Des®

Desloratadine BP

Description
Desloratadine (**Des®**) is the primary active metabolite of Loratadine. It is a non-sedating, long-acting antihistamine. After oral administration, it produces selective peripheral H_1 receptor antagonist activity.

Mode of action
Desloratadine (**Des®**) selectively blocks peripheral H_1 receptors. It also appears to inhibit important cytokine and cellular activity and thus renders antiallergic and anti-inflammatory activities.

Pharmacokinetics
Plasma concentrations of Desloratadine (**Des®**) can be detected within 30 minutes of administration. Desloratadine is well absorbed with maximum concentration achieved after approximately 3 hours; the terminal phase half-life is approximately 27 hours. It is moderately bound (83-87%) to plasma proteins. There is no evidence of clinically relevant drug accumulation following once daily dosing of desloratadine 5 mg to 20 mg for 14 days.

Composition
Des® 5 mg Tablet: Each film-coated tablet contains Desloratadine BP 5 mg.
Des® 60 ml Syrup: Each 5 ml syrup contains Desloratadine BP 2.5 mg.

Indications
Seasonal allergic rhinitis, chronic idiopathic urticaria.

Dosage & administration
Adult and adolescent over 12 years: 5 mg (1 tablet or 2 teaspoonful) once daily.
Child 6-11 years: 2.5 mg ($^1/_2$ tablet or 1 teaspoonful) once daily
Child 2-5 years: 1.25 mg or $^1/_2$ teaspoonful once daily.

Contraindications
Desloratadine is contraindicated in patients who are hypersensitive to loratadine or any of the excipients.

Side effects
In the recommended doses, undesirable effects with desloratadine are very low. The frequent side effects include fatigue, dry mouth and headache.

Use in pregnancy & lactation
The safe use of desloratadine during pregnancy has not been established. It is not to be used during pregnancy unless the potential benefits outweigh the risks. Desloratadine is excreted into breast milk, therefore its use is not recommended in breast-feeding women.