

# 4+1 *the right balance in Parkinson's disease*

## **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 14.25mg 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 200mg 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 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 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, 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  
Madopar capsules 125  
£7.23 per 100  
Madopar capsules 250  
£12.94 per 100

ROCHE

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# Madopar

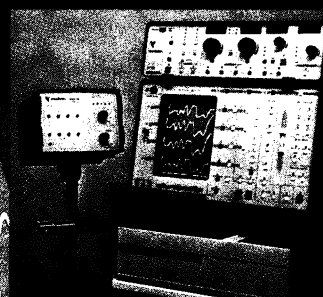
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in three dosage forms, 62.5, 125 and 250*

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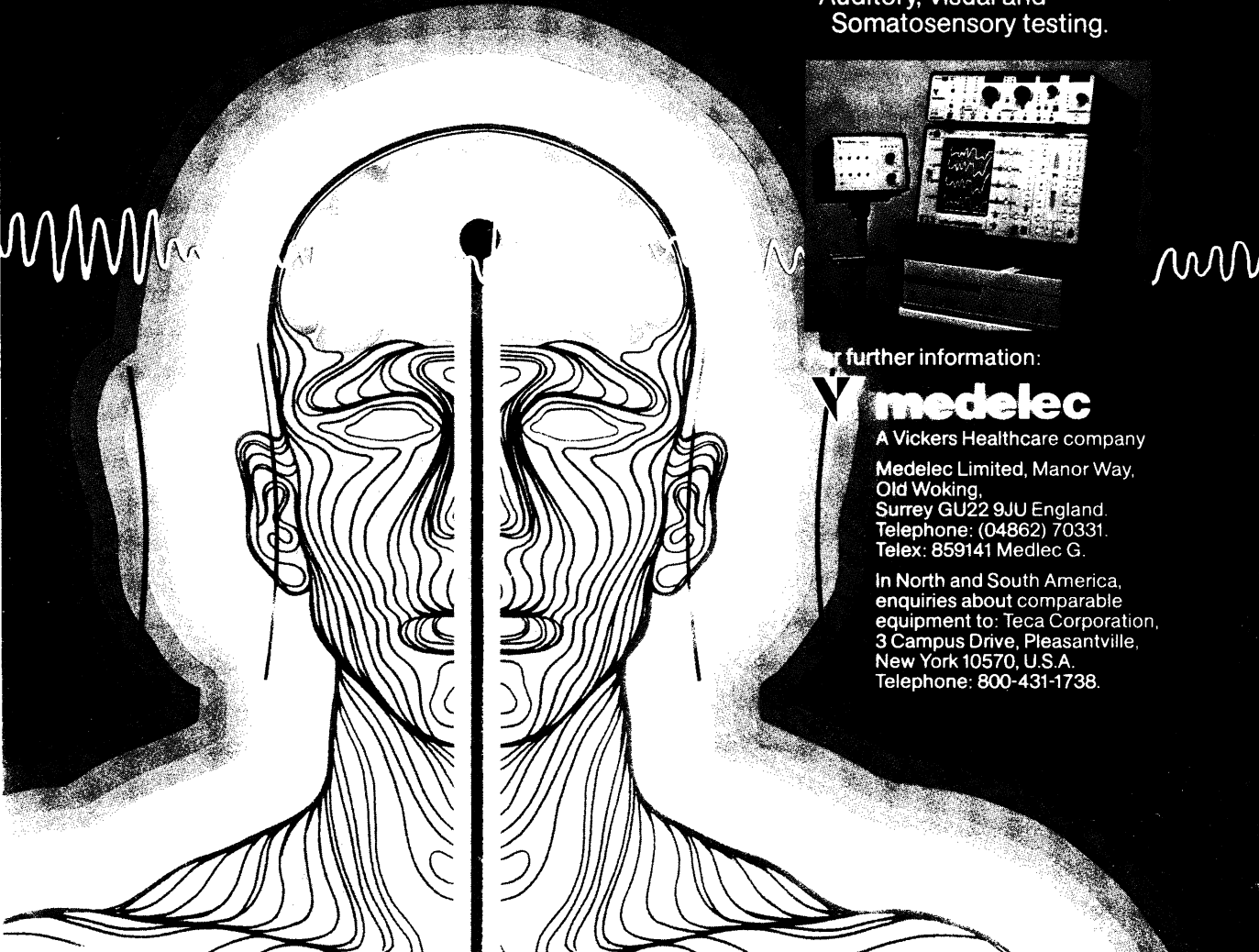
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# SINEMET®

Carbidopa and levodopa, MSD

## Abridged Product Information

Full prescribing information is available on request and should be consulted before prescribing.

