

Alendronate Plus

Tablets

Alendronate (sodium) + Cholecalciferol

70 mg / 2800 iu

70 mg / 5600 iu

Composition:

Each lab contains:
Alendronate sodium trihydrate 91.37 mg (eq. to 70 mg alendronic acid)
Cholecalciferol (Vit D) equivalent to 2800 or 5600 IU of vitamin D, respectively.

Excipients:

Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose anhydrous, medium chain triglycerides, gelatin, croscarmellose sodium, sorbic acid, colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate, butylated hydroxytoluene, modified food starch, and sodium aluminum silicate.

INDICATIONS:

-Treatment of Osteoporosis in Postmenopausal Women:
COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3s indicated for the treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women. In postmenopausal women, COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3s increases bone mass and reduces the incidence of fractures, including those of the hip and spine (vertebral compression fractures).

-Treatment to Increase Bone Mass in Men with Osteoporosis:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3s indicated for treatment to increase bone mass in men with osteoporosis

Important Limitations of Use:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3alone should not be used to treat vitamin D deficiency. The optimal duration of use has not been determined. The safety and effectiveness of COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3for the treatment of osteoporosis based on clinical data for four years of use. During this duration, All patients on bisphosphonate therapy should have the need for continued therapy re-evaluated on a periodic basis. Patients at low-risk for fracture should be considered for drug discontinuation after 3 to 5 years of use. Patients who discontinue therapy should have their risk for fracture re-evaluated periodically.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

FOSAMAX PLUS D is contraindicated in patients with the following conditions:

-Abnormalities of the esophagus which delay esophageal emptying such as stricture or achalasia.

-Inability to stand or sit upright for at least 30 minutes.

-Hypocalcemia

-Hypersensitivity to any component of this product. Hypersensitivity reactions including urticaria and anaphylaxis have been reported.

Pharmacodynamics:

-Alendronate Sodium:

Alendronate is a bisphosphonate that binds to bone hydroxyapatite and specifically inhibits the activity of osteoclasts, the bone-resorbing cells. Alendronate reduces bone resorption with no direct effect on bone formation, although the latter process is ultimately reduced because bone resorption and formation are coupled during bone turnover.

-Cholecalciferol:

Vitamin D is required for normal bone formation. Vitamin D insufficiency is associated with negative calcium balance, leading to increased parathyroid hormone levels and worsening of bone loss associated with osteoporosis. When taken without vitamin D, alendronate is also associated with a reduction in serum calcium concentrations and increased parathyroid hormone levels.

Pharmacokinetics:

-Absorption:

-Alendronate Sodium:

Relative to an intravenous reference dose, the mean oral bioavailability of alendronate in women was 0.64% for doses ranging from 5 to 70 mg when administered after an overnight fast and two hours before a standardized breakfast. Oral bioavailability of the 10-mg tablet in men (0.55%) was similar to that in women when administered after an overnight fast and 2 hours before breakfast. In a study, the alendronate in the combination of (70 mg/2800 international units) tablet and the (alendronate sodium) (70-mg tablet were found to be equally bioavailable. In a separate study, the alendronate in the (70 mg/5600 international units).

-Distribution:

-Alendronate Sodium:

Precinical studies (in male rats) show that alendronate transiently distributes to soft tissues following 1 mg/kg intravenous administration but is then rapidly redistributed to bone or excreted in the urine. The mean steady-state volume of distribution, exclusive of bone, is at least 28 L in humans. Concentrations of drug in plasma following therapeutic oral doses are too low (less than 5 ng/mL) for analytical detection. Protein binding in human plasma is approximately 78%.

-Cholecalciferol:

Following absorption, vitamin D enters the blood as part of chylomicrons. Vitamin D is rapidly distributed mostly to the liver where it undergoes metabolism to 25-hydroxyl vitamin D, the major storage form. Lesser amounts are distributed to adipose tissue and stored as vitamin D at these sites for later release into the circulation. Circulating vitamin D is bound to vitamin D binding protein.

-Metabolism:

-Alendronate Sodium:

There is no evidence that alendronate is metabolized in animals or humans.

