

## **SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

## 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Isoniazid 100 mg Tablets\*  
Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets\*

## 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each tablet contains:  
Isoniazid 100 mg or 300 mg

For a full list of excipients see section 6.1.

## 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Isoniazid 100 mg Tablets:  
White to off-white, circular, biconvex, uncoated tablets with breakline on one side and plain surface on the other side.  
Isoniazid 100 mg Tablets can be divided into equal halves.

Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets:  
White, circular, biconvex, uncoated tablets having plain surface on both the sides.  
Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets should not be divided or crushed.

## 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

### 4.1 Therapeutic indication

Isoniazid Tablets is indicated for the treatment of tuberculosis, caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

The most recent official guidelines on the treatment of tuberculosis (e.g. WHO guideline: [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833_eng.pdf)) should be taken into consideration for deciding on the appropriateness of therapy with Isoniazid Tablets.

### 4.2 Posology and method of administration

Oral use.  
Isoniazid Tablets should be swallowed whole with water or another drink.  
The tablets should be taken on an empty stomach (at least one hour prior to or two hours after a meal).

#### ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS

For the treatment of active tuberculosis isoniazid must always be used in combination with other antituberculosis drugs

Daily therapy: In children 10mg/kg/day (range 10 to 15 mg/kg body weight/day),  
in adults 5 mg (range 4-6 mg/kg body weight/day)

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\* Trade names are not prequalified by WHO. This is under local DRA responsibility. Throughout this WHOPAR the proprietary name is given as an example only.

Number of Isoniazid 100 mg tablets by weight band to be taken once daily

*Children*

Weight band (kg)	Recommended dose (mg)	Number of tablets per day
3.5 to < 7	50	½
7 to < 10	100	1
10 to < 15	150	1½
15 to < 20	200	2
20 to < 30	250	2½

*Adults*

Weight band (kg)	Recommended dose (mg)	Number of tablets per day
30 to 45	200	2
> 45	300	3

Isoniazid 100 mg Tablets is not indicated for daily therapy of children weighing <3.5 kg, as appropriate dose adjustments cannot be made.

Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets is not indicated for daily therapy of patients weighing < 45 kg, as appropriate dose adjustments cannot be made.

The duration of therapy is dependent on the diagnostic category, as well as the combination of drugs used together with isoniazid. Official national and/or international guidelines (e.g. WHO-Guideline, available at [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833_eng.pdf)) should be consulted.

LATENT TUBERCULOSIS (monotherapy)

*Adults:*

300 mg/day for at least 6 months

*Children:*

10 mg/kg body weight/day (maximum 300 mg/day) for at least 6 months

Weight range (kg)	Number of Isoniazid 100 mg tablets to be administered per dose (total dose 10 mg/kg/day)	Dose given (mg)
<5	½ tablet	50
5.1–9.9	1 tablet	100
10–13.9	1½ tablets	150
14–19.9	2 tablets	200
20–24.9	2½ tablets	250
>25	3 tablets or one adult tablet	300

Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets is not suitable for children for this indication, as appropriate dose adjustments cannot be made. In these cases another formulation containing less isoniazid should be used.

In case of missing a dose, this dose should be taken as soon as possible, unless the next regular dose is scheduled within 6 hours. Otherwise the missed dose should be skipped.

## Special populations

### *Renal impairment:*

No dose adjustment in patients with renal impairment is generally recommended. However, patients should be closely monitored for signs of isoniazid toxicity, especially peripheral neuropathy. A dose reduction to 2/3 of the normal daily dose may be considered in slow acetylators with severe renal impairment (ClCr <25 ml/min) or in those with signs of isoniazid toxicity (see section 4.4 and 5.2).

### *Hepatic impairment:*

Limited data indicate that the pharmacokinetics of isoniazid are altered in patients with hepatic impairment. Therefore, patients with hepatic impairment should be closely observed for signs of isoniazid toxicity (see section 4.4).

## 4.3 Contraindications

Isoniazid is contraindicated in patients with

- hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients
- acute liver disease of any etiology
- drug induced hepatic disease
- previous isoniazid-associated hepatic injury or
- previous severe adverse reactions to isoniazid such as drug fever, chills or arthritis.

