

Esbatal : Esbatal has been shown to be preferred by the patients themselves as an anti-hypertensive therapy ...

Contributors

Burroughs Wellcome and Company

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Esbatal

Description

ESBATAL is bethanidine sulphate, an adrenergic neurone-blocking agent which reduces blood pressure by preventing the release of noradrenaline from the post-ganglionic fibres of the sympathetic nervous system.

Indications

ESBATAL should be used when an effective hypotensive drug is indicated and in those patients who are inadequately controlled by the milder anti-hypertensive agents such as diuretics and sedatives.

Dosage

One 10 mg ESBATAL tablet three times a day, preferably after breakfast, lunch and in the early evening.

Ideally the patient should receive in addition a suitable thiazide diuretic, eg chlorothiazide 0.5G in the morning with potassium supplementation later in the day. The effects of therapy should be assessed by taking the patient's blood pressure in the *standing* position. Where necessary the dosage should be increased by increments of half a tablet three times a day until the required degree of control is obtained. In the elderly and infirm patients a smaller initial dosage of half a tablet three times a day may be used.

Side-effects and Contra-indications

Diarrhoea is practically unknown. Parotid pain has not been reported. Patients who have suffered these effects with other drugs have enjoyed appreciable relief when transferred to ESBATAL. Mild transient reactions due to adrenergic neurone blockade,

particularly if the dose is excessive, include headache, faintness, giddiness, voluntary muscle fatigue and weakness, nasal stuffiness, disturbed micturition and sweating. They may be avoided by a reduction in dosage.

Care should be taken to avoid sudden changes in posture, excessive exertional activity, or extremes of temperature.

ESBATAL may cause a disturbance of sexual function in the male. Withdrawal of the drug for 24 hours will usually permit normal ejaculation.

ESBATAL is contra-indicated in phaeochromocytoma, and should be used cautiously in patients with a history of mental depression and in hypertension associated with cerebral or coronary arteriosclerosis, or severe renal damage. Patients taking ESBATAL are highly sensitive to adrenaline, amphetamine and other sympathomimetic drugs, which should not be used unless there is an urgent need to antagonise the effects of the compound.

ESBATAL Bethanidine Sulphate is available as peach-coloured, scored tablets in two strengths, 10 mg and 50 mg.

Basic cost to NHS—
100 tablets of 10 mg for 13s 4d.
100 tablets of 50 mg for 60s 0d.

Additional information is available on request.



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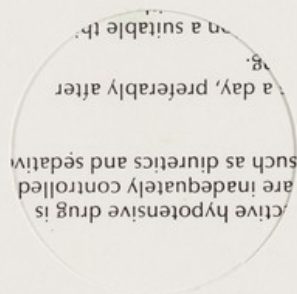
**the happiest choice
for your hypertensive patients**

Esbatal

ESBATAL* has been shown to be preferred by the patients themselves as an anti-hypertensive therapy in a comparative trial carried out at University College Hospital, London, comparing it with methyldopa and guanethidine.† Effective control of the blood pressure coupled with a comparative absence of distressing side-effects are being appreciated by the increasing number of patients who are leading happier lives on ESBATAL therapy.

†*Brit med J* (1968), **i**, 135

*Trade Mark



"July 1668—13th.

This morning I was let blood and did bleed about 14 ounces."

The diary of Samuel Pepys