-Cholecalciferol:

Vitamin D3 is rapidly metabolized by hydroxylation in the liver to 25-hydroxyl vitamin D, and subsequently is metabolized in the kidney to 1,25-dihydroxyl vitamin D, which represents the biologically active form. Further hydroxylation occurs prior to elimination. A small percentage of vitamin D undergoes glucuronidation prior to elimination.

-Excretion:

-Alendronate Sodium:

The terminal half-life in humans is estimated to exceed 10 years, probably reflecting release of alendronate from the skeleton. Based on the above, it is estimated that after 10 years of oral treatment with FOSAMAX (10 mg daily) the amount of alendronate released daily from the skeleton is approximately 25% of that absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract.

-Cholecalciferol:

When radioactive vitamin D was intravenously administered to healthy subjects, the mean urinary excretion of radioactivity after 48 hours was 2.4% of the administered dose, and the mean fecal excretion of radioactivity after 48 hours was 4.9% of the administered dose. In both cases, the excreted radioactivity was almost exclusively as metabolites of the administered agent. The mean half-life of the administered agent in the urine following an oral dose of COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3s approximately 14 hours.

SIDE EFFECTS:

Abdominal pain, nausea, dyspepsia, constipation, diarrhea, flatulence, acid regurgitation, esophageal ulcer, vomiting, dysphagia, abdominal distention, gastritis, musculoskeletal (bone, muscle or joint) pain, muscle cramp, headache, dizziness, taste perversion.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

-Calcium Supplement/Antacids:

Co-administration of COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3and calcium, antacids, or oral medications containing multivalent cations will interfere with absorption of alendronate. Therefore, instruct patients to wait at least one-half hour after taking COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN

D3before taking any other oral medications.

Warnings:

In clinical studies, the incidence of upper gastrointestinal adverse events was increased in patients receiving concomitant therapy with daily doses of FOSAMAX greater than 10 mg and aspirin-containing products.

-Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3may be administered to patients taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). However, since NSAID use is associated with gastrointestinal irritation, caution should be used during concomitant use with FOSAMAX PLUS D.

-Drugs That May Impair the Absorption of Cholecalciferol:

Mineral oils, orlistat, and bile acid sequestrants (e.g., cholestyramine, colestipol) may impair the absorption of vitamin D. Additional vitamin D supplementation should be considered

-Drugs That May Increase the Catabolism of Cholecalciferol:

Anticonvulsants, cimetidine, and thiazides may increase the catabolism of vitamin D. Additional vitamin D supplementation should be considered.

Warnings & Precautions:

-Upper Gastrointestinal Adverse Reactions:

A combination of Alendronate and vitamin D3, like other bisphosphonates administered orally, may cause local irritation of the upper gastrointestinal mucosa. Because of these possible irritant effects and a potential for worsening of the underlying disease, caution should be used when COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3s given to patients with active upper gastrointestinal problems (such as known Barrett's esophagus, dysphagia, other esophageal diseases, gastritis, duodenitis, or ulcers). Esophageal adverse experiences, such as esophagitis, esophageal ulcers and esophageal erosions, occasionally with bleeding and rarely followed by esophageal stricture or perforation, have been reported in patients receiving treatment with oral bisphosphonates including FOSAMAX PLUS D. In some cases these have been severe and required hospitalization. Physicians should therefore be alert to any signs or symptoms signaling a possible esophageal reaction and patients should be instructed to discontinue COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3and seek medical attention if they develop dysphagia, odynophagia, retrosternal pain or new or worsening heartburn.

The risk of severe esophageal adverse experiences appears to be greater in patients who lie down after taking oral bisphosphonates including COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3and/or who fail to follow oral bisphosphonates including COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3with the recommended full glass (8-8 ounces) of water, and/or who continue to take oral bisphosphonates including COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3after developing symptoms suggestive of esophageal irritation. Therefore, it is very important that the full dosing instructions are provided to, and understood by the

In patients who cannot comply with dosing instructions due to mental disability, therapy with COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3should be used under appropriate supervision.

