ALTOA®

Albendazole Preparations

COMPOSITION:

Each 5 ml of **Altoa®** suspension contains : Albendazole USP 200 mg
Each tablet of **Altoa®** 200 contains : Albendazole USP 200 mg
Each tablet of **Altoa®** 400 contains : Albendazole USP 400 mg

INDICATIONS:

Ancylostomiasis (Hookworm Infection), Ascariasis (Roundworm Infection), Cysticercosis, Enterobiasis (Threadworm Infection), Hydatid disease, Opisthorchiasis, Strongyloidiasis (Pinworm Infection), Taeniasis (Tapeworm Infection) and Trichuriasis (Whipworm Infection).

Altoa® will also alleviate the discomfort of cutaneous larva migrans.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Altoa® preparations are usually given to adults and children aged 2 years and above orally as follows:

1. For Ascariasis, Ancylostomiasis or Trichuriasis, 400 mg is given as a single dose.
2. Capillariasis; 400 mg daily in divided doses for 10 to 20 days.
3. Strongyloidiasis; 400 mg daily for 3 consecutive days and may be repeated if necessary after 3 weeks.
4. Taeniasis; when mixed with other worm infections as for strongyloidiasis.
5. Cutaneous larva migrans; 400 mg daily for 3 to 5 days.
6. Opisthorchiasis; 400 mg twice daily for 3 to 7 days.
7. Neurocysticercosis; 15 to 30 mg/kg of body weight daily for 1 month.
8. Hydatid disease; 10 to 15 mg/kg of body weight daily or 400 mg twice daily for 28 days treatment-circles for 1 to 12treatment-circles. Two weeks rest period should intercede treatment-circles
9. For Enterobiasis; the recommended treatment is; Children 2 years; 100 mg first and again repeated after 7 days.
10. Childresn of 1 to 2 years of age may be given 200mg of albendazole orally for stronglyoidiasis.

SIDE EFFECTS:

Altoa® is largely free of adverse reactions at the usual low doses.

With-high dose regimens the following one or several adverse drug reactions may occur in 18 to 23% of cases, Raised serum-transaminase, leucopenia, depressed bone marrow activity, allergic reactions mostly urticaria and itching, loss of hair, abdominal pains and or other gastro-intestinal symptoms, severe headache, fever and fatigue, thrombocytopenia, hepatocellular type abnormality and cholestatic Jaundice.

WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS, ETC:

Patients on high dose treatment regimens should be closely monitored for development of serious adverse reactions by conducting blood counts and liver function tests.

Albendazole has been shown as having teratogenic and embryotoxic effects in rats and rabbits; its use is contraindicated in pregnant women or those likely to be pregnant. For women of child bearing age (15 – 40 years) **Altoa®** should be administered within 7 days of the start of normal menstruation.

PHARMACOLOGY:

Pharmacodynamic Properties:

The active ingredient in **Altoa®** preparations is albendazole. Albendazole is a benzimidazole that is also similar in its anthelmintic activity and structure to mebendazole it is effective against most common nematodes and some cestodes.

Other less common parasitic worms that are also sensitive to albendazole are; Capillaria philippinensis, Echinococcus granulosus cysts, Echinococcus multilocularis cysts and Opisthorchis viverrini.

Pharmacokinectic Properties

Albendazole is poorly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and any small amount that happens to be absorbed undergoes rapid and extensive first-pass metabolism. It is largerly due to this fact that the free albendazole is not readily detectable in the blood.

The principal metabolite, albendazole sulphoxide also have anthelmintic activity. About 70% of this metabolite present in the plasma is bound to the proteins and has a plasma half-life of about eight and half hours.

The sulphoxide derivative is excreted largely in urine. Other metabolites also excreted in urine are albendazole sulphone and its 2-amino derivative; and 2-amino albendazole sulphoxide.

LEGAL CATEGORY: Pharmacy Medicines (PM)

STORAGE CONDITIONS: Store in a dry place below 30°C, Protected from light. Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

SHELF LIFE: As per the product label

PRESENTATION:

Suspension: Presented as yellow, viscous, homogenous suspension in amber bottles of 10 ml and in plastic containers of 500 ml and 1000 ml

Tablets: Available in strip of 1, 2, tablets, blister pack of 1's, 10 x 10's, 50 x 10's tablets and bulk pack of 100, 500 & 1000 tablets

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LICENSE HOLDER: LABORATORY AND ALLIED LTD

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