## 4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Severe and sometimes fatal hepatitis associated with isoniazid therapy has been reported. The majority of cases occurs within the first three months of therapy, but hepatotoxicity may also develop after a longer duration of treatment. Therefore, patients should be carefully monitored and interviewed at monthly intervals.

Patients should be instructed to immediately report signs or symptoms consistent with liver damage or other adverse effects. These include any of the following: unexplained anorexia, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, icterus, rash, persistent paraesthesias of the hands and feet, persistent fatigue, weakness of greater than 3 days duration and/or abdominal tenderness, especially of the right upper quadrant. If these symptoms appear or if signs suggestive of hepatic damage are detected, isoniazid should be discontinued promptly, since continued use of the drug in these cases has been reported to cause a more severe form of liver damage.

Patient groups especially at risk for developing hepatitis include

- age > 35 years
- daily users of alcohol (patients should be strongly advised to restrict intake of alcoholic beverages, see section 4.5)
- patients with active chronic liver disease and
- injection drug users.

In addition to monthly symptom reviews hepatic enzymes (specifically AST and ALT) should be measured in these patients prior to starting isoniazid therapy and periodically throughout treatment.

Furthermore, the following patients should be carefully monitored:

- patients with concurrent use of any chronically administered medication (see section 4.5)
- existence of peripheral neuropathy or conditions predisposing to neuropathy
- pregnant patients and
- HIV infected patients.

Increased liver function tests are common during therapy with Isoniazid Tablets. These effects on liver function tests are usually mild to moderate, and will most commonly normalise spontaneously within three months, even in the presence of continued therapy.

If abnormalities of liver function exceed three to five times the upper limit of normal, discontinuation of Isoniazid Tablets should be strongly considered.

Peripheral neuropathy is the most common toxic effect of isoniazid (see section 4.8). The frequency depends on the dose and on predisposing conditions such as malnutrition, impaired renal function, alcoholism or diabetes. Concomitant pyridoxine administration largely reduces the risk of developing neuropathy. Therefore, pyridoxine should be co-administered routinely at doses of 10 mg per day.

Cross-sensitivity: Patients hypersensitive to ethionamide, pyrazinamide, niacin (nicotinic acid), or other chemically related medications may also be hypersensitive to this product.

Isoniazid should be used with caution in patients with pre-existing seizure disorders, a history of psychosis or hepatic impairment.

Diabetes Mellitus: Patients with diabetes should be carefully monitored, since blood glucose control may be affected by isoniazid.

Renal impairment: Patients with renal impairment, particularly those who are slow acetylators (see sections 4.2 and 5.2) may be at increased risk for isoniazid adverse effects such as peripheral neuropathy, and should be monitored accordingly. As in other patients, adequate supplementation with pyridoxine (see above) should be given to avoid neurotoxicity.

#### **4.5 Interactions with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

In vitro, isoniazid acts as an inhibitor of CYP2C19 and CYP3A4. Thus it may increase exposure to drugs mainly eliminated through either of these pathways. The following list of interactions should not be considered exhaustive, but as representative of the classes of medicinal products where caution should be exercised.

##### *Anticonvulsants*

Phenytoin, carbamazepine, valproate: Isoniazid decreases the apparent clearance of these drugs, and therefore increases drug exposure. Plasma concentrations of the anticonvulsant should be determined prior to and after initiation of isoniazid therapy; the patient should be monitored closely for signs and symptoms of toxicity and the dose of the anticonvulsant should be adjusted accordingly. Concomitant intake of phenytoin or carbamazepine may increase the hepatotoxicity of isoniazid.

##### *Sedatives*

Benzodiazepines (e.g. diazepam, flurazepam, triazolam, midazolam): Isoniazid may decrease the hepatic metabolism of benzodiazepines, leading to increased benzodiazepine plasma concentrations. Patients should be carefully monitored for signs of benzodiazepine toxicity and the dose of the benzodiazepine should be adjusted accordingly.

