

SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Protol SR 2 mg, prolonged-release capsules, hard

Protol SR 4 mg, prolonged-release capsules, hard

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each prolonged-release capsule contains tolterodine tartrate 2 mg or 4 mg corresponding to 1.37 mg and 2.74 mg tolterodine, respectively.

Excipient(s) with known effect

Each 2 mg prolonged-release capsule contains a maximum of 61.52 mg of sucrose.

Each 4 mg prolonged-release capsule contains a maximum of 123.07 mg of sucrose.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Prolonged-release capsule, hard

The 2 mg prolonged-release capsule is blue-green with white printing (symbol and 2). The 4 mg prolonged-release capsule is blue with white printing (symbol and 4).

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Symptomatic treatment of urge incontinence and/or increased urinary frequency and urgency as may occur in patients with overactive bladder syndrome.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Adults (including the elderly)

The recommended dose is 4 mg once daily except in patients with impaired liver function or severely impaired renal function ($GFR \leq 30$ ml/min) for whom the recommended dose is 2 mg once daily (see sections 4.4 and 5.2). In case of troublesome side-effects the dose may be reduced from 4 mg to 2 mg once daily.

The prolonged-release capsules can be taken with or without food and must be swallowed whole.

The effect of treatment should be re-evaluated after 2-3 months (see section 5.1).

Paediatric population

Efficacy of Protol SR has not been demonstrated in children (see section 5.1). Therefore, Protol SR is not recommended for children.

4.3 Contraindications

Tolterodine is contraindicated in patients with

- Urinary retention
- Uncontrolled narrow angle glaucoma
- Myasthenia gravis
- Known hypersensitivity to tolterodine or excipients (see section 6)

- Severe ulcerative colitis
- Toxic megacolon

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Tolterodine shall be used with caution in patients with

- Significant bladder outlet obstruction at risk of urinary retention
- Gastrointestinal obstructive disorders, e.g. pyloric stenosis
- Renal impairment (see sections 4.2 and 5.2)
- Hepatic disease (see sections 4.2 and 5.2)
- Autonomic neuropathy
- Hiatus hernia
- Risk of decreased gastrointestinal motility

Multiple oral total daily doses of immediate release 4 mg (therapeutic) and 8 mg (supratherapeutic) tolterodine have been shown to prolong the QTc interval (see section 5.1). The clinical relevance of these findings is unclear and will depend on individual patient risk factors and susceptibilities present. Tolterodine should be used with caution in patients with risk factors for QT-prolongation including:

- Congenital or documented acquired QT-prolongation
- Electrolyte disturbances such as hypokalaemia, hypomagnesaemia and hypocalcaemia
- Bradycardia
- Relevant pre-existing cardiac diseases (i.e. cardiomyopathy, myocardial ischaemia, arrhythmia, congestive heart failure)
- Concomitant administration of drugs known to prolong QT-interval including Class IA (e.g. quinidine, procainamide) and Class III (e.g. amiodarone, sotalol) anti-arrhythmics.

This especially holds true when taking potent CYP3A4 inhibitors (see section 5.1). Concomitant treatment with potent CYP3A4 inhibitors should be avoided (see section 4.5).

Urinary retention

As with all treatments for symptoms of urgency and urge incontinence, organic reasons for urge and frequency should be considered before treatment.

Excipient information

Patients with rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption or sucrase-isomaltase insufficiency should not take this medicine.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Concomitant systemic medication with potent CYP3A4 inhibitors such as macrolide antibiotics (erythromycin and clarithromycin), antifungal agents (e.g. ketoconazole and itraconazole) and antiproteases is not recommended due to increased serum concentrations of tolterodine in poor CYP2D6 metabolisers with (subsequent) risk of overdose (see section 4.4).

Concomitant medication with other drugs that possess antimuscarinic properties may result in more pronounced therapeutic effect and side-effects. Conversely, the therapeutic effect of tolterodine may be reduced by concomitant administration of muscarinic cholinergic receptor agonists.

The effect of prokinetics like metoclopramide and cisapride may be decreased by tolterodine.

Concomitant treatment with fluoxetine (a potent CYP2D6 inhibitor) does not result in a clinically significant interaction since tolterodine and its CYP2D6-dependent metabolite, 5-hydroxymethyl tolterodine are equipotent.

Drug interaction studies have shown no interactions with warfarin or combined oral contraceptives (ethinyl estradiol/levonorgestrel).

A clinical study has indicated that tolterodine is not a metabolic inhibitor of CYP2D6, 2C19, 2C9, 3A4 or 1A2. Therefore, an increase of plasma levels of drugs metabolised by these isoenzymes is not expected when dosed in combination with tolterodine.

4.6 Pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

There are no adequate data from the use of tolterodine in pregnant women.

Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown.

Consequently, Protol SR is not recommended during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding

No data concerning the excretion of tolterodine into human milk are available. Tolterodine should be avoided during lactation.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Since this drug may cause accommodation disturbances and influence reaction time, the ability to drive and use machines may be negatively affected.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

Due to the pharmacological effect of tolterodine it may cause mild to moderate antimuscarinic effects, like dryness of the mouth, dyspepsia and dry eyes.

Table 1 below reflects the data obtained with Protol SR in clinical trials and from post marketing experience. The most commonly reported adverse reaction was dry mouth, which occurred in 23.4 % of patients treated with Protol SR and in 7.7 % of placebo-treated patients.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

The adverse drug reactions listed in the table below are presented by System Organ Class (SOC) and frequency categories, defined using the following convention: very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$), very rare ($< 1/10,000$), or not known (cannot be estimated from the available data). Within each frequency grouping, undesirable effects are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

Table 1: Adverse drug reactions

System organ class	Very common ($\geq 1/10$)	Common ($\geq 1/100$ to < 1/10)	Uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$ to < 1/100)	Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)
Infections and infestations		Sinusitis		
Immune system disorders			Hypersensitivity not otherwise specified	Anaphylactoid reactions
Psychiatric disorders			Nervousness	Confusion, hallucinations, disorientation
Nervous system disorders		Dizziness, somnolence, headache	Paresthesia, memory impairment	
Eye disorders		Dry eyes, abnormal vision (including		

System organ class	Very common (≥ 1/10)	Common (≥ 1/100 to < 1/10)	Uncommon (≥ 1/1000 to < 1/100)	Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)
		abnormal accommodation)		
Ear and labyrinth disorders			Vertigo	
Cardiac disorders			Palpitations, cardiac failure, arrhythmia	Tachycardia
Vascular disorders				Flushing
Gastrointestinal disorders	Dry mouth	Dyspepsia, constipation, abdominal pain, flatulence, diarrhoea		Gastroesophageal reflux, vomiting
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders				Angioedema, dry skin
Renal and urinary disorders		Dysuria	Urinary retention	
General disorders and administration site conditions		Fatigue, peripheral oedema	Chest pain	

Cases of aggravation of symptoms of dementia (e.g. confusion, disorientation, delusion) have been reported after tolterodine therapy was initiated in patients taking cholinesterase inhibitors for the treatment of dementia.

Paediatric population

In two paediatric phase 3 randomised, placebo-controlled, double-blind studies conducted over 12 weeks where a total of 710 paediatric patients were recruited, the proportion of patients with urinary tract infections, diarrhoea and abnormal behaviour was higher in patients treated with tolterodine than placebo (urinary tract infection: tolterodine 6.8 %, placebo 3.6 %; diarrhoea: tolterodine 3.3 %, placebo 0.9 %; abnormal behaviour: tolterodine 1.6 %, placebo 0.4 %) (see section 5.1).

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via **the national reporting system** listed in [Appendix V](#).

4.9 Overdose

The highest dose given to human volunteers of tolterodine tartrate is 12.8 mg as a single dose of the immediate release formulation. The most severe adverse events observed were accommodation disturbances and micturition difficulties.

In the event of tolterodine overdose, treat with gastric lavage and give activated charcoal. Treat symptoms as follows:

- Severe central anticholinergic effects (e.g. hallucinations, severe excitation): treat with physostigmine
- Convulsions or pronounced excitation: treat with benzodiazepines
- Respiratory insufficiency: treat with artificial respiration
- Tachycardia: treat with beta-blockers
- Urinary retention: treat with catheterisation

- Mydriasis: treat with pilocarpine eye drops and/or place patient in dark room.

An increase in QT-interval was observed at a total daily dose of 8 mg immediate release tolterodine (twice the recommended daily dose of the immediate release formulation and equivalent to three times the peak exposure of the prolonged-release capsule formulation) administered over four days. In the event of tolterodine overdose, standard supportive measures for managing QT-prolongation should be adopted.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Urinary antispasmodics, ATC code: G04B D07

Mechanism of action

Tolterodine is a competitive, specific muscarinic receptor antagonist with a selectivity for the urinary bladder over salivary glands *in vivo*.

Pharmacodynamic effects

One of the tolterodine metabolites (5-hydroxymethyl derivative) exhibits a pharmacological profile similar to that of the parent compound. In extensive metabolisers this metabolite contributes significantly to the therapeutic effect (see section 5.2).

Clinical efficacy and safety

Effect of the treatment can be expected within 4 weeks.

In the Phase 3 program, the primary endpoint was reduction of incontinence episodes per week and the secondary endpoints were reduction of micturitions per 24 hours and increase of mean volume voided per micturition. These parameters are presented in the following table.

