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## Australian Product Information

### NICORETTE QUICKMIST® (NICOTINE)

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#### 1 NAME OF THE MEDICINE

Nicotine

#### 2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

NICORETTE® QuickMist contains nicotine. 0.07 mL contains 1mg nicotine, corresponding to 1 mg nicotine/spray dose and is available in 2 flavours: freshmint and cool berry.

NICORETTE® QuickMist also contains alcohol.

For the full list of excipients, see Section 6.1 List of excipients.

#### 3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

NICORETTE® QuickMist is a clear to weakly opalescent, colourless to light yellow solution presented in spray form.

#### 4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

##### 4.1 THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS

An aid for the treatment of tobacco dependence by relieving nicotine withdrawal symptoms, thereby facilitating smoking cessation in smokers motivated to quit.

For smokers who are currently unable or not ready to stop smoking abruptly, the mouth spray may also be used as part of a smoking reduction strategy as a step towards stopping completely.

Advice and support normally improve success rate.

##### 4.2 DOSE AND METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

###### Smoking cessation

After priming, the spray nozzle should be pointed as close to the open mouth as possible. The top of the dispenser is then pressed releasing one spray into the mouth, avoiding the lips. The patient should not inhale while spraying to avoid getting spray into the respiratory tract. For best results, do not swallow for a few seconds after spraying. Do not eat or drink when administering the mouth spray.

Patients should stop smoking completely during the course of treatment with the mouth spray.

###### Children

NICORETTE® QuickMist should not be administered to children under 12 years of age.

###### Adults and elderly

The following chart lists the recommended usage schedule for NICORETTE® QuickMist during full treatment (Step I) and during tapering (Step II and Step III). Up to 4 sprays per hour may be used. No more than 2 sprays per dosing episode should be used and no more than 64 sprays (4 sprays per hour, over 16 hours) in any 24-hour period.

## STOPPING SMOKING PROGRAMME

### Step I: Weeks 1-6

Use 1 or 2 sprays when cigarettes normally would have been smoked or if cravings emerge. If after a single spray, cravings are not controlled within a few minutes, a second spray should be used. If 2 sprays are required, future doses may be delivered as 2 consecutive sprays.

Most smokers will require 1-2 sprays every 30 minutes to 1 hour.

### Step II: Weeks 7-9

Start reducing the number of sprays per day. By the end of week 9 patients should be using HALF the average number of sprays per day that was used in Step I.

### Step III: Weeks 10-12

Continue reducing the number of sprays per day so that no more than 4 sprays per day are used during week 12. Treatment should be stopped when the dose is reduced to 2-4 sprays per day.

Example: If an average of 15 cigarettes per day are usually smoked, 1-2 sprays should be used at least 15 times during the day.

To help stay smoke free after Step III, patients may continue to use the spray in situations when they are strongly tempted to smoke. One spray may be used in situations where there is an urge to smoke, with a second spray if one spray does not help within a few minutes. No more than four sprays per day should be used during this period.

Regular use of the mouth spray beyond 6 months is generally not recommended. Some ex-smokers may need treatment with the spray longer to avoid returning to smoking. Any remaining mouth spray should be retained to be used in the event of sudden cravings.

### Adolescents (12 to 18 years)

When deciding whether to recommend NRT an assessment should be made on the individual's nicotine dependence, motivation to quit and willingness to accept counselling. Counselling is considered to be vitally important in the effective treatment of tobacco dependence in this age group.

Use for up to 6 weeks to break the habit of smoking, and then gradually reduce mouth spray use over a 6 week period. When daily use is 2 to 4 sprays, use should be stopped.

## STOPPING IMMEDIATELY PROGRAMME

During weeks 1-6	1 or 2 sprays should be used when cigarettes would normally be smoked or if cravings emerge. Patients should not use more than 2 sprays at a time, 4 sprays per hour for 16 hours, or 64 sprays per day.
During weeks 7-9	Patients should start reducing the number of sprays per day. By the end of week 9 patients should be using HALF the average number of sprays per day that were used in Step I.
During weeks 10-12	Use should be gradually reduced to 2 to 4 sprays per day and then stopped. Use beyond 12 weeks in adolescents is not recommended.

As data are limited in this age group, the recommended duration of treatment is 12 weeks. Before a recommendation to extend treatment beyond 12 weeks is made the patient should be reassessed for commitment to quitting, expected benefit of continued treatment and maturity.

