

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ASPIRIN and extended-release DIPYRIDAMOLE capsules safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for ASPIRIN and extended-release DIPYRIDAMOLE capsules.

ASPIRIN and extended-release DIPYRIDAMOLE capsules, for oral use
Initial U.S. Approval: 1999

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

- Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Capsule is a combination antiplatelet agent indicated to reduce the risk of stroke in patients who have had transient ischemia of the brain or completed ischemic stroke due to thrombosis (1)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- One capsule twice daily (morning and evening) with or without food (2)
- In case of intolerable headaches during initial treatment, switch to one capsule at bedtime and low-dose aspirin in the morning; resume BID dosing within one week (2)
- Do not chew capsule (2)
- Not interchangeable with the individual components of aspirin and dipyridamole tablets (2)**
- Dispense in this unit-of-use container (16)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

- Capsule: 25 mg aspirin/200 mg extended-release dipyridamole (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Hypersensitivity to any product ingredients (4.1)

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1. INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Capsule is indicated to reduce the risk of stroke in patients who have had transient ischemia of the brain or completed ischemic stroke due to thrombosis.

2. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Capsules are not interchangeable with the individual components of aspirin and dipyridamole tablets.

The recommended dose of Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Capsules is one capsule given orally twice daily, one in the morning and one in the evening. Swallow capsules whole without chewing. Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Capsules can be administered with or without food.

2.1 Alternative Regimen in Case of Intolerable Headaches

In the event of intolerable headaches during initial treatment, switch to one capsule at bedtime and low-dose aspirin in the morning. Because there are no outcome data with this regimen and headaches become less of a problem as treatment continues, patients should return to the usual regimen as soon as possible, usually within one week.

3. DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

25 mg/200 mg capsules are imprinted in black with 'PAR' on the cap and '730' on the body, containing yellow colored extended-release pellets incorporating dipyridamole and a white to off white, film coated, circular bi-convex tablet incorporating immediate-release aspirin.

4. CONTRAINDICATIONS

4.1 Hypersensitivity

Aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of the product components.

4.2 Allergy

Aspirin is contraindicated in patients with known allergy to nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) products and in patients with the syndrome of asthma, rhinitis, and nasal polyps. Aspirin may cause severe urticaria, angioedema or bronchospasm.

4.3 Reye Syndrome

Do not use aspirin in children or teenagers with viral infections because of the risk of Reye syndrome.

5. WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Risk of Bleeding

Aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole increases the risk of bleeding. Risk factors for bleeding include the use of other drugs that increase the risk of bleeding (e.g., anticoagulants, antiplatelet agents, heparin, anagrelide, fibrinolytic therapy, and chronic use of NSAIDs) *(See Drug Interactions (7.1)).*

Intracranial Hemorrhage

In European Stroke Prevention Study-2 (ESPS2), the incidence of intracranial hemorrhage was 0.6% in the aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole group, 0.5% in the extended-release dipyridamole (ER-DP) group, 0.4% in the aspirin (ASA) group and 0.4% in the placebo groups.

Gastrointestinal (GI) Side Effects

GI side effects include stomach pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, and gross GI bleeding. Although minor upper GI symptoms, such as dyspepsia, are common and can occur anytime during therapy, physicians should remain alert for signs of ulceration and bleeding, even in the absence of previous GI symptoms. Inform patients about the signs and symptoms of GI side effects and what steps to take if they occur.

In ESPS2, the incidence of gastrointestinal bleeding was 4.1% in the aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole group, 2.2% in the extended-release dipyridamole group, 3.2% in the aspirin group, and 2.1% in the placebo groups.

Peptic Ulcer Disease

Avoid using aspirin in patients with a history of active peptic ulcer disease, which can cause gastric mucosal irritation and bleeding.

Alcohol Warning

Because aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole contains aspirin, counsel patients who consume three or more alcoholic drinks every day about the bleeding risks involved with chronic, heavy alcohol use while taking aspirin.