Effect of treatment with Protol SR 4 mg once daily after 12 weeks, compared with placebo. Absolute change and percentage change relative to baseline. Treatment difference Protol vs. placebo: Least Squares estimated mean change and 95% confidence interval.

	Protol SR 4 mg once daily (n=507)	Placebo (n=508)	Treatment difference vs. placebo: Mean change and 95% CI	Statistical significance vs. Placebo (p-value)
Number of incontinence episodes per week	-11.8 (-54%)	-6.9 (-28%)	-4.8 (-7.2; -2.5)*	< 0.001
Number of micturitions per 24 hours	-1.8 (-13%)	-1.2 (-8%)	-0.6 (-1.0; -0.2)	0.005
Mean volume voided per micturition (ml)	+34 (+27%)	+14 (+12%)	+20 (14; 26)	< 0.001

*97.5% confidence interval according to Bonferroni

After 12 weeks of treatment 23.8% (121/507) in the Protol SR group and 15.7% (80/508) in the placebo group reported that they subjectively had no or minimal bladder problems.

The effect of tolterodine was evaluated in patients, examined with urodynamic assessment at baseline and, depending on the urodynamic result, they were allocated to a urodynamic positive (motor urgency) or a urodynamic negative (sensory urgency) group. Within each group, the patients were

randomised to receive either tolterodine or placebo. The study could not provide convincing evidence that tolterodine had effects over placebo in patients with sensory urgency.

The clinical effects of tolterodine on QT-interval were studied in ECGs obtained from over 600 treated patients, including the elderly and patients with pre-existing cardiovascular disease. The changes in QT-intervals did not significantly differ between placebo and treatment groups.

The effect of tolterodine on QT-prolongation was investigated further in 48 healthy male and female volunteers aged 18-55 years. Subjects were administered 2 mg BID and 4 mg BID tolterodine as the immediate release formulations. The results (Fridericia corrected) at peak tolterodine concentration (1 hour) showed mean QTc interval increases of 5.0 and 11.8 msec for tolterodine doses of 2 mg BID and 4 mg BID respectively and 19.3 msec for moxifloxacin (400 mg) which was used as an active, internal control. A pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic model estimated that QTc interval increases in poor metabolisers (devoid of CYP2D6) treated with tolterodine 2 mg BID are comparable to those observed in extensive metabolisers receiving 4 mg BID. At both doses of tolterodine, no subject, irrespective of their metabolic profile, exceeded 500 msec for absolute QTcF or 60 msec for change from baseline that are considered thresholds of particular concern. The 4 mg BID dose corresponds to a peak exposure (C_{max}) of three times that obtained with the highest therapeutic dose of Protol SR capsules.

Paediatric population

Efficacy in the paediatric population has not been demonstrated. Two paediatric phase 3 randomised, placebo-controlled, double-blind 12 week studies were conducted using tolterodine extended release capsules. A total of 710 paediatric patients (486 on tolterodine and 224 on placebo) aged 5-10 years with urinary frequency and urge urinary incontinence were studied. No significant difference between the two groups was observed in either study with regard to change from baseline in total number of incontinence episodes/week (see section 4.8).

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Pharmacokinetic characteristics specific for this formulation

Tolterodine prolonged-release capsules give a slower absorption of tolterodine than the immediate release tablets do. As a result, the maximum serum concentrations are observed 4 (2-6) hours after administration of the capsules. The apparent half-life for tolterodine given as the capsule is about 6 hours in extensive and about 10 hours in poor metabolisers (devoid of CYP2D6). Steady state concentrations are reached within 4 days after administration of the capsules. There is no effect of food on the bioavailability of the capsules.

Absorption

After oral administration tolterodine is subject to CYP2D6 catalysed first-pass metabolism in the liver, resulting in the formation of the 5-hydroxymethyl derivative, a major pharmacologically equipotent metabolite.

The absolute bioavailability of tolterodine is 17 % in extensive metabolisers, the majority of the patients, and 65% in poor metabolisers (devoid of CYP2D6).

Distribution

Tolterodine and the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite bind primarily to orosomucoid. The unbound fractions are 3.7% and 36%, respectively. The volume of distribution of tolterodine is 113 l.

Elimination

Tolterodine is extensively metabolised by the liver following oral dosing. The primary metabolic route is mediated by the polymorphic enzyme CYP2D6 and leads to the formation of the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite. Further metabolism leads to formation of the 5-carboxylic acid and N-dealkylated 5-carboxylic acid metabolites, which account for 51 % and 29 % of the metabolites recovered in the urine, respectively. A subset (about 7%) of the population is devoid of CYP2D6 activity. The identified pathway of metabolism for these individuals (poor metabolisers) is dealkylation via CYP3A4 to N-dealkylated tolterodine, which does not contribute to the clinical effect. The remainder

of the population is referred to as extensive metabolisers. The systemic clearance of tolterodine in extensive metabolisers is about 30 L/h. In poor metabolisers the reduced clearance leads to significantly higher serum concentrations of tolterodine (about 7-fold) and negligible concentrations of the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite are observed.