### 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

Choreiform, 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 £11.88 per 100 pack; Sinemet-275 (25 mg carbidopa/250 mg levodopa BP) tablets £13.54 per 100 pack; Sinemet-110 (10 mg carbidopa/100 mg levodopa BP) tablets £7.00 per 100 pack.

### Product licence numbers

Sinemet-Plus, 0025/0150

Sinemet-275, 0025/0085

Sinemet-110, 0025/0084

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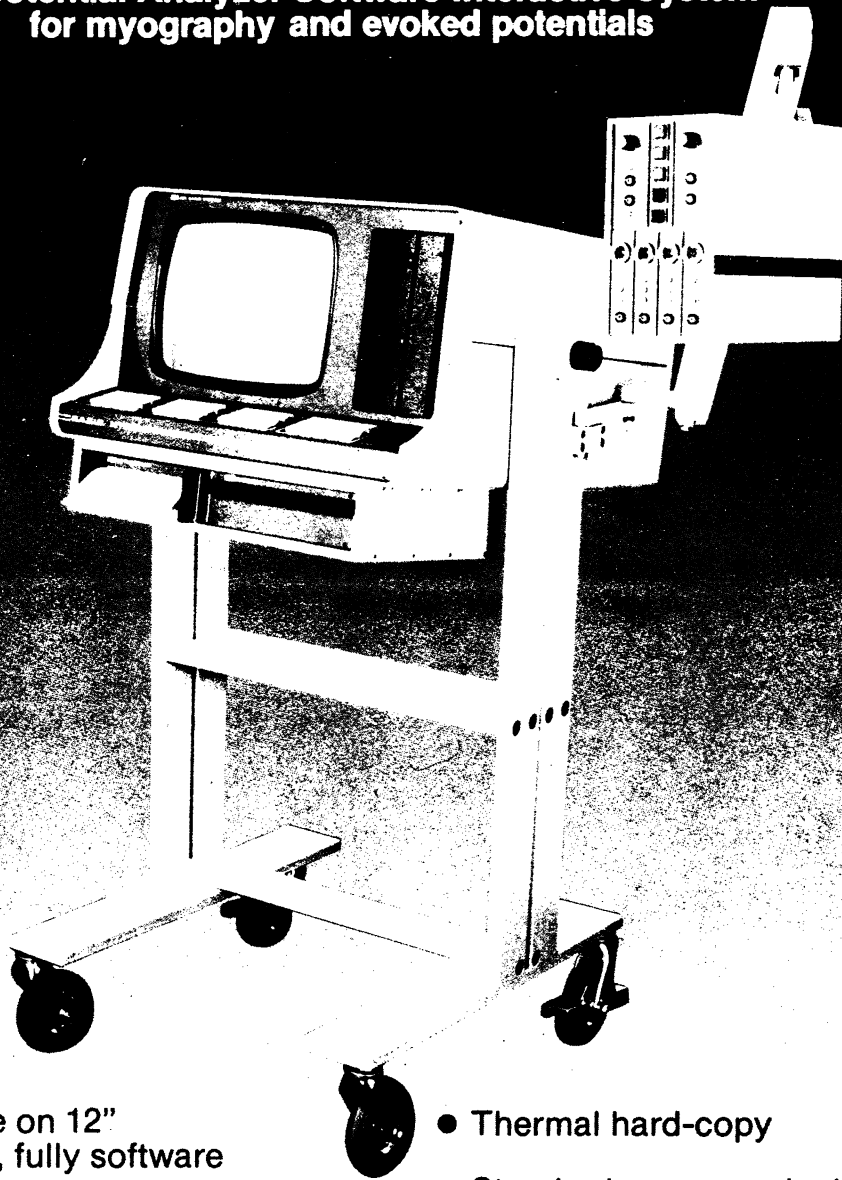
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