Phenobarbital: Concomitant use with isoniazid may lead to increased hepatotoxicity.

##### *Neuroleptics*

Chlorpromazine: Concomitant use with isoniazid may impair the metabolism of isoniazid. Patients should be carefully monitored for isoniazid toxicity.

Haloperidol: Concomitant use with isoniazid may increase plasma levels of haloperidol. Patients should be carefully monitored for haloperidol toxicity and the dose of haloperidol should be adjusted accordingly.

##### *Anticoagulants*

Coumarin- or indandione-derivates (e.g. warfarin): concomitant use with isoniazid may inhibit the enzymatic metabolism of the anticoagulants, leading to increased plasma concentrations with an increased risk of bleeding. Therefore, INR should be closely monitored.

#### *Narcotics*

Alfentanil: chronic pre-/perioperative use of isoniazid may decrease the plasma clearance and prolong the duration of action of alfentanil. The dose of alfentanil may need to be adjusted accordingly.

Enflurane: Isoniazid may increase the formation of the potentially nephrotoxic inorganic fluoride metabolite of enflurane when used concomitantly.

#### *Others*

Theophylline: Concomitant use with isoniazid may reduce the metabolism of theophylline, thereby increasing its plasma levels. Therefore, theophylline plasma levels should be monitored.

Procainamide: Concomitant use with isoniazid may increase the plasma concentrations of isoniazid. Patients should be carefully monitored for isoniazid toxicity.

Corticosteroids (e.g. prednisolone): In one study, concomitant use with isoniazid decreased isoniazid exposure by 22-30%. Isoniazid dosage adjustments may be required in rapid acetylators.

Acetaminophen, paracetamol: Concurrent use with isoniazid may increase hepatotoxicity.

Aluminium hydroxide impairs the absorption of isoniazid. During therapy with Isoniazid Tablets acid-suppressing drugs or antacids that do not contain aluminium hydroxide should be used.

Disulfiram: concurrent use with isoniazid may result in increased incidence of effects on the central nervous system. Reduced dosage or discontinuation of disulfiram may be necessary.

Hepatotoxic medications: concurrent use of isoniazid with other hepatotoxic medications may increase hepatotoxicity and should be avoided.

Neurotoxic medications: concurrent use of isoniazid with other neurotoxic medications may lead to additive neurotoxicity and should be avoided.

#### Interactions with food and drinks

Alcohol: concurrent daily intake of alcohol may result in an increased incidence of isoniazid induced hepatotoxicity. Patients should be monitored closely for signs of hepatotoxicity and should be strongly advised to restrict intake of alcoholic beverages (see section 4.4).

Cheese and fish (histamine- or tyramine-rich food): concurrent ingestion with isoniazid may lead to inhibition of mono-/diamine oxidases by isoniazid, interfering with the metabolism of histamine and tyramine. Clinically, this may result in redness or itching of the skin, hot feeling, rapid or pounding heartbeat, sweating, chills or clammy feeling, headache, or lightheadedness.

#### Interactions with laboratory tests

Isoniazid may cause a false positive response to copper sulfate glucose tests; enzymatic glucose tests are not affected.

### **4.6 Pregnancy and lactation**

#### **Pregnancy:**

No adverse effects of isoniazid on the fetus have been reported. However, isoniazid is to be used in pregnancy only when the benefits outweigh the potential risks.

#### **Lactation**

Isoniazid is excreted into the breast milk of lactating mothers. No adverse effects in the baby have been reported. Concentrations in breast milk are so low, that breast-feeding cannot be relied upon for adequate tuberculosis prophylaxis or therapy for nursing infants.

### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. Nevertheless, the clinical status of the patient and the adverse reaction profile of this medicine, especially its potential neurotoxicity, should be borne in mind when considering the patient's ability to drive or operate machinery.

#### 4.8 Undesirable effects

The most important adverse effects of isoniazid are peripheral and central neurotoxic effects, and severe and sometimes fatal hepatitis.