5.2 Renal Failure

Avoid aspirin in patients with severe renal failure (glomerular filtration rate less than 10 mL/minute) *(See Use in Specific Populations (8.6) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)).*

5.3 Hepatic Insufficiency

Elevations of hepatic enzymes and hepatic failure have been reported in association with dipyridamole administration *(See Use in Specific Populations (8.6) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)).*

5.4 Pregnancy

Because aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole contains aspirin, aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Maternal aspirin use during later stages of pregnancy may cause low birth weight, increased incidence for intracranial hemorrhage in premature infants, stillbirths and neonatal death. Because of the above and because of the known effects of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) on the fetal cardiovascular system (closure of the ductus arteriosus), avoid aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole in the third trimester of pregnancy *(See Use in Specific Populations (8.1)).*

Aspirin has been shown to be teratogenic in rats (spina bifida, exencephaly, microphthalmia and coelosomia) and rabbits (congested fetuses, agenesis of skull and upper jaw, generalized edema with malformation of the head, and diaphanous skin) at oral doses of 330 mg/kg/day and 110 mg/kg/day, respectively. These doses, which also resulted in a high resorption rate in rats (63% of implantations versus 5% in controls), are, on a mg/m² basis, about 66 and 44 times, respectively, the dose of aspirin contained in the maximum recommended daily human dose of aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole capsules. Reproduction studies with dipyridamole have been performed in mice, rabbits and rats at oral doses of up to 125 mg/kg, 40 mg/kg and 1000 mg/kg, respectively (about 1%, 2 and 25 times the maximum recommended daily human oral dose, respectively, on a mg/m² basis) and have revealed no evidence of harm to the fetus due to dipyridamole. When 330 mg aspirin/kg/day was combined with 75 mg dipyridamole/kg/day in the rat, the resorption rate approached 100%, indicating potentiation of aspirin-related fetal toxicity. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of the use of aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole capsules in pregnant women. If aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole capsules is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole, inform the patient of the potential hazard to the fetus.

5.5 Coronary Artery Disease

Dipyridamole has a vasodilatory effect. Chest pain may be precipitated or aggravated in patients with underlying coronary artery disease who are receiving dipyridamole.

For stroke or TIA patients for whom aspirin is indicated to prevent recurrent myocardial infarction (MI) or angina pectoris, the aspirin in this product may not provide adequate treatment for the cardiac indications.

5.6 Hypotension

Dipyridamole produces peripheral vasodilation, which can exacerbate preexisting hypotension.

5.7 General

Aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole capsules are not interchangeable with the individual components of aspirin and dipyridamole tablets.

6. ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions are discussed elsewhere in the labeling:

- Hypersensitivity *(See Contraindications (4.1))*
- Allergy *(See Contraindications (4.2))*
- Risk of Bleeding *(See Warnings and Precautions (5.1))*

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The efficacy and safety of aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole was established in the European Stroke Prevention Study-2 (ESPS2). ESPS2 was a double-blind, placebo controlled study that evaluated 6,602 patients over the age of 18 years who had a previous ischemic stroke or transient ischemic attack within ninety days prior to entry. Patients were randomized to either aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole, aspirin, ER-DP, or placebo *(See CLINICAL STUDIES (14))*; primary endpoints included stroke (fatal or nonfatal) and death from all causes.

This 24-month, multicenter, double-blind, randomized study (ESPS2) was conducted to compare the efficacy and safety of aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole with placebo, extended-release dipyridamole alone and aspirin alone. The study was conducted in a total of 6,602 male and female patients who had experienced a previous ischemic stroke or transient ischemia of the brain within three months prior to randomization.

Table 1 presents the incidence of adverse events that occurred in 1% or more of patients treated with aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole where the incidence was also greater than in those patients treated with placebo. There is no clear benefit of the dipyridamole/aspirin combination over aspirin with respect to safety.

Table 1 Incidence of Adverse Events in ESPS2 ^a						
Individual Treatment Group						
Body System/Preferred Term	Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole	ER-DP Alone	ASA Alone	Placebo		
Total Number of Patients	1,650	1,654	1,649	1,649		
Total Number (%) of Patients With at Least One On-Treatment Adverse Event	1,319 (80%)	1,305 (79%)	1,323 (80%)	1,304 (79%)		
Central and Peripheral Nervous System Disorders						
Headache	647 (39%)	634 (38%)	558 (34%)	543 (33%)		
Convulsions	28 (2%)	15 (1%)	28 (2%)	26 (2%)		
Gastrointestinal System Disorders						
Dyspepsia	303 (18%)	288 (17%)	299 (18%)	275 (17%)		

- Patients with known allergy to NSAIDs (4.2)
 - Patients with the syndrome of asthma, rhinitis, and nasal polyps (4.2)
- WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**-----
- Aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole capsules increases the risk of bleeding (5.1)
 - Avoid use in patients with severe hepatic or renal insufficiency (5.2, 5.3)
 - Can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman, especially in the third trimester (5.4)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

