

**Becotide (beclomethasone dipropionate BP), inhaler and rotacaps :
bullfinch.**

Contributors

Allen & Hanburys

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BULLFINCH.

Becotide

(beclomethasone dipropionate BP)

ROTACAPS AND ROTAHALER inhalation cartridges and breath-actuated device

An alternative to Becotide Inhaler in the inhaled steroid therapy of asthma

PRESENTATION AND BASIC NHS COST

Becotide Rotacaps contain a mixture of microfine beclomethasone dipropionate BP and larger particle lactose in buff or chocolate-brown/colourless hard gelatine cartridges. Each Rotacap contains 100 micrograms (buff) or 200 micrograms (chocolate-brown) and is marked Becotide 100 or Becotide 200.

Containers of 100 Becotide Rotacaps 100 micrograms £4.41.

Containers of 100 Becotide Rotacaps 200 micrograms £5.88.

Becotide Rotahaler is individually boxed in a plastic container, which has special compartments to accommodate the daily dosage requirement of Rotacaps.

Basic NHS cost of a Becotide Rotahaler is 65p.

It is advisable that a new Becotide Rotahaler is prescribed every 6 months.

INDICATIONS

For the control of asthmatic symptoms when glucocorticoid therapy is indicated or to replace or reduce the dosage of systemic glucocorticoids or ACTH in asthmatic patients dependent on such treatment for their well-being.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults: The usual maintenance dose is 1 Rotacap 200 micrograms 3 or 4 times a day by inhalation.

Children: 1 Rotacap 100 micrograms 2, 3 or 4 times a day, by inhalation, according to the response.

For further details on the initiation of Becotide Rotacaps therapy or for its use in patients already receiving systemic glucocorticoid or ACTH therapy see Data Sheet.

CONTRA-INDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC.

Special care is necessary in patients with active or quiescent pulmonary tuberculosis.

The maximum daily inhaled intake of beclomethasone dipropionate should not exceed 1mg; significant reduction of plasma cortisol levels has been reported in patients who received twice this amount. Unnecessary administration of drugs during the first trimester of pregnancy is undesirable.

Replacement of systemic steroid treatment with Becotide Rotacaps sometimes unmasks allergies such as allergic rhinitis or eczema previously controlled by the systemic drug. These can be treated with antihistamines and/or topical preparations.

Candidiasis of the mouth and throat (thrush) has been reported in some cases. It usually responds to topical antifungal therapy without withdrawal of therapy with Becotide Rotacaps.

SELECTED BIRDS OF BRITAIN

BULLFINCH

Pyrrhula pyrrhula

The shy but handsome Bullfinch is resident throughout Britain. It prefers dense woodland, copses and hedgerows although it may frequently be sighted in gardens during the late winter. Seeds and berries are taken for food, also fruit-tree buds in late winter and early spring. Damage by Bullfinches to orchards causes many complaints. The note is a soft "whib" or a low "dew". It is believed that this bird mates for life. The female builds a nest of twigs, roots and hair in a thick hedge. 4-6 greenish-blue eggs, streaked and spotted with brown, are produced. The female lacks the bright breast of the male and is duller in her general appearance. Both birds reach 6 inches (15 cm) in length.

(Illustration from "A History of British Birds" by F. O. Morris)

LEGAL CATEGORY

Prescription only medicine.

PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBERS

Becotide Rotacaps 100 micrograms 0045/0119

Becotide Rotacaps 200 micrograms 0045/0120

Further information is available on request.
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