There have been post-marketing reports of gastric and duodenal ulcers with oral bisphosphonate use, some severe and with complications, although no increased risk was observed in controlled clinical trials.

-Mineral Metabolism:

-Alendronate Sodium:

Hypocalcemia must be corrected before initiating therapy with COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3or other disorders affecting mineral metabolism (such as vitamin D deficiency) should also be effectively treated. In patients with these conditions, serum calcium and symptoms of hypocalcemia should be monitored during therapy with FOSAMAX PLUS D. Presumably due to the effects of alendronate on increasing bone mineral, small, asymptomatic decreases in serum calcium and phosphate may occur.

-Cholecalciferol:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3alone should not be used to treat vitamin D deficiency (commonly defined as 25-hydroxyvitamin D level below 9 ng/mL). Patients at increased risk for vitamin D insufficiency may require higher doses of vitamin D supplementation. Patients with gastrointestinal malabsorption syndromes may require higher doses of vitamin D supplementation and measurement of 25-hydroxyvitamin D should be considered.

Vitamin D3 supplementation may worsen hypercalcemia and/or hypercalcemia when administered to patients with diseases associated with unregulated overproduction of 1,25 dihydroxyvitamin D (e.g., leukemia, myeloma, sarcoidosis). Urine and serum calcium should be monitored in these patients.

-Musculoskeletal:

In post-marketing experience, severe and occasionally incapacitating bone, joint, and/or muscle pain has been reported in patients taking bisphosphonates that are approved for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis. This category of drugs includes alendronate. Most of the patients were postmenopausal women. The time to onset of symptoms varied from one day to several months after starting the drug. Discontinue use if severe symptoms develop. Most patients had relief of symptoms after stopping. A subset had recurrence of symptoms when rechallenged with the same drug or another bisphosphonate.

-Osteonecrosis of the Jaw:

Osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ), which can occur spontaneously, is generally associated with tooth extraction and/or local infection with delayed healing, and has been reported in patients taking bisphosphonates, including FOSAMAX PLUS D. Known risk factors for osteonecrosis of the jaw include invasive dental procedures (e.g., tooth extraction, dental implants, bone surgery), diagnosis of cancer, concomitant therapies (e.g., chemotherapy, corticosteroids, angiogenesis inhibitors), poor oral hygiene, and co-morbid disorders (e.g., periodontal disease, osteopenia, osteoporosis, osteomyelitis, infection, ill-fitting dentures). The risk of ONJ may increase with duration of exposure to bisphosphonates. For patients requiring invasive dental procedures, discontinuation of bisphosphonate treatment may reduce the risk for ONJ. Clinical judgment of the treating physician and/or oral surgeon should guide the management plan of each patient based on individual benefit/risk assessment.

Patients who develop osteonecrosis of the jaw while on bisphosphonate therapy should receive care by an oral surgeon. In these patients, extensive dental surgery to treat ONJ may exacerbate the condition. Discontinuation of bisphosphonate therapy should be considered based on individual benefit/risk assessment.

-Atypical Subtrochanteric and Diaphyseal Femoral Fractures:

Atypical, low-energy, or low trauma fractures of the femoral shaft have been reported in bisphosphonate-treated patients. These fractures can occur anywhere in the femoral shaft from the lesser trochanter to above the supracondylar flare and are transverse or short oblique in orientation without evidence of comminution. Causality has not been established as these fractures also occur in osteoporotic patients who have not been treated with bisphosphonates.

Atypical femur fractures most commonly occur with minimal or no trauma to the affected area. They may be bilateral and many patients report prodromal pain in the affected area, usually presenting as dull, aching thigh pain, weeks to months before a complete fracture occurs. A number of reports note that patients were also experiencing treatment with glucocorticoids (e.g., prednisone) at the time of fracture. Any patient with a history of bisphosphonate exposure who presents with thigh or groin pain should be suspected of having an atypical fracture and should be evaluated to rule out an incomplete femur fracture. Patients presenting with an atypical fracture should also be assessed for symptoms and signs of fracture in the contralateral limb. Interruption of bisphosphonate therapy should be considered, pending a risk/benefit assessment, on an individual basis.