- The most frequently reported adverse reactions (>10% and greater than placebo) were headache, dyspepsia, abdominal pain, nausea, and diarrhea (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Par Pharmaceutical at 1-800-828-9393 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Coadministration with anticoagulants, antiplatelets, or NSAIDs can increase risk of bleeding (7.1)
- Decreased renal function can occur with coadministration with NSAIDs (7.1)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Pregnancy Category D (8.1)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

8. USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Pregnancy
- Labor and Delivery
- Nursing Mothers
- Pediatric Use
- Geriatric Use
- Patients with Severe Hepatic or Severe Renal Dysfunction

10. OVERDOSAGE

11. DESCRIPTION

12. CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

- Mechanism of Action
- Pharmacodynamics
- Pharmacokinetics

13. NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

- Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

14. CLINICAL STUDIES

16. HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

17. PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

^aSections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

Table 1 Continued...						
Individual Treatment Group						
Body System/Preferred Term	Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole	ER-DP Alone	ASA Alone	Placebo		
Abdominal Pain	289 (18%)	255 (15%)	262 (16%)	239 (14%)		
Nausea	264 (16%)	254 (15%)	210 (13%)	232 (14%)		
Diarrhea	210 (13%)	257 (16%)	112 (7%)	161 (10%)		
Vomiting	138 (8%)	129 (8%)	101 (6%)	118 (7%)		
Hemorrhage Rectum	26 (2%)	22 (1%)	16 (1%)	13 (1%)		
Melena	31 (2%)	10 (1%)	20 (1%)	13 (1%)		
Hemorrhoids	16 (1%)	13 (1%)	10 (1%)	10 (1%)		
GI Hemorrhage	20 (1%)	5 (0%)	15 (1%)	7 (0%)		
Body as a Whole - General Disorders						
Pain	105 (6%)	88 (5%)	103 (6%)	99 (6%)		
Fatigue	95 (6%)	93 (6%)	97 (6%)	90 (5%)		
Back Pain	76 (5%)	77 (5%)	74 (4%)	65 (4%)		
Accidental Injury	42 (3%)	24 (1%)	51 (3%)	37 (2%)		
Malaise	27 (2%)	23 (1%)	26 (2%)	22 (1%)		
Asthenia	29 (2%)	19 (1%)	17 (1%)	18 (1%)		
Syncope	17 (1%)	13 (1%)	16 (1%)	8 (0%)		
Psychiatric Disorders						
Amnesia	39 (2%)	40 (2%)	57 (3%)	34 (2%)		
Confusion	18 (1%)	9 (1%)	22 (1%)	15 (1%)		
Anorexia	19 (1%)	17 (1%)	10 (1%)	15 (1%)		
Somnolence	20 (1%)	13 (1%)	18 (1%)	9 (1%)		
Musculoskeletal System Disorders						
Arthritis	91 (6%)	75 (5%)	91 (6%)	76 (5%)		
Arthralgia	34 (2%)	25 (2%)	17 (1%)	19 (1%)		
Arthrosis	18 (1%)	22 (1%)	13 (1%)	14 (1%)		
Myalgia	20 (1%)	16 (1%)	11 (1%)	11 (1%)		
Respiratory System Disorders						
Coughing	25 (2%)	18 (1%)	32 (2%)	21 (1%)		
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	16 (1%)	9 (1%)	16 (1%)	14 (1%)		
Cardiovascular Disorders, General						
Cardiac Failure	26 (2%)	17 (1%)	30 (2%)	25 (2%)		
Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting Disorders						
Hemorrhage NOS	52 (3%)	24 (1%)	46 (3%)	24 (1%)		
Epistaxis	39 (2%)	16 (1%)	45 (3%)	25 (2%)		
Purpura	23 (1%)	8 (0%)	9 (1%)	7 (0%)		
Neoplasms						
Neoplasm NOS	28 (2%)	16 (1%)	23 (1%)	20 (1%)		
Red Blood Cell Disorders						
Anemia	27 (2%)	16 (1%)	19 (1%)	9 (1%)		

^aReported by ≥1% of patients during aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole treatment where the incidence was greater than in those treated with placebo.

Note: ER-DP = extended-release dipyridamole 200 mg; ASA = aspirin 25 mg. The dosage regimen for all treatment groups is BID.
NOS = not otherwise specified.

