Presentation
Madopar contains a combination of levodopa and the decarboxylase inhibitor benzerazide in the ratio of 4:1. Madopar 62.5 capsules contain 50mg levodopa and 14.35mg benzerazide hydrochloride (equivalent to 12.5mg of the base). Madopar 125 capsules contain 100mg levodopa and 28.7mg benzerazide hydrochloride (equivalent to 25mg of the base). Madopar 250 capsules contain 200mg levodopa and 57mg benzerazide hydrochloride (equivalent to 50mg of the base).

Indications
Parkinsonism - idiopathic; postencephalic

Dosage
Dosage is variable and the data sheet should be consulted for full details. The effective daily dose usually lies between four and eight capsules of Madopar 125 (two to four capsules of Madopar 250) daily in divided doses. Most patients requiring no more than six capsules of Madopar 125 daily. In some elderly patients initial treatment with one capsule of Madopar 62.5 once or twice daily, increasing by one capsule every third or fourth day may suffice. Patients who experience fluctuations in response may also benefit from administration of smaller more frequent doses using Madopar 62.5.

Contra-indications
Narrow-angle glaucoma, severe psychoneuroses or psychoses. It should not be used in conjunction with monoamine oxidase inhibitors or within two weeks of their withdrawal, to patients under 25 years of age, to pregnant women or to patients who have a history of, or who may be suffering from, a malignant melanoma.

Precautions
Drugs which interfere with central amine mechanisms should be avoided. Endocrine, renal, pulmonary or cardiovascular disease, hepatic disorder, peptic ulcer, osteoporosis, sympathomimetic drugs, antihypertensive drugs. Patients who improve on Madopar therapy should be advised to resume normal activities gradually as rapid mobilisation may increase the risk of injury.

Side-effects
Nausea and vomiting, cardiovascular disturbances, psychiatric disturbances, involuntary movements.

Packings
Madopar 62.5 capsules, Madopar 125 capsules and Madopar 250 capsules in packings of 100.

Licence Numbers
0031/0125 (Madopar 62.5 capsules), 0031/0073 (Madopar 125 capsules), 0031/0074 (Madopar 250 capsules).

Basic NHS Cost
Madopar capsules 62.5 £4.01 per 100.
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Prescribing Information. Presentation White, scored, uncoated tablets 6 mm diameter containing 5 mg selegline hydrochloride.

Indications Eldepryl is indicated for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, or symptomatic Parkinsonism, which is being treated with levodopa alone or levodopa and a peripheral decarboxylase inhibitor. Eldepryl in conjunction with levodopa treatment is particularly indicated in patients who, during maximal levodopa treatment, develop on-off symptoms or other dyskinesias. Dosage When given in conjunction with established levodopa therapy the initial dose of Eldepryl is 5 mg (1 tablet) in the morning. If symptoms are very severe, e.g. on-off symptoms, and little response is achieved with 1 tablet Eldepryl daily, the dose of Eldepryl can be increased to 10 mg (2 tablets) in the morning. Contra-Indications There are no known contra-indications for the use of Eldepryl in patients receiving levodopa therapy. Warnings Because Eldepryl potentiates the effects of levodopa, the side effects of levodopa might be emphasised. When Eldepryl is added to maximally tolerated levodopa treatment, involuntary movements and agitation may occur. Levodopa treatment can be reduced by an average of 30% when Eldepryl is added to the treatment. When an optimal levodopa dose has been established the side effects of the combination are fewer than for levodopa alone. Side Effects Hypotension and nausea have been reported as isolated symptoms associated with Eldepryl treatment. Confusion or psychosis have also been reported. Legal Category PoM. Product Licence Number 4483/0024. Basic NHS Cost Pack of 100 tablets. £30.00. Further information is available from: Britannia Pharmaceuticals Limited, Lonsdale House, 7-11 High Street, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9RR.
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Indications
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Dosage variable
Patients not receiving levodopa
Usually 1 tablet of Sinemet® Plus three times a day. Adjust as necessary. Maximum daily dose is 8 tablets. If more levodopa is required substitute Sinemet 25 mg tablets three or four times a day. If further titration is needed increase Sinemet 25 mg tablets to a maximum of 8 tablets a day.

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Patients requiring less than 150 mg levodopa a day start with Sinemet® Plus 1 tablet three or four times a day. Maximum is 8 tablets a day.

Contra-indications
Narrow-angle glaucoma, known hypersensitivity. Do not use in patients with history of melanoma or with suspicious undiagnosed skin lesions. Do not use MAO inhibitors at least two weeks before starting Sinemet

Pregnancy and lactation
Not recommended in lactating mothers. Use in women of childbearing potential requires that anticipated benefits be weighed against possible hazards should pregnancy occur.

Precautions
Not recommended for drug-induced Parkinsonism. Use cautiously in patients with severe cardiovascular, or pulmonary disease, bronchial asthma, renal hepatic, endocrine, psychiatric, chronic wide-angle glaucoma with a history of myocardial infarction, and when receiving antihypertensives (adjust dosage if necessary). Monitor carefully for mental changes, depression, suicidal tendencies, and other serious anticholinergic behaviour. Observe carefully patients with history of severe involuntary movements or psychoses when Sinemet® substituted for levodopa.

GI haemorrhage may occur in patients with history of peptic ulcer.

If general anaesthesia is required, Sinemet® may be continued only if patient permitted oral intake. Usual daily dosage may be given when oral medication is possible.

Transient abnormalities in renal function tests, liver function tests, and protein-bound iodine may occur without evidence of disease.

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Product licence numbers
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