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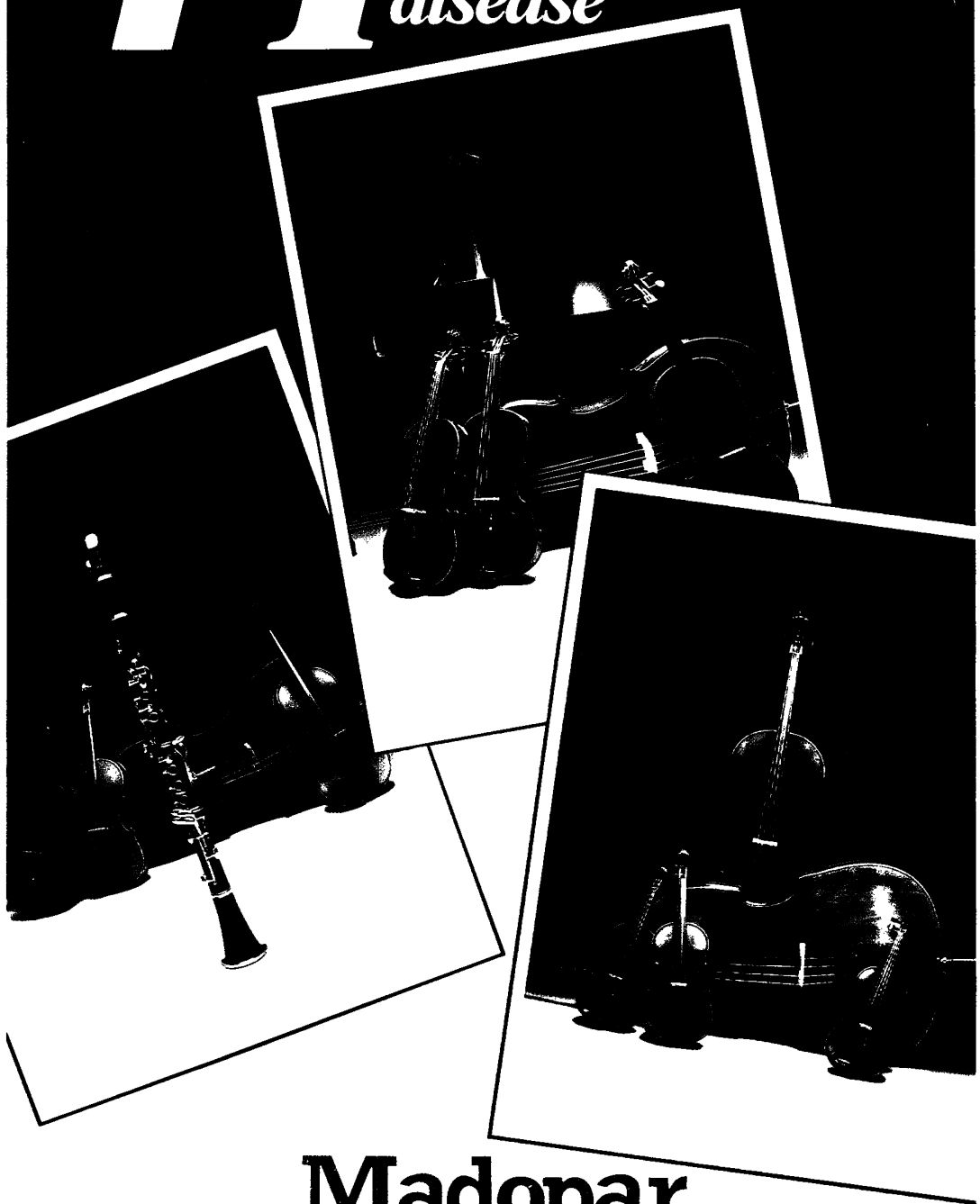
4+1 the right balance in Parkinson's disease



Madopar

ROCHE

the original 4+1 combination in three dosage forms, 62·5, 125 *and* 250

A new era in the treatment of Parkinson's disease begins . . .

In 1970, the arrival of L-dopa revolutionised the treatment of Parkinson's disease. This was followed, in 1973 and 1979, by the highly successful combinations with peripheral decarboxylase inhibitors.

Now, in 1983, there is Eldepryl

Eldepryl is a new, selective inhibitor of the enzyme responsible for dopamine breakdown in the brain. Used in conjunction with L-dopa preparations, it provides the next logical step in treatment – dopamine conservation

The patient benefits of Eldepryl are substantial – Daily L-dopa intake can be immediately cut by 20% in most cases,[1] reducing unwanted side effects and extending the useful life of L-dopa. Eldepryl significantly reduces akinesia, and has been shown to smooth out "on-off" effects.

With Eldepryl, there is no complicated dosage regime to remember, simply one tablet daily, together with a 20% reduction of L-dopa on the first day of treatment, is usually all that is required.

ELDEPRYL®

selegiline hydrochloride

Conserves cerebral dopamine

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Presentation White, scored, uncoated tablets 6 mm diameter containing 5 mg selegiline 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, WARNINGS ETC. 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. **Reporting of Adverse Reactions** As a recently introduced product, any suspected adverse reactions should be reported to the Committee on Safety of Medicines, preferably on a yellow card. **Date of Preparation** October 1982.

1. J. Neural Transmission, 1976; 43: 245-251 J. Neural Transmission, 1976; 36: 303-326

Further information is available on request from Britannia Pharmaceuticals Limited, Lonsdale House, 7-11 High Street, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9RR.

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