PRODUCT INFORMATION- ZYRTEC EYE DROPS AND NASAL SPRAY

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINE

Levocabastine hydrochloride

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Zyrtec eye drops
Active ingredients: levocabastine hydrochloride equivalent to levocabastine 0.5 mg/mL
Excipients with known effect: benzalkonium chloride and disodium edetate (both 0.15 mg/mL) as preservatives
Excipients: propylene glycol, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic, sodium phosphate monobasic, hypromellose and water as inactive excipients.

Zyrtec nasal spray
Active ingredients: levocabastine hydrochloride equivalent to levocabastine 0.5 mg/mL
Excipients with known effect: benzalkonium chloride and disodium edetate (both 0.15 mg/mL) as preservatives
Excipients: propylene glycol, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate dibasic, sodium phosphate monobasic, hypromellose and water as inactive excipients.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Eye drops: a sterile white ophthalmic microsuspension (pH 6-8)

Nasal spray: a white microsuspension (pH 6-8).

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS

Eye Drops: Symptomatic treatment of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis.

Nasal Spray: Symptomatic treatment of seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis.

4.2 DOSE AND METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

As ZYRTEC® eye drops and nasal spray are available as a microsuspension, the bottle should be shaken before each application.

Eye Drops:

As with all ophthalmic preparations containing benzalkonium chloride, patients are advised not to wear soft (hydrophilic) contact lenses while under treatment with ZYRTEC® eye drops.

Adults and children 6 years of age and over: the usual dose is one drop of ZYRTEC® eye drops per eye, twice daily. If necessary, the dose may be increased to one drop 3 to 4 times daily. The bottle should be well shaken before use. The duration of treatment should be limited to 8 weeks.

Systemic absorption of levocabastine is very low. However, the systemic absorption of drugs from ophthalmic solutions can be minimised by pressure on the tear duct immediately after application.

ZYRTEC® eye drops should be used within one month of first opening of the bottle. Patients should be instructed to take appropriate measures to avoid contamination of the container.

Nasal Spray:

Adults and children 6 years of age and over: the usual dose is two sprays of ZYRTEC® nasal spray per nostril, twice daily. If necessary, the dose may be increased to two sprays 3 to 4 times daily. The duration of treatment should be limited to 8 weeks.

Patients should be instructed to clear the nasal passages prior to administering the spray and to inhale through the nose during spraying. Before using the pump delivery system for the first time, the pump reservoir should be filled by priming until a fine spray is delivered.

4.3 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients.

4.4 SPECIAL WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Mental Alertness

In clinical trials there was no significant difference in the incidence of slowed patient reactions with ZYRTEC® compared to placebo and active comparator drugs. ZYRTEC®, therefore, would not be expected to interfere with the ability to drive a motor vehicle or operate machinery. Should drowsiness occur, caution is advised.

Renal impairment

After a single oral dose of 0.5mg levocabastine in solution, the terminal half-life of levocabastine in moderate to severe renal impairment (Creatinine Clearance 10 – 50mL/min) increased from 36 hours to 95 hours. Overall exposure to levobabastine based on AUC was increased by 56%.

Nasal Spray: Limited data are available on the use of oral levocabastine. Caution should be exercised when administering ZYRTEC® nasal spray to patients with renal impairment (refer to pharmacokinetics – renal impairment).

Eye Drop: Given the extremely low plasma concentrations after ocular application, a dose adjustment is unlikely to be required in patients with renal impairment receiving levocabastine eye drops. However, dose reduction should be considered in patients with renal disease during prolonged treatment with levocabastine nasal spray. As hepatic metabolism of levocabastine is negligible, dose adjustments in patients with impaired hepatic function should not be necessary.

If symptoms persist, worsen or new symptoms appear, discontinue use.

Use in the elderly

In the elderly, after multiple nasal administrations of 0.4mg levocabastine for 14 days, the terminal half-life of levocabastine was increased by 15% and the peak plasma level was increased by 26%.

Paediatric use

No data available on use in children less than six years of age.