The 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite is pharmacologically active and equipotent with tolterodine. Because of the differences in the protein-binding characteristics of tolterodine and the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite, the exposure (AUC) of unbound tolterodine in poor metabolisers is similar to the combined exposure of unbound tolterodine and the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite in patients with CYP2D6 activity given the same dosage regimen. The safety, tolerability and clinical response are similar irrespective of phenotype.

The excretion of radioactivity after administration of [^{14}C]-tolterodine is about 77% in urine and 17% in faeces. Less than 1% of the dose is recovered as unchanged drug, and about 4% as the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite. The carboxylated metabolite and the corresponding dealkylated metabolite account for about 51% and 29% of the urinary recovery, respectively.

The pharmacokinetics is linear in the therapeutic dosage range.

Hepatic impairment

About 2-fold higher exposure of unbound tolterodine and the 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite is found in subjects with liver cirrhosis (see sections 4.2 and 4.4).

Impaired renal function: The mean exposure of unbound tolterodine and its 5-hydroxymethyl metabolite is doubled in patients with severe renal impairment (inulin clearance $\text{GFR} \leq 30 \text{ ml/min}$). The plasma levels of other metabolites were markedly (up to 12-fold) increased in these patients. The clinical relevance of the increased exposure of these metabolites is unknown. There is no data in mild to moderate renal impairment (see sections 4.2 and 4.4).

Paediatric population

The exposure of the active moiety per mg dose is similar in adults and adolescents. The mean exposure of the active moiety per mg dose is approximately two-fold higher in children between 5-10 years than in adults (see sections 4.2 and 5.1).

5.3 Preclinical safety data

In toxicity, genotoxicity, carcinogenicity and safety pharmacology studies no clinically relevant effects have been observed except those related to the pharmacological effect of the drug.

Reproduction studies have been performed in mice and rabbits.

In mice, there was no effect of tolterodine on fertility or reproductive function. Tolterodine produced embryo death and malformations at plasma exposures (C_{max} or AUC) 20 or 7 times higher than those seen in treated humans.

In rabbits, no malformative effect was seen, but the studies were conducted at 20 or 3 times higher plasma exposure (C_{max} or AUC) than those expected in treated humans.

Tolterodine, as well as its active human metabolites prolong action potential duration (90% repolarisation) in canine purkinje fibres (14 - 75 times therapeutic levels) and block the K^+ -current in cloned human ether-a-go-go-related gene (hERG) channels (0,5 - 26,1 times therapeutic levels). In dogs prolongation of the QT-interval has been observed after application of tolterodine and its human metabolites (3,1 - 61,0 times therapeutic levels). The clinical relevance of these findings is unknown.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Prolonged-release capsule contents

Sugar spheres (containing sucrose and maize starch)
Hypromellose

Surelease E-7-19040 clear

Ethylcellulose
Medium chain triglycerides
Oleic acid

Prolonged-release capsule shell contents

Gelatin

Printing ink

Shellac glaze, E904
Titanium dioxide, E171
Propylene-glycol, E1520
Simeticone

Colorants in the blue-green 2 mg prolonged-release capsule

Indigo carmine, E132
Yellow iron oxide, E172
Titanium dioxide, E171

Colorants in the blue 4 mg prolonged-release capsule

Indigo carmine, E132
Titanium dioxide, E171

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

Protol SR 2 mg, 4 mg prolonged-release capsules in PVC/PVDC and aluminium foil blisters: 3 years
Protol SR 2 mg, 4 mg prolonged-release capsules in HDPE bottles with LDPE closures: 2 years
Protol SR 2 mg, 4 mg prolonged-release capsules in HDPE bottles with polypropylene closures: 3 years

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 25 °C.

Bottles: Store in the original container.

Blisters: Keep the blister in the outer carton.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Protol SR prolonged-release capsules are packed in either blisters made of PVC/PVDC and aluminium foil with a heat seal coating of PVDC or HDPE bottles with LDPE closures or HDPE bottles with polypropylene closures.

Pack sizes

Protol SR prolonged-release capsules of 2 and 4 mg are available in blister packs of 7, 14, 28, 49, 84, 98, 280 capsules and in bottles of 30, 100 and 200 capsules. Hospital packs are available in blister packs of 80, 160 and 320 capsules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

[To be completed nationally]

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

[To be completed nationally]

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

[To be completed nationally]

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

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