

PENTOXIFYLLINE

Class: Blood Viscosity Reducer Agent.

Indications: Treatment of intermittent claudication on the basis of chronic occlusive arterial disease of the limbs; may improve function and symptoms, but not intended to replace more definitive therapy.

Unlabeled: Severe alcoholic hepatitis; venous leg ulcers (with compression therapy).

Available dosage form in the hospital: 400MG TAB

Dosage:

-Intermittent claudication: Oral: 400 mg 3 times/day; maximal therapeutic benefit may take 2-4 weeks to develop; recommended to maintain therapy for at least 8 weeks. May reduce to 400 mg twice daily if GI or CNS side effects occur.

-Severe alcoholic hepatitis (Maddrey Discriminant Function [MDF] score ≥ 32 , especially when corticosteroids contraindicated) (unlabeled use): Oral: 400 mg 3 times/day for 4 weeks .

-Venous leg ulcer (unlabeled use): Oral: 400 mg 3 times/day (with compression therapy)

Renal Impairment:

No dosage adjustments provided in the manufacturer's labeling; however, the following guidelines have been used by some clinicians:

- *Aronoff, 2007:*

- $Cl_{cr} > 50$ mL/minute: 400 mg every 8-12 hours
- $Cl_{cr} 10-50$ mL/minute: 400 mg every 12-24 hours
- $Cl_{cr} < 10$ mL minute: 400 mg every 24 hours
- Hemodialysis: supplemental postdialysis dose is not necessary.
- Peritoneal dialysis: 400 mg every 24 hours

- *Paap, 1996:*

- Moderate renal impairment ($Cl_{cr} \sim 60$ mL/minute): 400 mg twice daily.

- Severe renal impairment ($Cl_{cr} \sim 20$ mL/minute): 400 mg once daily; further reduction may be required; Paap suggests 200 mg once daily, but with current products (extended or controlled release; unscored) may require adaptation to 400 mg once every other day.

Common side effect: 1% to 10%: Gastrointestinal: Nausea (2%), vomiting (1%)

<1% (Limited to important or life-threatening): Anaphylactic shock, anaphylactoid reaction, anaphylaxis, angioedema, angina, anorexia, aplastic anemia, arrhythmia, aseptic meningitis, blurred vision, chest pain, cholecystitis, conjunctivitis, depression, fibrinogen decreased (serum), hallucinations, hepatitis, hypotension, leukemia, leukopenia, liver enzymes increased, pancytopenia, scotoma, seizure, tachycardia, thrombocytopenia

Pregnancy Risk Factor: C