Effects on laboratory tests

No data available

4.5 INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES AND OTHER FORMS OF INTERACTIONS

No interactions have been seen with ZYRTEC® eye drops. With ZYRTEC® nasal spray there were no reports of interaction with alcohol in clinical trials. In psychomotor performance studies there was no significant potentiation of the effects of alcohol on performance and subjective test measures with ZYRTEC® nasal spray used at normal doses.

Pharmacokinetic interactions

The decongestant oxymetazoline may transiently reduce the absorption of nasal levocabastine.

Co-administration of the CYP3A4 inhibitors ketoconazole (200mg) and erythromycin (333mg) as a single dose had no impact on the pharmacokinetics of intranasal levocabastine.

Intranasal levocabastine did not change the pharmacokinetics of loratadine.

4.6 FERTILITY, PREGNANCY AND LACTATION

Use in pregnancy – Pregnancy Category B3

In pregnant rats, levocabastine readily crossed the placental barrier and was distributed extensively in foetal tissues. Reproductive studies in mice and rats showed that levocabastine was embryolethal at oral doses greater than 40 mg/kg/day in both species, and teratogenic at oral doses greater than 40 mg/kg/day in mice and 20 mg/kg/day in rats. The main foetal malformations observed were open eyes in mice, and polydactyly, hydrocephalus, anophthalmia/microphthalmia, hydronephrosis and arthrogryposis in rats. There are limited postmarketing data on the use of ZYRTEC® eye drops or nasal spray in pregnant women. The risk for humans is unknown. Therefore, ZYRTEC® eye drops and nasal spray should not be used during pregnancy.

Use in lactation

Based on determinations of levocabastine concentrations in saliva and breast milk in a nursing woman, who received a single oral dose of 0.5mg levocabastine, it is expected that approximately 0.6% of the total intranasally and approximately 0.3% of the total ophthalmically administered dose of levocabastine may be transferred to a nursing infant. However, due to the

limited nature of the clinical and experimental data, it is recommended that ZYRTEC® nasal spray or eye drops be avoided in breast-feeding mothers.

Effects on fertility

No data available

4.7 EFFECTS ON ABILITY TO DRIVE AND USE MACHINES

Levocabastine eye drops do not cause sedation nor do they impair psychomotor performance. Adverse reactions such as eye irritation, pain, swelling, itching, redness, burning sensation in the eye, watery eyes, and blurred vision which may impair vision have been reported. Therefore, caution is advised when driving or operating machinery following application of levocabastine eye drops.

4.8 ADVERSE EFFECTS (UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS)

Clinical Trial Data

Eye Drops:

The safety of ZYRTEC® eye drops was evaluated in 508 subjects who participated in 4, placebo-controlled clinical trials and one open-label clinical trial. All adverse drug reactions (ADRs) reported by subjects in ZYRTEC® eye drops clinical trials are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Adverse Drug Reactions Reported by ZYRTEC® Eye Drops Treated Subjects in 5 Clinical Trials

MedDRA System Organ Class MedDRA PT	ZYRTEC (n=508) %	**Placebo** (n=178) %
Eye Disorders Eye Irritation	11.6	4.5

Nasal Spray:

The safety of ZYRTEC® nasal spray was evaluated in 2328 subjects who participated in 12 double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials. Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) reported in ≥1% of subjects in these trials are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Adverse Drug Reactions Reported by ≥1% ZYRTEC® Nasal Spray Treated Subjects in 12 Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trials

MedDRA System Organ Class MedDRA PT	ZYRTEC® (n=2328) %	**Placebo** (n=1537) %

Gastrointestinal Disorders Nausea	1.3	1.2
General Disorders and Administrative Site Conditions Fatigue Pain	2.1 1.2	0.9 0.9
Infections and Infestations Sinusitis	1.8	0.9
Nervous System Disorders Headache Somnolence Dizziness	10.1 2.1 1.3	11.9 0.8 0.9
Respiratory, Thoracic, and Mediastinal Disorders Pharyngolaryngeal pain Epistaxis Cough	2.9 1.6 1.7	2.3 1.0 1.3