Discontinuation due to adverse events in ESPS2 was 25% for aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole, 25% for extended-release dipyridamole, 19% for aspirin, and 21% for placebo (refer to **Table 2**)

Table 2 Incidence of Adverse Events that Led to the Discontinuation of Treatment: Adverse Events with an Incidence of ≥1% in the Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole Group					
Treatment Groups					
	Aspirin and Extended-Release Dipyridamole	ER-DP	ASA	Placebo	
Total Number of Patients	1,650	1,654	1,649	1,649	
Patients with at least one Adverse Event that led to treatment discontinuation	417 (25%)	419 (25%)	318 (19%)	352 (21%)	
Headache	165 (10%)	166 (10%)	57 (3%)	69 (4%)	
Dizziness	85 (5%)	97 (6%)	69 (4%)	68 (4%)	
Nausea	91 (6%)	95 (6%)	51 (3%)	53 (3%)	
Abdominal Pain	74 (4%)	64 (4%)	56 (3%)	52 (3%)	
Dyspepsia	59 (4%)	61 (4%)	49 (3%)	46 (3%)	
Vomiting	53 (3%)	52 (3%)	28 (2%)	24 (1%)	
Diarrhea	35 (2%)	41 (2%)	9 (<1%)	16 (<1%)	
Stroke	39 (2%)	48 (3%)	57 (3%)	73 (4%)	
Transient Ischemic Attack	35 (2%)	40 (2%)	26 (2%)	48 (3%)	
Angina Pectoris	23 (1%)	20 (1%)	16 (<1%)	26 (2%)	

Note: ER-DP = extended-release dipyridamole 200 mg; ASA = aspirin 25 mg. The dosage regimen for all treatment groups is BID. Headache was most notable in the first month of treatment.

Other Adverse Events

Adverse reactions that occurred in less than 1% of patients treated with aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole in the ESPS2 study and that were medically judged to be possibly related to either dipyridamole or aspirin are listed below.

Body as a Whole: Allergic reaction, fever

Cardiovascular: Hypotension

Central Nervous System: Coma, dizziness, paresthesia, cerebral hemorrhage, intracranial hemorrhage, subarachnoid hemorrhage

Gastrointestinal: Gastritis, ulceration and perforation

Hearing and Vestibular Disorders: Tinnitus, and deafness. Patients with high frequency hearing loss may have difficulty perceiving tinnitus. In these patients, tinnitus cannot be used as a clinical indicator of salicylism

Heart Rate and Rhythm Disorders: Tachycardia, palpitation, arrhythmia, supraventricular tachycardia

Liver and Biliary System Disorders: Cholelithiasis, jaundice, hepatic function abnormal

Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders: Hyperglycemia, thirst

Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting Disorders: Hematoma, gingival bleeding

Psychiatric Disorders: Agitation

Reproductive: Uterine hemorrhage

Respiratory: Hyperpnea, asthma, bronchospasm, hemoptysis, pulmonary edema

Special Senses Other Disorders: Taste loss

Skin and Appendages Disorders: Pruritus, urticaria

Urogenital: Renal insufficiency and failure, hematuria

Vascular (Extracardiac) Disorders: Flushing

Laboratory Changes

Over the course of the 24-month study (ESPS2), patients treated with aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole showed a decline (mean change from baseline) in hemoglobin of 0.25 g/dL, hematocrit of 0.75%, and erythrocyte count of 0.13x10⁹/mm³.

6.2 Post Marketing Experience

The following is a list of additional adverse reactions that have been reported either in the literature or are from post marketing spontaneous reports for either dipyridamole or aspirin. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to estimate reliably their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure. Decisions to include these reactions in labeling are typically based on one or more of the following factors: (1) seriousness of the reaction, (2) frequency of reporting, or (3) strength of causal connection to aspirin and extended-release dipyridamole.

Body as a Whole: Hypothermia, chest pain

Cardiovascular: Angina pectoris

Central Nervous System: Cerebral edema

Fluid and Electrolyte: Hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, respiratory alkalosis, hypokalemia

Gastrointestinal: Pancreatitis, Reye syndrome, hematemesis

Hearing and Vestibular Disorders: Hearing loss

Immune System Disorders: Hypersensitivity, acute anaphylaxis, laryngeal edema

Liver and Biliary System Disorders: Hepatitis, hepatic failure

Musculoskeletal: Rhabdomyolysis

Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders: Hypoglycemia, dehydration

Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting Disorders: Prolongation of the prothrombin time, disseminated intravascular coagulation, coagulopathy, thrombocytopenia

Reproductive: Prolonged pregnancy and labor, stillbirths, lower birth weight infants, antepartum and postpartum bleeding

Respiratory: Tachypnea, dyspnea

