

CENTAMOL 650 Tablet

COMPOSITION

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| Each of Centamol 650 Tablet contains: | |
| Paracetamol | 650 mg |

PHARMACOLOGY

Paracetamol is a centrally acting analgesic and antipyretic agent. Paracetamol does not possess any anti-inflammatory action.

Although the exact site and mechanism of analgesic action is not clearly defined, Paracetamol appears to produce analgesia by elevation of the pain threshold. The mechanism may involve inhibition of the nitric oxide pathway mediated by a variety of neurotransmitter receptors including N-methyl-D-aspartate and substance P.

Paracetamol has been shown to inhibit the action of endogenous pyrogens on the heat-regulating centers in the brain by blocking the formation and release of prostaglandins in the central nervous system. Inhibition of arachidonic acid metabolism is not requisite for the antipyretic effect of paracetamol.

Paracetamol is equal to aspirin in analgesic and antipyretic effectiveness but it is unlikely to produce many of the side effects associated with aspirin and aspirin-containing products.

INDICATIONS

Centamol Tablet is indicated for pain and high fever.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Hypersensitivity to Paracetamol or constituent of this preparation.
- Patients with severe hepatic dysfunction.

PRECAUTIONS

Paracetamol should be given with care to patients with impaired kidney or liver function and patients taking other drugs that affect the liver.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Anticoagulant drugs (warfarin) - dosage may require reduction if paracetamol and anticoagulants are taken for a prolonged period of time
- Paracetamol absorption is increased by substances that increase gastric emptying, e.g. metoclopramide
- Paracetamol absorption is decreased by substances that decrease gastric emptying, e.g. propantheline, antidepressants with anticholinergic properties, and narcotic analgesics
- Paracetamol may increase chloramphenicol concentrations
- The risk of paracetamol toxicity may be increased in patients receiving other potentially hepatotoxic drugs or drugs that induce liver microsomal enzymes such as alcohol and anticonvulsant agents
- Paracetamol excretion may be affected and plasma concentrations altered when given with probenecid
- Colestyramine reduces the absorption of paracetamol if given within 1 hour.
- Antivirals: Regular use of paracetamol possibly reduces metabolism of Zidovudine (increased risk of neutropenia).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Paracetamol has been widely used and reports of adverse reactions are rare, and are generally associated with over dosage. Allergic reactions occur occasionally. Nephrotoxic effects are uncommon and have not been reported in association with therapeutic doses, except after prolonged administration.

DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION

The usual recommended dose of **Centamol 650** in children is as under:

PRESENTATION

Centamol 650 is available in a strip of 10 tablets in carton of 10 strips.