The adverse events considered at least possibly related to treatment are listed below by body system, organ class and frequency. They are not based on adequately sized randomized controlled trials, but on published literature data generated mostly during post-approval use. Therefore, often no frequency data can be given. Frequencies are defined as very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ), common ( $\geq 1/100$ ,  $< 1/10$ ), uncommon ( $\geq 1/1000$ ,  $< 1/100$ ), rare ( $\geq 1/10,000$ ,  $< 1/1000$ ), very rare ( $\leq 1/10,000$ ), 'not known'.

##### Nervous system disorders

Very common: Peripheral neuropathy, usually preceded by paraesthesias of the feet and hands. The frequency depends on the dose and on predisposing conditions such as malnutrition, alcoholism or diabetes. It has been reported in 3.5 to 17% of patients treated with isoniazid. Concomitant pyridoxine administration largely reduces this risk (see section 4.4).

Uncommon: seizures, toxic encephalopathy

Not known: dizziness, headache, tremor, vertigo, hyperreflexia.

##### Psychiatric disorders

Uncommon: memory impairment, toxic psychosis

Not known: confusion, disorientation, hallucination.

##### Gastrointestinal disorders

Not known: nausea, vomiting, anorexia, dry mouth, flatulence, abdominal pain, constipation.

##### Hepatobiliary disorders:

Very common: Transient increases of serum transaminases.

Uncommon: hepatitis.

##### Renal and urinary disorders

Not known: urinary retention, nephrotoxicity including interstitial nephritis.

##### Metabolic and nutrition disorders

Not known: hyperglycaemia, metabolic acidosis, pellagra.

##### General disorders

Not known: allergic reactions with skin manifestation (exanthema, erythema, erythema multiforme), pruritus, fever, leucopenia, anaphylaxis, allergic pneumonitis, neutropenia, eosinophilia, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, vasculitis, lymphadenopathy, rheumatic syndrome, lupus-like syndrome.

##### Blood and lymphatic systems disorders

Not known: anaemia (haemolytic, sideroblastic, or aplastic), thrombocytopenia, leucopenia (allergic), neutropenia with eosinophilia, agranulocytosis.

##### Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders

Not known: pneumonitis (allergic).

##### Musculoskeletal disorders

Not known: Arthritis.

##### Eye disorders:

Not known: Optic atrophy or neuritis.

## 4.9 Overdose

### Symptoms:

Anorexia, nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal disturbances, fever, headache, dizziness, slurred speech, hallucinations and/or visual disturbances occur within 30 minutes to 3 hours after ingestion. With marked isoniazid overdoses ( $\geq 80$  mg/kg body weight) respiratory distress and CNS depression, progressing rapidly from stupor to profound coma, along with severe intractable seizures are to be expected. Typical laboratory findings are severe metabolic acidosis, acetonuria, and hyperglycaemia.

### Treatment:

Emesis, gastric lavage and activated charcoal may be of value if instituted within a few hours of ingestion. Subsequently, pyridoxine (intravenous bolus on a gram per gram basis, equal to the isoniazid dose; if latter dose is unknown an initial dose of 5 g in adults or 80 mg/kg BW in children should be considered), intravenous diazepam (in case of seizures not responding to pyridoxine) and haemodialysis may be of value. Further treatment should be supportive, with special attention to monitoring/support of ventilation and correction of metabolic acidosis. There is no specific antidote.

## 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antimycobacterial  
ATC Code for isoniazid: J04AC01

#### *Mechanism of action*

Isoniazid is highly active against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. It is bactericidal *in vitro* and *in vivo* against actively dividing tubercle bacilli. Its primary action is to inhibit the synthesis of long chain mycolic acids, which are unique constituents of mycobacterial cell wall. Resistance to isoniazid occurs rapidly if it is used alone in the treatment of clinical disease due to mycobacteria.

### 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

#### *Absorption:*

After oral administration isoniazid is rapidly absorbed with a bioavailability of  $\geq 80\%$ , and peak serum concentrations reached after 1-2 hours. The rate and extent of absorption are reduced when isoniazid is administered with food. Isoniazid undergoes appreciable presystemic (first pass) metabolism in the wall of small intestine and liver.

