

DEFSTAR TABLETS/ SUSPENSION

Composition:

Defstar tablet Deflazacort 6 mg

Defstar suspension Deflazacort 5mg/5ml

Pharmacology:

Deflazacort is a glucocorticoid used as an anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressant.

Glucocorticoids bind to the cytosolic glucocorticoid receptor (GR). This type of receptor is activated by ligand binding. After a hormone binds to the corresponding receptor, the newly formed receptor-ligand complex translocates itself into the cell nucleus, where it binds to glucocorticoid response elements (GRE) in the promoter region of the target genes resulting in the regulation of gene expression. This process is commonly referred to as transactivation.

Indications of Defstar Tablets:

- Allergic Rhinitis
- Sudden sensory neural hearing loss
- Acute inflammatory conditions
- Acute exacerbation of chronic bronchitis
- Lower respiratory tract infection
- Arthritis
- Osteoarthritis

Indications of Defstar suspension:

- Allergic Rhinitis
- Asthma
- Juvenile Arthritis

Contraindications:

Systemic infection unless specific anti-infective therapy is employed.

Hypersensitivity to deflazacort or any of the ingredients.

Patients receiving live virus immunization.

Pregnancy:

Not recommended for use in pregnancy

Drug interactions:

It is recommended to increase the maintenance dose of deflazacort if drugs which are liver enzyme inducers are co-administered, e.g. **rifampicin, rifabutin, carbamazepine, phenobarbitone, phenytoin, primidone and aminoglutethimide.**

For drugs which inhibit liver enzymes, e.g. **ketoconazole** it may be possible to reduce the maintenance dose of deflazacort.

In patients taking **estrogens**, corticosteroid requirements may be reduced.

The desired effects of hypoglycaemic agents (including **insulin**), **anti-hypertensives & diuretics** are antagonised by corticosteroids & the hypokalaemic effects of **acetazolamide, loop diuretics, thiazide diuretics & carbenoxolone** are enhanced.

The efficacy of **coumarin anticoagulants** may be enhanced by concurrent corticosteroid therapy

Antacids may reduce bioavailability; leave at least 2 hours between administration of deflazacort and antacids.

Adverse Reactions:

GI – dyspepsia & peptic ulcer are the most commonly reported adverse effects

Others - candidiasis, cataract, drug psychosis, impaired glucose tolerance, growth retardation, hirsutism, hypertension, hypokalaemia, muscle weakness, osteoporosis, pathological fracture, steroid facies, delayed wound healing

Presentation:

Defstar tablets are available in a strip of 10 tablets.

Defstar suspension is available in 30 ml bottle and has mango flavor.