Presentation
Madopar contains a combination of levodopa and the decarboxylase
inhibitor benserazide in the ratio of
4:1. Madopar 62.5 capsules
containing 50mg levodopa and
14.5mg benserazide hydrochloride
(equivalent to 12.5mg of the base)
Madopar 125 capsules containing
100mg levodopa and 28.5mg
benserazide hydrochloride
equivalent to 25mg of the base
Madopar 250 capsules containing
300mg levodopa and 57mg
benserazide hydrochloride
equivalent to 50mg of the base

Indications
Parkinsonism - idiopathic, post-
encephalitic
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 62.5 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 given 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,
symptomatic drugs, anti-hypertensive drugs. Patients
who improve on Madopar therapy
should be advised to resume normal
activities gradually as rapid
mobilisation may increase the risk of
side-effects

Nausea and vomiting,
cardiovascular disturbances,
psychiatric disturbances,
extraventricular movements

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

Licence Numbers
0031, 0029, Madopar 62.5
capsules, 0031, 0073, Madopar 125
capsules, 0031, 0074, Madopar 250
capsules

Basic NHS Cost
Madopar capsules 62.5
£1.41 per 100
Madopar capsules 125
£1.96 per 100
Madopar capsules 250
£3.77 per 100

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Madopar is a trade mark
RZQ210 798
Indications: Epilepsy (granul mal and temporal lobe), trigeminal neuralgia. Dosage: In epilepsy, use a gradually increasing dosage scheme, adjusting to patient's needs. ADULTS: 100-200mg once or twice daily, increasing slowly up to 800-1,000mg daily, in some cases 1,600mg daily may be necessary. Children: up to 1 year old, 100-200mg daily, aged 1-5 years, 200-400mg daily, aged 5-10 years, 400-600mg daily, aged 10-15 years, 600-1,000mg daily. It may be helpful to monitor plasma drug levels. Optimum therapeutic range is 3-10 mg/ml (13-42 ng/ml). Dosage in trigeminal neuralgia: Begin with small doses, using 100mg tablets or syrup, and increase gradually until satisfactory therapeutic response is obtained. 200mg 3-4 times daily is generally sufficient to maintain pain-free state. Side effects: Dizziness and diplopia (usually dose-dependent), less frequently drowsiness, dry mouth, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting. Generalised exanthematous rash, disappearing on cessation of therapy, isolated reports of oedema, hypotension, exfoliative dermatitis, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, aplastic anaemia, cholestatic jaundice and acute renal failure. Blood count should be checked in early stages of treatment. Precautions: Caution in patients taking oral anticoagulants or requiring oral contraception. In pregnancy, potential benefits of Tegretol must be weighed against potential hazards. Do not administer within 2 weeks of cessation of MAOI therapy. In rats treated with carbamazepine for two years, incidence of liver tumours increased (no evidence of significant effect in the therapeutic use of the drug). Serum total, acid levels should be observed during anticonvulsant therapy. Contra-indications: Previous drug sensitivity to Tegretol. Do not administer to patients with atrioventricular conduction abnormalities or with complete heart block. Full prescribing information is available on request from Geigy Pharmaceuticals, Hounslow, West Sussex.
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ABRIDGED PRODUCT INFORMATION
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Indications
Parkinson's disease and syndrome.

Dosage and administration
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 required, substitute 'Sinemet'-275, 1 tablet three or four times a day. If further titration needed, increase 'Sinemet'-275 to maximum 8 tablets a day.

Patients receiving levodopa
Discontinue levodopa at least twelve hours (24 hours for slow-release preparations) before starting 'Sinemet'. Dose of 'Sinemet' approximately 20% of previous daily dosage of levodopa. Usual starting dose 'Sinemet'-275 1 tablet three or four times a day. Patients requiring less than 1,500 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. Discontinue 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 disease, psychoses, chronic wide-angle glaucoma, with a history of myocardial infarction; and when receiving antihypertensives (adjust dosage if necessary). Monitor carefully for mental changes, depression with suicidal tendencies, and other serious antisocial 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 whilst 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. Not recommended for children under 18 years of age.

Side effects
Chloroform, dystonic, and other involuntary movements are most common. Other mental changes are less common. Less frequent are cardiovascular irregularities, the 'on-off' phenomenon, GI intolerance, and dizziness. Rarely, GI bleeding, duodenal ulcer, hypertension, phlebitis, leucopenia, and agranulocytosis. Positive Coombs test reported but haemolytic anaemia extremely rare.

Other side effects include psychiatric, neurological, GI, dermatological, respiratory, urogenital, special senses, hot flushes, weight gain or loss, and abnormalities in laboratory tests.

Basic NHS cost
'Sinemet-Plus' (25 mg carbidopa/100 mg levodopa BP) tablets £3.07 per 100 pack;
'Sinemet'-275 (25 mg carbidopa/250 mg levodopa BP) tablets £4.89 per 100 pack;
'Sinemet'-110 (10 mg carbidopa/100 mg levodopa BP) tablets £7.70 per 100 pack.

Product licence numbers
'Sinemet-Plus': 0025/0150
'Sinemet'-275, 0025/0085
'Sinemet'-110, 0025/0094
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