-Renal Impairment:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3is not recommended for patients with creatinine clearance less than 35 mL/min.

Pregnancy:

Pregnancy Category C

There are no studies in pregnant women. COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the mother and fetus.

Nursing Mothers:

Cholecalciferol and some of its active metabolites pass into breast milk. It is not known whether alendronate is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3is administered to nursing women.

Pediatric Use:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3is not indicated for use in pediatric patients.

Geriatric Use:

No overall differences in efficacy or safety were observed between these patients and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out. Dietary requirements of vitamin D3 are increased in the elderly.

Renal Impairment:

COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3is not recommended for patients with creatinine clearance less than 35 mL/min. No dosage adjustment is necessary in patients with creatinine clearance values between 35-60 mL/min.

Hepatic Impairment:

Alendronate Sodium:

As there is evidence that alendronate is not metabolized or excreted in the bile, no studies were conducted in patients with hepatic impairment. No dosage adjustment is necessary

Cholecalciferol: COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3may not be adequately absorbed in patients who have malabsorption due to inadequate bile production.

DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:

-Treatment of Osteoporosis in Postmenopausal Women:

The recommended dosage is one 70 mg alendronate/2800 international units vitamin D3 or one 70 mg alendronate/5600 international units vitamin D3 tablet once weekly. For most osteoporotic women, the appropriate dose is COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3(70 mg alendronate/5600 international units vitamin D3) once weekly.

-Treatment to Increase Bone Mass in Men with Osteoporosis:

The recommended dosage is one 70 mg alendronate/2800 international units vitamin D3 or one 70 mg alendronate/5600 international units vitamin D3 tablet once weekly. For most osteoporotic men, the appropriate dose is COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3 (70 mg alendronate/5600 international units vitamin D3) once weekly.

Important Administration Instructions:

Take COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3at least one-half hour before the first food, beverage, or medication of the day with plain water only.

Other beverages (including mineral water), food, and some medications are likely to reduce the absorption of alendronate. Waiting less than 30 minutes, or taking COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3with food, beverages (other than plain water) or other medications will lessen the effect of alendronate by decreasing its absorption into the body.

To facilitate delivery to the stomach and thus reduce the potential for esophageal irritation, a COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3tablet should be swallowed with a full glass of water (8 ounces). Patients should not lie down for at least 30 minutes and not eat after their first food of the day. COMBINATION OF ALENDRONATE AND VITAMIN D3should not be taken at bedtime or before arising for the day.

OVERDOSE:

-Alendronate Sodium:

No specific information is available on the treatment of overdose with alendronate. Hypocalcemia, hypophosphatemia, and upper gastrointestinal adverse events, such as upset stomach, heartburn, esophagitis, gastritis, or ulcer, may result from oral overdoses. Milk or antacids should be given to bind alendronate. Due to the risk of esophageal irritation, vomiting should not be induced and the patient should remain fully upright.

Dialysis is not expected to be beneficial.

-Cholecalciferol:

There is limited information regarding doses of ergocalciferol associated with acute toxicity, although intermittent (yearly or twice yearly) single doses of ergocalciferol (vitamin D2) as high as 600,000 international units have been given without reports of toxicity. Signs and symptoms of vitamin D toxicity include hypercalcemia, hypercalciuria, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, polyuria, polydipsia, weakness, and lethargy. Serum and urine calcium levels should be monitored in patients with suspected vitamin D toxicity. Standard therapy includes restriction of dietary calcium, fluid, and systemic glucocorticoids in patients with severe hypercalcemia.

Dialysis to remove vitamin D would not be beneficial.

Storage Conditions:

Store between 15°C - 30°C. Protect from light and moisture. Store in the original package until use. Out of reach of children

Each carton contains 1 Pvc/CIALU Milky or Opaque strip, contains 4 or 10 tablets.

THIS IS A MEDICATION		03:2022
-A medication is a product but unlike any other products. -A medication is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you. -Follow strictly the physician's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medication. The physician and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks. -Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you. -Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your physician.		
KEEP THE MEDICATIONS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN		
(Council of Arab Health Ministers) (Arab Pharmacist Association)		

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