

Empaflo M

(Empagliflozin/Metformin HCl Tablet)

Empaflo M 12.5-500mg

Empaflo M 12.5-1000mg

Composition:

Each Film coated tablet contains:

Empaflo M 500: Empagliflozin 12.5mg and Metformin Hydrochloride BP 500mg

Empaflo M 1000: Empagliflozin 12.5mg and Metformin Hydrochloride BP 1000mg

Pharmaceutical form: Film coated tablet.

Pharmacology: Empagliflozin is a reversible, highly potent and selective competitive inhibitor of sodium-glucose co-transporter 2. Empagliflozin does not inhibit other glucose transporters important for glucose transport into peripheral tissues and is 5000 times more selective for SGLT2 versus SGLT1, the major transporter responsible for glucose absorption in the gut. SGLT2 is highly expressed in the kidney, whereas expression in other tissues is absent or very low. It is responsible, as the predominant transporter, for the reabsorption of glucose from the glomerular filtrate back into the circulation. In patients with type 2 diabetes and hyperglycaemia a higher amount of glucose is filtered and reabsorbed. Empagliflozin improves glycaemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes by reducing renal glucose reabsorption. The amount of glucose removed by the kidney through this glucuretic mechanism is dependent on blood glucose concentration and GFR. Inhibition of SGLT2 in patients with type 2 diabetes and hyperglycaemia leads to excess glucose excretion in the urine. In addition, initiation of empagliflozin increases excretion of sodium resulting in osmotic diuresis and reduced intravascular volume. Metformin is a biguanide with antihyperglycaemic effects, lowering both basal and postprandial plasma glucose. It does not stimulate insulin secretion and therefore does not produce hypoglycaemia. Metformin may act via three mechanisms: • Reduction of hepatic glucose production by inhibiting gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis, • In muscle, by increasing insulin sensitivity, improving peripheral glucose uptake and utilization • And delay of intestinal glucose absorption. Metformin stimulates intracellular glycogen synthesis by acting on glycogen synthase. Metformin increases the transport capacity of all types of membrane glucose transporters

Pharmacokinetics: Empagliflozin have been extensively characterized in healthy volunteers and patients with type 2 diabetes. After oral administration, empagliflozin was rapidly absorbed with peak plasma concentrations occurring at a median *t*_{max} of 1.5 hours post-dose. Thereafter, plasma concentrations declined in a biphasic manner with a rapid distribution phase and a relatively slow terminal phase. The steady state mean plasma AUC and *C*_{max} were 1870 nmol.h/l and 259 nmol/l with Empagliflozin 10 mg and 4740 nmol.h/l and 687 nmol/l with Empagliflozin 25 mg once daily. Systemic exposure of empagliflozin increased in a dose-proportional manner. Following oral administration in healthy volunteers, the red blood cell partitioning was approximately 37% and plasma protein binding was 86%. No major metabolites of empagliflozin were detected in human plasma and the most abundant metabolites were three glucuronide conjugates (2-, 3-, and 6-O glucuronide). Systemic exposure of each metabolite was less than 10% of total drug-related material. In vitro studies suggested that the primary route of metabolism of empagliflozin in humans is glucuronidation by the uridine 5'-diphospho-glucuronosyltransferases UGT2B7, UGT1A3, UGT1A8, and UGT1A9. Based on the population pharmacokinetic analysis, the apparent terminal elimination half-life of empagliflozin was estimated to be 12.4 hours and apparent oral clearance was 10.6 l/hour. The inter-subject and residual variabilities for empagliflozin oral clearance were 39.1% and 35.8%, respectively. With once-daily dosing, steady-state plasma concentrations of empagliflozin were reached by the fifth dose. Consistent with the half-life, up to 22% accumulation, with respect to plasma AUC, was observed at steady-state. Following administration of an oral [¹⁴C] empagliflozin solution to healthy volunteers, approximately 96% of the drug-related radioactivity was eliminated in faeces (41%) or urine (54%). The majority of drug-related radioactivity recovered in faeces was unchanged parent drug and approximately half of drug related radioactivity excreted in urine was unchanged parent drug. Metformin HCl: After an oral dose, the non-absorbed fraction recovered in faeces was 20-30%. After oral administration, metformin absorption is saturable and incomplete. It is assumed that the pharmacokinetics of metformin absorption are non-linear. At the recommended metformin doses and dosing schedules, steady-state plasma concentrations are reached within 24 to 48 hours and are generally less than 1 microgram/ml. Food decreases the extent and slightly delays the absorption of metformin. Plasma protein binding is negligible. Metformin partitions into erythrocytes. The blood peak is lower than the plasma peak and appears at approximately the same time. The red blood cells most likely represent a secondary compartment of distribution. The mean volume of distribution (V_d) ranged between 63 - 276 l. Metformin is excreted unchanged in the urine. No metabolites have been identified in humans. Renal clearance of metformin is >400 ml/min, indicating that metformin is eliminated by glomerular filtration and tubular secretion. Following an oral dose, the apparent terminal elimination half-life is approximately 6.5 hours. When renal function is impaired, renal clearance is decreased in proportion to that of creatinine and thus the elimination half-life is prolonged, leading to increased levels of metformin in plasma.