### **Combination treatment**

Combination therapy may be needed by some patients who have relapsed in the past or if they experience cravings using single therapy.

If patients have repeatedly relapsed using single therapy, they should seek professional advice from their doctor or pharmacist.

NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist in combination with NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 16 hr INVISIPATCH can be used if breakthrough craving is experienced or there is difficulty in controlling cravings for cigarettes. In people who are unable to quit smoking using single NRT, the combination is more effective than either product alone, increasing the patient's chances of successfully quitting.

The NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch should be applied daily to an intact area of the skin upon waking and removed at bedtime. After applying the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> Patch, the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist should be used as required when cravings occur.

#### For heavier smokers (more than 15 cigarettes a day):

One NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 25 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> Patch should be applied daily for 12 weeks. The NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist mouth spray should be used as required when breakthrough cravings occur, at a dose of 1 or 2 sprays every 30 – 60 minutes. The maximum number of doses of mouth spray used in conjunction with the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 25 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> is 32 sprays per day (two sprays per hour for 16 hours).

After the initial 12 weeks treatment period, weaning may be done by either:

- Using the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 15 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch for 2 weeks, followed by the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 10 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch for 2 weeks, while maintaining the number of sprays of mouth spray that have been routinely used; then gradually reducing the number of sprays once the patch is no longer used;

OR

- Stopping use of the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 25 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch, and then gradually reducing the sprays from the mouth spray.

#### For lighter smokers (less than 15 cigarettes a day):

One NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 15 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch should be applied daily for 12 weeks. The NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist mouth spray should be used as required when breakthrough cravings occur, at a dose of 1 or 2 sprays every 30 – 60 minutes. The maximum number of doses of mouth spray used in conjunction with the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 15 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> is 32 sprays per day (two sprays per hour for 16 hours).

After the initial 12 weeks treatment period, weaning may be done by either:

- Using the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 10 mg/16 hr INVISIPATCH<sup>®</sup> patch for 4 weeks, while maintaining the number of sprays of mouth spray that have been routinely used; then gradually reducing the number of sprays once the patch is no longer used;

OR

- Stopping use of the NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> 15 mg/16 hour INVISIPATCH Patch and then gradually reducing the number of doses of NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist that are being used.

## **Smoking Reduction (Reducing to stop)**

### **Adults 18 years and over**

The smoker should use NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist between smoking episodes in order to prolong intervals between cigarettes, with the aim of reducing smoking as much as possible.

If the smoker has not achieved a reduction in the number of cigarettes per day after 6 weeks, he or she should consult a healthcare professional. This six-week time period is given to the smoker to allow them to familiarise themselves with NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist and to deal with craving symptoms while they attempt to reduce their smoking.

Smokers who do reduce their smoking with NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist should make a cessation attempt as soon as they feel ready, but not later than 6 months after they start using NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist.

When making a cessation attempt, the smoking cessation instructions, above, can be followed.

If the smoker has not made a cessation attempt within 9 months of commencing treatment, he or she should consult a healthcare professional.

### **Adolescents 12 to 18 years**

The recommended duration of nicotine replacement therapy in adolescents is 12 weeks. Assessment by a healthcare professional is required before commencing the smoking reduction program in adolescents.

## **4.3 CONTRAINDICATIONS**

NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist should not be administered to non-tobacco users or patients with known hypersensitivity to nicotine or any component of the mouth spray.

### **Use in children**

NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist should not be administered to children under 12 years of age.

## **4.4 SPECIAL WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS FOR USE**

Any risks that may be associated with NRT are substantially outweighed by the well established dangers of continued smoking.

Care should be taken not to spray the eyes whilst administering the mouth spray.

### **Underlying cardiovascular disease**

In stable cardiovascular disease NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist presents a lesser hazard than continuing to smoke. However dependent smokers currently hospitalised as a result of myocardial infarction, severe dysrhythmia or cerebrovascular accident (CVA) and who are considered to be haemodynamically unstable should be encouraged to stop smoking with non-pharmacological interventions. If this fails, NICORETTE<sup>®</sup> QuickMist may be considered, but as data on safety in this patient group are limited, initiation should only be under medical supervision.

### **Diabetes mellitus**

Patients with diabetes mellitus should be advised to monitor their blood sugar levels more closely than usual when NRT is initiated as reductions in nicotine induced catecholamine release can affect carbohydrate metabolism.

