrations in most horses were quantifiable for only 6 hours post dose. However, one horse had quantifiable concentrations through 24 hours. Terminal half-lives were not calculated as there was incomplete elucidation of the plasma concentration-time curve for most horses.

Pergolide mesylate is approximately 90 % associated with plasma proteins in humans and laboratory animals.

Marketing Authorisation Number

Great Britain: Vm 08327/5036

Northern Ireland: Vm 04491/3034

Significant changes

GTIN

GTIN description: Prascend 1mg tablets for horses - 60 tablets

GTIN:5012917026139

GTIN description: Prascend 1mg tablets for horses - 160 tablets

GTIN:5012917026146