

Essential drugs / Oral drugs

GLIBENCLAMIDE oral

Prescription under medical supervision

Therapeutic action

- Sulfonylurea antidiabetic

Indications

- Second-line treatment of type 2 diabetes, in patients under 60 years:
 - as monotherapy, when metformin is not tolerated or contra-indicated
 - in combination with metformin, when glycaemic control is inadequate with metformin alone

Forms and strengths

- 5 mg scored tablet

Dosage and duration

- Adult:

Week 1: 2.5 mg once daily in the morning

Week 2: 5 mg once daily in the morning

Increase if necessary in increments of 2.5 mg weekly, according to blood glucose levels.

The usual dose is 5 mg 2 times daily (max. 15 mg daily).

Contra-indications, adverse effects, precautions

- Do not administer in the event of:

- allergy to sulfonamides;
- type 1 diabetes, juvenile diabetes, ketoacidosis;
- severe renal or hepatic impairment.

– May cause: hypoglycaemia, especially in patients over 60 years; gastrointestinal disturbances, weight gain; rarely, allergic reactions.

- Monitor combination with:

- diuretics, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, azole antifungals (fluconazole, miconazole), ciprofloxacin, erythromycin, co-trimoxazole (enhanced hypoglycaemic effect);
- rifampicin (decreased hypoglycaemic effect);

- drugs increasing blood glucose levels: corti
- Avoid combination with alcohol (antabuse)
- Pregnancy: avoid. *Insulin is the drug of choice (improved glycaemic control; reduced risk of foetal anomalies and neonatal complications).*
- Breast-feeding: **CONTRA-INDICATED**

Remarks

- Take with meals.
- For doses greater than 5 mg/day, divide the daily dose into 2 doses.
- Storage: below 25 °C - ~~⚡~~