### **GI disease**

Swallowed nicotine may exacerbate symptoms in patients suffering from oesophagitis, gastritis or peptic ulcers and oral NRT preparations should be used with caution in these conditions. NICORETTE® QuickMist should be avoided if oral or pharyngeal inflammation is present.

### **Use in renal impairment**

NICORETTE® QuickMist should be used with caution in patients with severe renal impairment as the clearance of nicotine or its metabolites may be decreased with the potential for increased adverse effects.

### **Use in hepatic impairment**

NICORETTE® QuickMist should be used with caution in patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment as the clearance of nicotine or its metabolites may be decreased with the potential for increased adverse effects.

### **Phaeochromocytoma and uncontrolled hyperthyroidism**

Nicotine, from both NRT and smoking, causes the release of catecholamines from the adrenal medulla. Therefore, NICORETTE® QuickMist should be used with caution in patients with uncontrolled hyperthyroidism or phaeochromocytoma.

### **Epilepsy and seizures**

Caution should be exercised in patients with a history of epilepsy or seizures during introduction of nicotine replacement therapy. Tobacco smoke contains substances – including nicotine – which act on brain receptors, and the changes in intake of these when switching from smoked tobacco to nicotine replacement therapy during quitting may affect seizure threshold

### **Transferred dependence**

Transferred dependence can occur but is both less harmful and easier to break than smoking dependence.

### **Danger in small children**

Doses of nicotine tolerated by adult and adolescent smokers can produce severe toxicity in small children that may be fatal. Products containing nicotine should not be left where they may be misused, handled or ingested by children.

### **Use in the elderly**

Total clearance of nicotine is reduced in elderly smokers to a variable extent and is considered not supportive of general age-dependent dose adjustments.

### **Paediatric use**

NICORETTE® QuickMist should not be administered to children under 12 years of age.

### **Continued smoking while using NRT**

NICORETTE® QuickMist can be safely used while smoking. The adverse event profile (incidence and severity of events) of intermittent NRT products in studies to reduce smoking did not differ markedly from that in smoking cessation studies. Intermittent use of intermittent dosing NRT products and cigarettes does not appear to produce more side effects than use of NRT alone. Most regular smokers are adept at self-titration of their nicotine in order to maintain their plasma nicotine levels within a narrow range.

### **Effects on laboratory tests**

No data available.

## **4.5 INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES AND OTHER FORMS OF INTERACTIONS**

No clinically relevant interactions between nicotine replacement therapy and other drugs have definitely been established. However, nicotine may possibly enhance the haemodynamic effects of adenosine i.e. increase in blood pressure and heart rate and also increase pain response (angina-pectoris type chest pain) provoked by adenosine administration.

### **Stopping smoking**

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in tobacco smoke induce the metabolism of drugs metabolised by CYP 1A2 (and possibly by CYP 1A1). When a smoker stops smoking, this may result in slower metabolism and a consequent rise in blood levels of such drugs. This is of potential clinical importance for products with a narrow therapeutic window, e.g., theophylline, clozapine and ropinirole.

## **4.6 FERTILITY, PREGNANCY AND LACTATION**

### **Effects on fertility**

Animal experiments have shown that nicotine exposure results in decreased birth-weight, decreased litter size and decrease survival of offspring.

### **Use in Pregnancy: Category D**

Nicotine is harmful to the foetus. The harmful effects of cigarette smoking on maternal and foetal health are clearly established. Short-term exposure during the first trimester is unlikely to cause a hazard to the foetus.

NRT is not contraindicated in pregnancy. The decision to use NRT should be made on a risk-benefit assessment as early on in the pregnancy as possible with the aim of discontinuing use as soon as possible.

Smoking during pregnancy is associated with risks such as intra-uterine growth retardation, premature birth or stillbirth. Stopping smoking is the single most effective intervention for improving the health of both pregnant smoker and her baby. The earlier abstinence is achieved the better.

Ideally smoking cessation during pregnancy should be achieved without NRT. However, for women unable to quit on their own, NRT may be recommended to assist a quit attempt.

Nicotine passes to the foetus affecting breathing movements and has a dose-dependent effect on placental/fetal circulation. However, the risk of using NRT to the foetus is lower than that expected with tobacco smoking, due to lower maximal plasma nicotine concentration and no additional exposure to polycyclic hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide.