Following single dose Isoniazid 300 mg Tablets administration in healthy volunteers, the mean ( $\pm$  SD) isoniazid C<sub>max</sub> value was 7.3  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  ( $\pm 1.89$ ), and the corresponding value for AUC was 32.3  $\mu\text{g.h/ml}$  ( $\pm 12.49$ ). The mean ( $\pm$  SD) isoniazid t<sub>max</sub> value was 0.7 ( $\pm 0.30$ ) hours.

#### *Distribution*

Isoniazid is distributed in the body with an apparent volume of distribution volume of 0.57 to 0.76 l/kg. Protein binding is very low (0-10%).

#### *Metabolism:*

Isoniazid undergoes extensive metabolism that takes place in the mucosal cells of the small intestine and in the liver. First isoniazid is inactivated through acetylation. Subsequently acetyl-isoniazid is further hydrolysed. Isoniazid acetylation is dependent on the genetically determined metabolic rate of the individual patients, who are termed fast or slow acetylators (this is due to a genetic polymorphism in the metabolising enzyme N-acetyl transferase). Different ethnic groups contain differing proportions of acetylator phenotypes. Acetylator status is the main determinant of isoniazid exposure at a given dose. At recommended doses, exposure in fast acetylators is about half that seen in slow acetylators.



*Excretion:*

Up to 95% of ingested isoniazid is excreted in the urine within 24 hours, primarily as inactive metabolites. Less than 10% of the dose is excreted in the faeces. The main excretion products in the urine are N-acetylisoniazid and isonicotinic acid.

Special populations

*Renal impairment:*

The documentation of the pharmacokinetics of isoniazid and its metabolites in patients with renal impairment is incomplete. However, the half-life of isoniazid is prolonged and exposure is increased, in slow acetylators. The exposure to the (inactive) metabolites of isoniazid is likely to be increased in both fast and slow acetylators.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans at recommended doses based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity, carcinogenic potential, toxicity to reproduction.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of Excipients**

Calcium hydrogen phosphate, maize starch, disodium edetate, purified talc, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate.

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

Not applicable.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

36 months

### **6.3 Special precautions for storage**

Do not store above 30° C. Store in the original container.

### **6.4 Nature and contents of container**

The container/closure system is a low density polyethylene (LDPE) bag packed in a 650ml high density polyethylene (HDPE) container tagger-sealed with an aluminum circular foil (soft tempered) laminated with LDPE film. The pack size is 1,000 tablets.

Al/PVC/PVdC blister of 10 tablets. Such 3, 9 or 10 blisters per box. Pack size: 30 (10x3), 90 (10x9) and 100 (10x10) tablets.

Al/PVC/PVdC blister of 28 tablets. Such 3 or 24 blisters per box. Pack sizes: 84 (28x3) and 672 (28x24) tablets.

### **6.5 Special precautions for disposal**

No special requirements

## 7. SUPPLIER

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## 8. WHO REFERENCE NUMBER (PREQUALIFICATION PROGRAMME)

TB178  
TB179

## 9. DATE OF FIRST PREQUALIFICATION

23 April 2008

## 9. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

July 2011. Section 6 updated in August 2015.

## References:

### General:

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([http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547833_eng.pdf))  
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### Section 4.4

On the hepatotoxicity of TB drugs:

Saukkonen JJ et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2006; 174: 935-52

### Section 4.5

On drug interactions:

Stockley's Drug Interactions. Available at: [www.medicinescomplete.com](http://www.medicinescomplete.com).

The SPHINX Drug Interaction Database. Available at:

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Sarma GR et al. Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy 1980 ; 18 : 661-66

### Section 4.6

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Dukes MNG and Aronson JK ed. Meyler's Side Effects of Drugs. 15<sup>th</sup> Edition. Elsevier, Amsterdam. 2006.

Section 5.2

On isoniazid pharmacokinetics in renal failure:

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Gold CH et al. Clin Nephrol 1976;6:365-9

Reidenberg MM et al. Am Rev Respir Dis 1973;1426-8

Bowersox DW et al. New Engl J Med. 1971;289:84-87

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