Indications: Empaflo –M Tablet is indicated for the treatment of adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus as an adjunct to diet and exercise:

- In patients insufficiently controlled on their maximally tolerated dose of Metformin alone.
- In combination with other medicinal products for the treatment of diabetes, in patients insufficiently controlled with Metformin and these medicinal products.
- In patients already being treated with the combination of Empagliflozin and Metformin as separate tablets.

Administration and Dosage:

Posology: Adults with normal renal function (GFR ≥90 ml/min): The recommended dose is one tablet twice daily. The dosage should be individualized on the basis of the patient's current regimen, effectiveness, and tolerability using the recommended daily dose of 10 mg or 25 mg of empagliflozin, while not exceeding the maximum recommended daily dose of Metformin.

For patients insufficiently controlled on metformin (either alone or in combination with other medicinal products for the treatment of diabetes): The recommended starting dose of Empaflo –M should provide Empagliflozin 5mg twice daily (10 mg daily dose) and the dose of Metformin similar to the dose already being taken. In patients tolerating a total daily dose of empagliflozin 10 mg and who need tighter glycaemic control, the dose can be increased to a total daily dose of empagliflozin 25 mg. When Empaflo-M is used in combination with a sulphonylurea and/or insulin, a lower dose of sulphonylurea and/or insulin may be required to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia.

For patients switching from separate tablets of Empagliflozin and Metformin: Should receive the same daily dose of Empagliflozin and Metformin already being taken or the nearest therapeutically appropriate dose of Metformin.

Missed dose: If a dose is missed, it should be taken as soon as the patient remembers; however, a double dose should not be taken on the same time. In that case, the missed dose should be skipped.

Renal impairment: No dose adjustment is recommended for patients with mild renal impairment. A GFR should be assessed before initiation of treatment with metformin containing products and at least annually thereafter. In patients at increased risk of further progression of renal impairment and in the elderly, renal function should be assessed more frequently, e.g. every 3-6 months.

Hepatic impairment: This medicinal product must not be used in patients with hepatic impairment

Method of administration: Empaflo –M tablets should be taken twice daily with meals to reduce the gastrointestinal adverse reactions associated with metformin. The tablets should be swallowed whole with water. All patients should continue their diet with an adequate distribution of carbohydrate intake during the day. Overweight patients should continue their energy restricted diet.

Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients, Any type of acute metabolic acidosis (such as lactic acidosis, diabetic ketoacidosis), Diabetic pre-coma, Severe renal failure (GFR <30 ml/min), Acute conditions with the potential to alter renal function such as: dehydration, severe infection, shock, Disease which may cause tissue hypoxia (especially acute disease, or worsening of chronic disease) such as: decompensated heart failure, respiratory failure, recent myocardial infarction, shock and Hepatic impairment, acute alcohol intoxication, and alcoholism.

Warning and Precautions:

Lactic acidosis, a very rare but serious metabolic complication, most often occurs at acute worsening of renal function or cardiorespiratory illness or sepsis. Metformin accumulation occurs at acute worsening of renal function and increases the risk of lactic acidosis.

Diabetic ketoacidosis: Rare cases of diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), including life-threatening and fatal cases, have been reported in patients treated with SGLT2 inhibitors, including empagliflozin. In a number of cases, the presentation of the condition was atypical with only moderately increased blood glucose values, below 14 mmol/l.

Administration of iodinated contrast agent: Intravascular administration of iodinated contrast agents may lead to contrast induced nephropathy, resulting in Metformin accumulation and an increased risk of lactic acidosis. Metformin should be discontinued prior to or at the time of the imaging procedure and not restarted until at least 48 hours after, provided that renal function has been re-evaluated and found to be stable.

Renal function: Due to the mechanism of action, decreased renal function will result in reduced glycaemic efficacy of Empagliflozin. GFR should be assessed before treatment initiation and regularly.

Cardiac function: Patients with heart failure are more at risk of hypoxia and renal insufficiency. In patients with stable chronic heart failure, Empaflo –M tablet may be used with a regular monitoring of cardiac and renal function. For patients with acute and unstable heart failure, Empaflo –M tablet is contraindicated due to the Metformin component.

Surgery: Metformin must be discontinued at the time of surgery under general, spinal or epidural anaesthesia. Therapy may be restarted no earlier than 48 hours following surgery or resumption of oral nutrition and provided that renal function has been re-evaluated and found to be stable.

Risk for volume depletion: Based on the mode of action of SGLT2 inhibitors, osmotic diuresis accompanying therapeutic glucosuria may lead to a modest decrease in blood pressure. Therefore, caution should be exercised in patients for whom a empagliflozin-induced drop in blood pressure could pose a risk, such as patients with known cardiovascular disease, patients on anti-hypertensive therapy with a history of hypotension or patients aged 75 years and older.

Elderly: The effect of empagliflozin on urinary glucose excretion is associated with osmotic diuresis, which could affect the hydration status. Patients aged 75 years and older may be at an increased risk of volume depletion. Therefore, special attention should be given to their volume intake in case of co-administered medicinal products which may lead to volume depletion (e.g. diuretics, ACE inhibitors).

Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction:

Co-administration of multiple doses of empagliflozin and metformin does not meaningfully alter the pharmacokinetics of either empagliflozin or metformin in healthy subjects. Effects of other medicinal products on empagliflozin: In vitro data suggest that the primary route of metabolism of empagliflozin in humans is glucuronidation by uridine 5'-diphosphoglucuronosyltransferases UGT1A3, UGT1A8, UGT1A9, and UGT2B7. Empagliflozin is a substrate of the human uptake transporters OAT3, OATP1B1, and OATP1B3, but not OAT1 and OCT2. Empagliflozin is a substrate of P-glycoprotein (P-gp) and breast cancer resistance protein (BCRP).

Co-administration of empagliflozin with probenecid, an inhibitor of UGT enzymes and OAT3, resulted in a 26% increase in peak empagliflozin plasma concentrations and a 53% increase in area under the concentration-time curve (AUC). These changes were not considered to be clinically meaningful. The effect of UGT induction (e.g. induction by rifampicin or phenytoin) on empagliflozin has not been studied. Co treatment with known inducers of UGT enzymes is not recommended due to a potential risk of decreased efficacy. If an inducer of these UGT enzymes must be co-administered, monitoring of glycaemic control to assess response to Empaflo-M tablet is appropriate. Alcohol intoxication is associated with an increased risk of lactic acidosis, particularly in cases of fasting, malnutrition or hepatic impairment. Metformin is a substrate of both transporters OCT1 and OCT2. Co-administration of metformin with • Inhibitors of OCT1 (such as verapamil) may reduce efficacy of metformin. • Inducers of OCT1 (such as rifampicin) may increase gastrointestinal absorption and efficacy of metformin. • Inhibitors of OCT2 (such as cimetidine, dolutegravir, ranolazine, trimethoprim, vandetanib, isavuconazole) may decrease the renal elimination of metformin and thus lead to an increase in metformin plasma concentration. • Inhibitors of both OCT1 and OCT2 (such as crizotinib, olaparib) may alter efficacy and renal elimination of metformin. Caution is therefore advised, especially in patients with renal impairment, when these drugs are co-administered with metformin, as metformin plasma concentration may increase. If needed, dose adjustment of metformin may be considered as OCT inhibitors/inducers may alter the efficacy of Metformin.

Fertility, pregnancy and lactation: There are no data from the use of this medicinal product or empagliflozin in pregnant women. Animal studies show that empagliflozin crosses the placenta during late gestation to a very limited extent but do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to early embryonic development. Metformin is excreted into human milk. No effects have been shown in breastfed newborns/infants of treated women. No data in humans are available on excretion of empagliflozin into milk. Available animal data have shown excretion of empagliflozin and metformin in milk. A risk to the newborns/infants cannot be excluded. No studies on the effect on human fertility have been conducted for this medicinal product or empagliflozin. Animal studies with empagliflozin and metformin do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to fertility

Effects on ability to drive and use machines: Empaflo –M Tablets has minor influence on the ability to drive and use machines. Patients should be advised to take precautions to avoid hypoglycaemia while driving and using machines, in particular when it is used in combination with a sulphonylurea and/or insulin.

Adverse reactions: The most common side effects include; Hypoglycaemia when used with insulin, Vulvovaginitis, balanitis and related genital infections, Urinary tract infection, dizziness, skin rash, back pain, dysuria and polyuria. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, Taste disturbance and loss of appetite are common due to metformin. Other uncommon adverse effects include; Fungal infection, Volume depletion, Thirst, Constipation, Dry mouth, Nocturia, Vulvovaginal pruritus, Pruritus genital and increase in blood creatine, blood urea and weigh decrease. Others includes; Diabetic ketoacidosis, Angioedema and Necrotising fasciitis of the perineum which are rare.

Overdosage and treatment: In controlled clinical studies single doses of up to 800 mg empagliflozin (equivalent to 32-times the highest recommended daily dose) in healthy volunteers and multiple daily doses of up to 100 mg Empagliflozin (equivalent to 4-times the highest recommended daily dose) in patients with type 2 diabetes did not show any toxicity. Empagliflozin increased urine glucose excretion leading to an increase in urine volume. The observed increase in urine volume was not dose-dependent and is not clinically meaningful. There is no experience with doses above 800 mg in humans. Hypoglycaemia has not been seen with metformin doses of up to 85 g, although lactic acidosis has occurred in such circumstances. High overdose of metformin or concomitant risks may lead to lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency and must be treated in hospital. In the event of an overdose, treatment should be initiated as appropriate to the patient's clinical status. The most effective method to remove lactate and metformin is haemodialysis. The removal of empagliflozin by haemodialysis has not been studied.

Presentation: Blister Pack of 3x 10's packed in printed unit carton.

Shelf life: 2 years from the date of manufacture.

Storage: Do not store above 30°C. Protect from direct sunlight.

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

Distribution category: Prescription only medicine (POM).

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