Intermittent dosing products may be preferable as these usually provide a lower daily dose of nicotine than patches. However, patches may be preferred if the woman is suffering from nausea during pregnancy. If patches are used, they should be removed before going to bed.

### **Use in Lactation**

NRT is not contraindicated in lactation. Nicotine from smoking and NRT is found in breast milk. However, the amount of nicotine the infant is exposed to is relatively small and less hazardous than the second-hand smoke they would otherwise be exposed to.

Using intermittent dose NRT preparations, such as NICORETTE® Chewing Gums, Lozenges, Inhalator or Mouth Spray may minimize the amount of nicotine in the breast milk as the time between administrations of NRT and feeding can be more easily prolonged. Women should breastfeed just before using the product.

#### 4.7 EFFECTS ON ABILITY TO DRIVE AND USE MACHINES

Nicotine replacement therapy has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

#### 4.8 ADVERSE EFFECTS (UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS)

NICORETTE® QuickMist may cause adverse effects similar to those associated with nicotine administered by other means and are mainly dose-dependent.

Patients quitting habitual tobacco use by any means could expect to suffer from an associated nicotine withdrawal syndrome that includes four or more of the following: dysphoria or depressed mood, insomnia, irritability, frustration or anger, anxiety, difficulty concentrating, restlessness or impatience, decreased heart rate, increased appetite or weight gain. These have been observed in those using the mouth spray. In addition to these, other cessation-associated symptoms were seen in those using the mouth spray: Dizziness, presyncopal symptoms, cough, constipation, mouth ulceration, gingival bleeding and nasopharyngitis.

Local adverse effects of administration are similar to those seen with other orally delivered forms. Irritation in the mouth or throat and hiccups may be experienced during the first few days of treatment, however most patients adapt to this with ongoing use.

#### Clinical Trial Data

The safety of nicotine from clinical trial data is based on data on a meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials (RCTs) for the treatment of smoking cessation. Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) with oromucosal formulations identified from clinical trials are presented below in Table 1.

**Table 1.** ADRs Reported with a Frequency ≥1% Identified from Meta-analysis of Clinical Trial Data with Nicotine Oromucosal Formulations

<b>System Organ Class</b> Preferred Term	Active N = 3914(%)	Placebo N = 2819 (%)
<b>Gastrointestinal Disorders</b>		
<i>Abdominal Pain</i>	1.8	1.2
<i>Dry Mouth</i>	3.2	2.7
<i>Dyspepsia</i>	6.1	3.3
<i>Flatulence</i>	1.8	1.4
<i>Nausea<sup>a</sup></i>	10.4	5.8
<i>Salivary hypersecretion</i>	2.6	1.0
<i>Stomatitis</i>	2.6	2.0
<i>Vomiting<sup>a</sup></i>	2.7	1.2
<b>General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions</b>		
<i>Fatigue<sup>a</sup></i>	1.0	0.6
<i>Burning sensation*</i>	1.0	0.5
<b>Immune System Disorders</b>		
<i>Hypersensitivity<sup>a</sup></i>	1.4	1.22

### **Nervous System Disorders**

<i>Headache</i> <sup>a#</sup>	11.5	13.0
<i>Paraesthesia</i> <sup>a*</sup>	1.3	0.8
<i>Dysgeusia</i>	3.2	2.8

### **Respiratory, Thoracic and Mediastinal Disorders**

<i>Cough</i> <sup>**</sup>	9.3	10.7
<i>Hiccups</i> <sup>***</sup>	16.4	2.3
<i>Throat irritation</i> <sup>**</sup>	11.8	4.4

<sup>a</sup> Systemic effects

<sup>\*</sup>At the application site

<sup>\*\*</sup> Higher frequency observed in clinical studies with inhaler formulation

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Higher frequency observed in clinical studies with mouth spray formulation

<sup>#</sup> Although the frequency in the active group is less than that of the placebo group, the frequency in the specific formulation in which the PT was identified as a systemic ADR was greater in the active group than the placebo group.