Additional ADRs reported for <1% of ZYRTEC® Nasal Spray treated subjects in the 12 clinical trials are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Adverse Drug Reactions Reported by <1% ZYRTEC® Nasal Spray Treated Subjects in 12 Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trials

MedDRA System Organ Class
MedDRA PT

General Disorders and Administrative Site Conditions
Application site irritation
Application site pain
Application site dryness
Application site burn
Application site discomfort

Respiratory, Thoracic, and Mediastinal Disorders
Nasal discomfort
Nasal congestion

Postmarketing Data

Additional adverse drug reactions first identified during postmarketing experience with ZYRTEC® eye drops and nasal spray are included in Table 3 (nasal spray) and Table 4 (eye drops). Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it

is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure. Therefore, the frequencies are provided according to the following convention (3,4):

Very Common :	≥ 1/10
Common:	≥ 1/100 and < 1/10
Uncommon:	≥ 1/1000 and < 1/100
Rare:	≥ 1/10000 and < 1/1000
Very rare:	≥ 1/10000, including isolated reports

In the tables below ADR's are presented by frequency category based on incidence in clinical trials or epidemiology studies when known.

Table 3: Adverse Drug Reactions Identified During Postmarketing Experience with ZYRTEC® Eye Drops by Frequency Category Estimated from Spontaneous Reporting Rates

Cardiac Disorders	
Very Rare	Palpitations
Eye Disorders Very Rare	Eye pain, Conjunctivitism Eyelid oedema, Eye swelling, Blepharitis, Ocular hyperaemia, Vision blurred
General Disorders and Administrative Site Conditions Very Rare	Application site reaction including eye burning sensation, eye redness, eye pain, eye swelling, eye itching, watery eyes and vision blurred.
Immune System Disorders Very Rare	Anaphylaxis, Angioneurotic oedema, Hypersensitivity
Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders Very Rare	Contact dermatitis, Urticaria
Nervous System Disorders Very Rare	Headache

Table 4: Adverse Drug Reactions Identified During Postmarketing Experience with ZYRTEC® Nasal Spray by Frequency Category Estimated from Spontaneous Reporting Rates

Cardiac Disorders Very Rare	Palpitations, Tachycardia
Eye Disorders	
Very Rare	Eyelid Oedema
General Disorders and Administrative Site Conditions Very Rare	Malaise
Immune System Disorders Very Rare	Anaphylaxis, Hypersensitivity
Respiratory, Thoracic, and Mediastinal Disorders Very Rare	Bronchospasm, Dyspnoea, Nasal oedema

Reporting suspected adverse effects

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

There has been no experience with overdose of ZYRTEC® eye drops or nasal spray to date. After accidental intake of the contents of the bottle, sedation may occur. In case of accidental ingestion, the patient should be advised to drink a lot of non-alcoholic liquids in order accelerate the renal elimination of levocabastine. If swallowed, contact the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia) right away.

Keep out of reach of children

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 PHARMACODYNAMIC PROPERTIES

Mechanism of action

ZYRTEC® eye drops contain levocabastine, a potent, fast-acting and highly selective histamine H1-antagonist with a sustained duration of action. After topical application to the eyes, it almost immediately and for several hours relieves the typical symptoms of allergic conjunctivitis (itching, redness, chemosis, eyelid swelling, tearing).

ZYRTEC® nasal spray contains levocabastine, a potent, fast-acting and highly selective histamine H1-antagonist with a sustained duration of action. After topical application to the nose, it almost immediately and for several hours relieves the typical symptoms of allergic rhinitis (sneezing, itchy nose, rhinorrhoea).

Clinical trials

Clinical studies have shown that ZYRTEC® eye drops and nasal spray are effective for the indications listed above. The duration of treatment with the eye drops alone was generally 2 - 4 weeks but lasted up to 3 months in two studies and 4 months in one study. Duration of treatment with the nasal spray alone was also generally 2 - 4 weeks, but lasted up to 10 weeks in some instances. The duration of treatment in studies using a combination of the eye drops and nasal spray was 8 weeks.

