

ANTACID and OXETACAINE ORAL SUSPENSION

(Unlicensed medicine)



(Alternative to Mucaine Suspension—now discontinued)

Indications: Painful swallowing, during and following radiotherapy to the head & neck and chest areas. Should be reserved for patients with oral mucositis and oesophageal lesions which are causing painful swallowing. Consider the use of a simple antacid first line.

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Availability: Antacid and Oxetacaine can be ordered and stocked by all community pharmacies by contacting Rosemont Pharmaceuticals Ltd, contact details above. The lead-time in delivery is 2 working days. Up to 6 bottles can be posted by Special Delivery for next day receipt (postage cost can be claimed back by endorsing the prescription and claiming re-imburement from PSD).

Supplies in the Community: Patients who need a supply of this medicine in the community should request a prescription from their GP 3 to 4 days in advance. Most community pharmacists do not routinely stock Antacid and Oxetacaine Suspension and will need at least 48 hours notice to ensure timely delivery.

Composition: Each 5ml contains 10mg Oxetacaine,
Aluminium hydroxide equivalent to 200mg aluminium oxide + 100mg magnesium hydroxide
Also contains:
methyl parahydroxybenzoate (E218), propyl parahydroxybenzoate (E216),
sorbitol solution 70% (E420) 1.3g/5mls, propylene glycol.

The suspension appearance is creamy white in colour and has a mint flavour.

Presentation / Pack Size: Amber glass bottle, 150mls:

Shelf life 9 months

NHS Retail Price: £19+VAT+delivery

Rosemont Pharmaceuticals state that the suspension is free from sucrose, lactose, gluten and is safe for diabetic patients.

Low sodium: 1mmol or less sodium per 10mls

Pharmacological Action: Alumina gel and magnesium hydroxide react chemically to neutralize or buffer existing quantities of acid. It has no direct effect on the production of gastric acid. Gastroscopic observations have shown that alumina gel, if taken undiluted, forms a coating over the inflamed mucosa for a variable period. Oxetacaine is a topical potent anaesthetic. Combining oxetacaine with alumina gel exerts a prolonged topical anaesthetic action when applied to mucous membranes.

Dose: Shake well before use. Give 10-15ml, swallow undiluted 15 to 30minutes before meals and at night.

Antacid and Oxetacaine suspension is ineffective if administered down a enteral feeding tube. Use with caution in patients who are strictly 'nil by mouth'.

Drinking anything immediately afterwards should be avoided to prevent the antacid/oxetacaine suspension being washed away before the local anaesthetic has had the desired effect.

This should be short-term symptomatic treatment until time and specific treatment of the underlying condition permit healing of the damaged mucosa.

Precautions/ Contraindications: Aluminium-containing antacids may cause constipation and magnesium-containing antacids may cause diarrhoea.

The use of magnesium-containing antacids in patients with mild to moderate renal impairment should be carefully observed due to the increased risk of hypermagnesaemia.

In patients with chronic renal failure, hyperaluminemia may occur. Encephalopathy and dementia may occur in patients with poor renal function or patients in dialysis, due to an increase in plasma concentration of aluminium.

The use of aluminium-containing antacids is contraindicated in patients with hypophosphataemia due to the phosphate binding properties of aluminium salts.

Sensitivity to the ingredients of the suspension: Previous sensitivity reactions reported with Mucaïne include skin eruptions (dermatitis, urticaria), pruritus, glossitis, angioedema and collapse.

If the dose exceeds 60mls/day, some patients may experience dizziness, faintness or drowsiness. Treatment of overdose is symptomatic and supportive.

Drug interactions: The rate and/or extent of absorption of certain drugs may be increased or decreased. Therefore give medication at least 1 to 2 hours before or after a dose of this suspension.

Drugs that could be affected include: digoxin, tetracycline, iron salts, isoniazid, ethambutol, some antimuscarinic drugs, benzodiazepines, phenothiazines, ranitidine, indomethacin, phenytoin, nitrofurantoin, vitamin A, fluoride and phosphate.

An increase in the plasma level of quinidine and possible toxicity may result if alkalinisation of the urine occurs following antacid therapy.

Antacids may cause some enteric coatings on tablets and capsules to dissolve.

Storage instructions: Keep bottle tightly closed in a cool place, but keep from freezing.