### **Post Marketing Data**

ADRs first identified during post-marketing experience with nicotine are presented in Table 2. Frequencies are provided according to the following convention:

Very common	≥ 1/10
Common	≥ 1/100 and < 1/10
Uncommon	≥ 1/1,000 and <1/100
Rare	≥ 1/10,000, <1/1,000
Very rare	<1/10,000
Not known	(cannot be estimated from the available data)

**Table 2.** ADRs Identified During Post-Marketing Experience with Nicotine Oromucosal Formulations with Frequency Category Estimated from Clinical Trials

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#### **System Organ Class**

Frequency category Preferred Term

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#### **Cardiac Disorders**

Uncommon	<i>Palpitations</i> <sup>**</sup>
Uncommon	<i>Tachycardia</i> <sup>**</sup>

#### **Eye Disorders**

Not known	<i>Blurred vision</i>
Not known	<i>Lacrimation increased</i>

#### **Gastrointestinal Disorders**

Common	<i>Diarrhoea</i> <sup>#</sup>
Not known	<i>Dry Throat</i>
Rare	<i>Dysphagia</i>
Uncommon	<i>Eructation</i>
Not known	<i>Gastrointestinal discomfort</i> <sup>**</sup>
Uncommon	<i>Glossitis</i>
Rare	<i>Hypoaesthesia oral</i> <sup>#</sup>
Uncommon	<i>Oral mucosal blistering and exfoliation</i>

Not known	<i>Lip pain</i>
Uncommon	<i>Paraesthesia oral<sup>#</sup></i>
Rare	<i>Retching</i>

### **General Disorders and Administration site Conditions**

Uncommon	<i>Asthenia<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Chest discomfort and pain<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Malaise<sup>**</sup></i>

### **Immune System Disorders**

Not known	<i>Anaphylactic reaction<sup>**</sup></i>
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### **Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders**

Not known	<i>Muscle tightness<sup>*</sup></i>
Not known	<i>Pain in jaw<sup>*</sup></i>

### **Nervous System Disorders**

Not known	<i>Seizure<sup>**</sup></i>
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### **Psychiatric Disorders**

Uncommon	<i>Abnormal dream<sup>**</sup>, <sup>***</sup></i>
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### **Respiratory, Thoracic and Mediastinal Disorders**

Uncommon	<i>Dyspnoea<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Bronchospasm</i>
Uncommon	<i>Dysphonia</i>
Uncommon	<i>Nasal congestion</i>
Uncommon	<i>Oropharyngeal pain</i>
Uncommon	<i>Sneezing</i>
Uncommon	<i>Throat tightness</i>

### **Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders**

Not known	<i>Angioedema<sup>**</sup></i>
Not known	<i>Erythema<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Hyperhidrosis<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Pruritus<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Rash<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Urticaria<sup>**</sup></i>

### **Vascular Disorders**

Uncommon	<i>Flushing<sup>**</sup></i>
Uncommon	<i>Hypertension<sup>**</sup></i>

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\*Tightness of jaw and pain in jaw with nicotine gum formulation

\*\*systemic effects

\*\*\*systemic effect, identified only for formulations administered during night

# reported the same or less frequently than placebo

## **Reporting Suspected Adverse Events**

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after registration of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit-risk balance of the medicinal product.

Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions at:

<https://www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems>.

## 4.9 OVERDOSE

Excessive use of nicotine from either NRT and/or smoking might cause symptoms of an overdose.

Symptoms of overdosage are those of acute nicotine poisoning and include nausea, salivation, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, sweating, headache, dizziness, disturbed hearing and marked weakness. At high doses, these symptoms may be followed by hypotension, weak and irregular pulse, breathing difficulties, prostration, circulatory collapse and general convulsions.

Overdosage with nicotine can occur if the patient has a very low pre-treatment nicotine intake or uses other forms of nicotine. The acute minimum lethal oral dose of nicotine in non-smokers is believed to be 40-60 mg.

Doses of nicotine that are tolerated by adult smokers during treatment may produce severe symptoms of poisoning in small children and may prove fatal. The lethal dose of nicotine in a small child is approximately 10-15 mg. Suspected nicotine poisoning in a child should be considered a medical emergency and treated immediately.

### Management of overdose

If mouth spray is ingested, activated charcoal should be given as soon as possible.

For information on the management of overdose, contact the Poison Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia).

The administration of nicotine should be stopped immediately and the patient should be treated symptomatically. Activated charcoal reduces gastrointestinal absorption of nicotine.

## 5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 PHARMACODYNAMIC PROPERTIES

#### Mechanism of action

Nicotine is a natural alkaloid which has ganglion stimulating properties and produces a wide range of pharmacological actions.

The use of nicotine is widespread in the form of tobacco products, chronic use of which is causally linked to a variety of serious diseases. Many smokers develop a dependence due to an interaction of pharmacological, social and psychological factors.