5.2 PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES

Absorption

After intranasal and ocular application, the absorption of levocabastine is incomplete with a systemic bioavailability ranging from 60 to 80% for the nasal spray and from 30 to 60% for the eye drops. However, as the amount of levocabastine applied intranasally and ocularly is small, the levocabastine plasma concentrations achieved are very low. Steady-state concentrations of levocabastine are attained within 7 to 10 days following multiple dosage and are predictable from single-dose pharmacokinetics

Distribution

After single intravenous dosing, levocabastine is rapidly distributed over the tissues, and the terminal half-life is 33 h. The total steady-state volume of distribution is 82 L (1.14 L/kg) with a total plasma clearance of 30 mL/min.

The plasma protein binding of levocabastine is 55% with albumin being the main binding protein.

Excretion

Levocabastine undergoes minimal hepatic metabolism, i.e. ester glucuronidation, and is predominantly cleared by the kidneys. 70% of the parent drug is recovered unchanged in the urine, and 10% of the dose is excreted in the urine as the acylglucuronide of levocabastine. The remaining 20% is excreted unchanged in the faeces.

5.3 PRECLINICAL SAFETY DATA

Genotoxicity

No data available

Carcinogenicity

In female mice, dietary administration of levocabastine for 20 months stimulated the development of pituitary adenomas and mammary adenocarcinomas. The no-effect dose level for the pituitary tumours was 3 mg/kg/day, but a no-effect dose level has not been established for the mammary tumours. In female rats, there was an equivocal increase in the incidence of mammary tumours at the highest dose level of 34 mg/kg/day administered in the diet for 24 months. There was no evidence of carcinogenic activity in male rats or mice. The mechanism of the carcinogenic effects of levocabastine in female mice (and possibly rats) may involve antagonism of dopamine D2-receptors in the pituitary gland and subsequent elevation of serum prolactin levels.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 LIST OF EXCIPIENTS

Refer to Section 2 - Qualitative and quantitative composition

6.2 INCOMPATIBILITIES

Incompatibilities were either not assessed or not identified as part of the registration of this medicine. Refer to section 4.5: Interactions with other medicines and other forms of interactions.

6.3 SHELF LIFE

In Australia, information on the shelf life can be found on the public summary of the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG). The expiry date can be found on the packaging.

6.4 SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR STORAGE

Store below 25°C

6.5 NATURE AND CONTENTS OF CONTAINER

ZYRTEC® eye drops: 5 mL bottle.

ZYRTEC® nasal spray: 15 mL bottle.

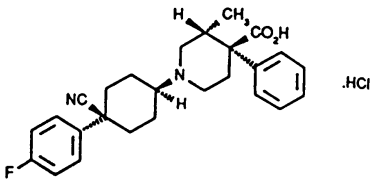
6.6 SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL

In Australia, any unused medicine or waste material should be disposed of by taking to your local pharmacy.

6.7 PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Levocabastine hydrochloride is a white powder, insoluble in water except at higher pH and only fairly soluble in other solvents such as acetone.

Chemical structure



Chemical formula: $C_{26}H_{29}FN_2O_2.HCl$

MW: *456.99*

Chemical Name: Levocabastine, (-)-[3S-[1(cis), 3 alpha, 4 beta]]-1-[4-cyano-4-(4-fluorophenyl) cyclohexyl]-3-methyl-4-phenyl-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid monohydrochloride is a highly selective histamine H1-antagonist for topical use.

CAS number CAS-79547-78-7

7 MEDICINE SCHEDULE (POISONS STANDARD)

Pharmacy Medicine (S2)

8 SPONSOR

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Australia New Zealand
Sydney, NSW, Australia and Auckland, New Zealand ® Registered Trademark

Consumer Care Centre
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New Zealand: 0800 446 147
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9 DATE OF FIRST APPROVAL

March 1994

10 DATE OF REVISION

13 October 2026

SUMMARY TABLE OF CHANGES

Section Changed	Summary of new information
4.7	Addition of warning when driving or operating machinery following application of levocabastine eye drops
4.9	Rewording of text
6.5	Editorial
8	Sponsor Update