NICORETTE® QuickMist is a treatment-aid in smoking cessation. Clinical studies have shown that nicotine replacement from nicotine containing products can help people give up smoking by relief of abstinence symptoms associated with smoking cessation.

Abrupt cessation of the established, regular use of tobacco-containing products results in the characteristic syndrome, with withdrawal symptoms including cravings (urges to smoke).

Clinical studies have shown that nicotine replacement products can help smokers abstain from smoking by raising blood nicotine levels and relieving these withdrawal symptoms.

Compared to nicotine gum or nicotine lozenge, the absorption of nicotine from the mouth spray is more rapid and based on prior experience with nicotine replacement therapy, this will result in a faster onset of relief of cravings and other symptoms. A single dose study in 200 healthy smokers demonstrated that two sprays of 1mg reduced urges to smoke one minute after administration and to a significantly greater extent than nicotine lozenge 4mg during the first 1, 3, 5, and 10 minutes.

The observed median estimated times to 25% and 50% reductions in perceived cravings relative to baseline levels were approximately 3 times shorter for 2 sprays of 1mg mouth spray than for nicotine lozenge 4mg.

## Clinical trials

A total of 479 smokers motivated to quit were enrolled in a multicenter, randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled, 52-week smoking cessation study. Subjects received full treatment for the first 6 weeks, subsequently reducing use over the next 6 weeks. Occasional use of the product was allowed up to week 24. The primary objective of the study was to evaluate the efficacy of Nicorette mouth spray versus placebo in achieving continuous abstinence from the week 2 visit until and including the week 6, week 24, and week 52 visits, respectively. Nicorette mouth spray was 2.5 (RR 2.48) times more effective at helping smokers quit at 52 weeks (p= 0.007) compared to placebo. See table below for smoking cessation rates.

### ***CO-verified continuous abstinence rates from Week 2. Data from one phase III study in 479 subjects.***

Time point	Active spray (n=318)	Placebo spray (n=161)	p value	Odds ratio [95% CI]	Risk ratio [95% CI]
Week 6	26.1 % (n=83)	16.1 % (n=26)	0.014	1.83 [1.12, 3.00]	1.62 [1.09, 2.41]
Week 24	15.7 % (n=50)	6.8 % (n=11)	0.006	2.54 [1.28, 5.04]	2.30 [1.23, 4.30]
Week 52	13.8 % (n=44)	5.6 % (n=9)	0.007	2.71 [1.29, 5.71]	2.48 [1.24, 4.94]

## 5.2 PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES

The pharmacokinetics of nicotine has been extensively studied, and variations in delivery format have been found to have significant effects on rate and extent of absorption.

The pharmacokinetics of the mouth spray has been studied in 4 studies. The studies enrolled a total of 141 subjects

The oral spray form means that the nicotine dose is administered instantaneously, and as a result the absorption of nicotine from the mouth spray is rapid: In trials, nicotine uptake from the oral nicotine spray was detected at 2 minutes, the first time point tested.

A maximum concentration of 5.3 ng/mL is reached within 13 minutes after administration of a 2 mg dose. The nicotine AUCs over the first 10 minutes after administration of the mouth spray at a dose of 1 and 2 mg exceeds those observed with nicotine gum and nicotine lozenge at doses of 4 mg (0.48 and 0.64 h\*ng/mL vs. 0.33 and 0.33 h\*ng/mL).

AUC<sub>∞</sub> estimates show that the bioavailability of nicotine administered by mouth spray is similar to or somewhat higher than that of nicotine gum or lozenge. The nicotine AUC<sub>∞</sub> for the mouth spray 2 mg was 14.0 h\*ng/mL as compared with 23.0 h\*ng/mL and 26.7 h\*ng/mL for nicotine gum 4 mg and nicotine lozenge 4 mg, respectively.

Steady-state average nicotine plasma concentrations achieved after administration of the maximum dose (i.e. 2 sprays of the mouth spray 1 mg every 30 minutes) are approximately 28.8 ng/mL as compared with 23.3 ng/mL for nicotine gum 4 mg (1 gum, hourly) and 25.5 ng/mL for nicotine lozenge 4 mg (1 lozenge, hourly).

There is a very small deviation from dose-linearity of  $AUC_{\infty}$  and  $C_{max}$  after administration of the mouth spray as shown with single doses of 1, 2, 3 and 4 sprays.

The volume of distribution following IV administration of nicotine is about 2 to 3 L/kg. The major eliminating organ is the liver, the kidney and lung also metabolise nicotine. More than 20 metabolites of nicotine have been identified, all of which are believed to be less active than the parent compound.

The primary metabolite of nicotine in plasma, cotinine, is eliminated with a terminal half-life of 15 to 20 hours; and the plasma concentrations of cotinine at exceed that of nicotine by 10-fold.

The mean plasma clearance of nicotine is about 70 L/hour and the elimination half life is 2-3 hours.

The primary urinary metabolites are cotinine (15% of the dose) and trans-3-hydroxy-cotinine (45% of the dose). About 10% of nicotine is excreted unchanged in the urine. As much as 30% of nicotine may be excreted unchanged in the urine with high flow rates and acidification of the urine below pH 5.

Plasma protein binding of nicotine is less than 5%. Therefore, changes in nicotine binding from use of concomitant drugs or alterations of plasma proteins by disease states would not be expected to have significant effects on nicotine kinetics.

Progressive severity of renal impairment is associated with decreased total clearance of nicotine. Nicotine clearance was on average decreased by 50 % in smokers with severe renal impairment. Raised nicotine levels have been seen in smokers undergoing hemodialysis.

The pharmacokinetics of nicotine is unaffected in cirrhotic patients with mild liver impairment (Child-Pugh score 5) and decreased in cirrhotic patients with moderate liver impairment (Child-Pugh score 7). There are no differences in nicotine kinetics between men and women.

### 5.3 PRECLINICAL SAFETY DATA

#### Genotoxicity

In vivo tests of genotoxicity have been negative.

In vitro genotoxicity testing of nicotine has yielded predominantly negative results. There are some equivocal results when testing at high nicotine concentrations.

#### Carcinogenicity

Results of carcinogenicity assays do not provide any clear evidence of a tumorigenic effect of nicotine.

## 6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

### 6.1 LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

**NICORETTE® QuickMist Freshmint** in addition to the active contains: propylene glycol, anhydrous ethanol, trometamol, poloxamer 407, glycerol, sodium hydrogen carbonate, levomenthol, mint flavour, cooling flavour, sucralose, acesulfame potassium, hydrochloric acid and purified water.

**NICORETTE® QuickMist Cool Berry** in addition to the active contains: propylene glycol, anhydrous ethanol, trometamol, poloxamer 407, glycerol, sodium hydrogen carbonate, levomenthol, berry flavour, cooling flavour, sucralose, acesulfame potassium, hydrochloric acid and purified water.

The mouth spray contains small amounts of ethanol (alcohol), less than 100mg per spray.

## 6.2 INCOMPATIBILITIES

Incompatibilities were either not assessed or not identified as part of the registration of this medicine.

## 6.3 SHELF LIFE

NICORETTE® QuickMist Freshmint: 30 months NICORETTE® QuickMist Cool Berry: 24 months

## 6.4 SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR STORAGE

Store below 25°C

## 6.5 NATURE AND CONTENTS OF CONTAINER

13.2 mL is filled in a PET bottle. One bottle contains 150 sprays of 1 mg. The bottle is placed in a dispenser with a mechanical spray pump. The dispenser has a child resistant feature.

Pack sizes: 1x dispenser, 2x 1 dispensers, 3x 1 dispensers

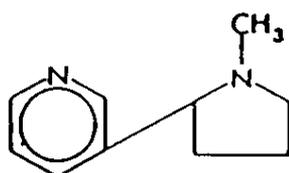
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

## 6.6 SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL

In Australia, any unused medicine or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

## 6.7 PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### Chemical Structure



### CAS number

54-11-5

## 7 MEDICINE SCHEDULE (POISONS STANDARD)

Unscheduled

## 8 SPONSOR

Johnson & Johnson Pacific  
45 Jones Street  
Ultimo NSW 2007

® Registered trademark

## 9 DATE OF FIRST APPROVAL

NICORETTE® QuickMist Freshmint: 03 May 2012

NICORETTE® QuickMist Cool Berry: 20 January 2017

## 10 DATE OF REVISION

28 April 2023

### Summary table of changes

Section changed	Summary of new information
All	Update to new PI format. Addition of more restrictive safety- related information to section 4.8.
6.3	Updated storage conditions for Quickmist Freshmint.
4.4, 4.8	Addition of safety-related information on epilepsy and seizures.