

## SCHEDULING STATUS:

S3

## PROPRIETARY NAME AND DOSAGE FORM:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH film-coated tablet  
METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH film-coated tablet

## COMPOSITION:

Each film-coated tablet contains:

500 mg metformin hydrochloride, 850 mg metformin hydrochloride.

Excipients are:

*Tablet core:* colloidal anhydrous silica, copolyvidone, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium starch glycolate.

*Tablet coating:* Opdry white consisting of: macrogol 4000, methylhydroxypropylcellulose, titanium dioxide (E171).

Contains sugar (lactose monohydrate).

## PHARMACOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION:

A.21.2 Oral Hypoglycaemic

## PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION:

### Pharmacodynamic properties

Metformin hydrochloride is a biguanide oral anti-hyperglycaemic agent. Its mode of action is thought to be multifactorial and includes delayed uptake of glucose from the gastrointestinal tract, increase peripheral glucose utilisation mediated by increased insulin sensitivity and inhibition of increased hepatic and renal gluconeogenesis.

## INDICATIONS:

Non-insulin dependent diabetes (Type II), when diet has failed and especially if the patient is overweight. METFORMIN BIOTECH can be given alone as initial therapy, or can be administered in combination with a sulphonylurea.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Hypersensitivity to metformin hydrochloride or any of the ingredients of METFORMIN BIOTECH. Diabetic coma and ketoacidosis, impairment of renal or liver function, cardiac failure and recent myocardial infarction.

History of, or states associated with, lactic acidosis such as shock or pulmonary insufficiency, alcoholism (acute or chronic), dehydration and conditions associated with hypoxemia. Pancreatitis.

The use of METFORMIN BIOTECH during pregnancy is contraindicated as safety has not been established (see PREGNANCY AND LACTATION).

There is no information available concerning the safety of METFORMIN BIOTECH during lactation (see PREGNANCY AND LACTATION).

Severe infection, stress, trauma or other severe conditions where the biguanides are unlikely to control the hyperglycaemia.

## WARNINGS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS:

The administration of oral hypoglycaemic may be associated with increased cardiovascular mortality as compared to treatment with diet alone or diet with insulin.

METFORMIN BIOTECH can possibly cause ketoacidosis in children after exercise.

In patients with a metabolic acidosis lacking evidence of ketoacidosis (ketonuria and ketonaemia) lactic acidosis should be suspected and METFORMIN BIOTECH therapy stopped. Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency which must be treated in hospital.

METFORMIN BIOTECH is excreted by the kidney and regular monitoring of renal function is advised in all diabetics. METFORMIN BIOTECH therapy should be stopped 2 – 3 days before surgery and clinical investigations such as intravenous urography and intravenous angiography and reinstated only after control of renal function has been regained. The use of METFORMIN BIOTECH is not advised in conditions which may cause dehydration or in patients suffering from serious infections, trauma or on low calorie intake (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

Stabilisation of diabetic patients with METFORMIN BIOTECH and insulin should be carried out in hospital because of the possibility of hypoglycaemia until the correct ratio of the two medicines has been obtained (see INTERACTIONS).

Patients receiving continuous METFORMIN BIOTECH therapy should have an annual estimation of Vitamin B12 levels because of reports of decreased Vitamin B12 absorption.

METFORMIN BIOTECH contains lactose. Patients with the rare hereditary conditions of galactose intolerance e.g. galactosaemia, Lapp lactase deficiency, glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take METFORMIN BIOTECH.

## INTERACTIONS:

- Hypoglycaemia can occur when METFORMIN BIOTECH is given concomitantly with a sulphonylurea, insulin or alcohol (see WARNINGS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS).
- Reduced renal clearance of METFORMIN BIOTECH has been reported during cimetidine therapy so a dose reduction should be considered (see DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE).
- An interaction between METFORMIN BIOTECH and anticoagulants is a possibility and dosage of the latter may need adjustment (see DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE).

## PREGNANCY AND LACTATION:

The use of METFORMIN BIOTECH during pregnancy and lactation is contraindicated as safety has not been established (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

## DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

It is important that METFORMIN BIOTECH tablets be taken in divided doses with meals.

**Adults:** Initially, one 850 mg tablet twice a day or one 500 mg tablet three times a day, with or after food. Good diabetic control may be achieved within a few days, but it is not unusual for the full effect to be delayed for up to two weeks. If control is incomplete cautious increase in dosage to a maximum of 3 g daily is justified. Once control has been obtained it may be possible to reduce the dosage of METFORMIN BIOTECH.

**Children:** METFORMIN BIOTECH is not recommended for use.

**Elderly:** METFORMIN BIOTECH is indicated in the elderly, but not when renal function is impaired. *Combination Therapy:* (see WARNINGS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS).

## SIDE EFFECTS:

Gastrointestinal adverse effects with anorexia, nausea and vomiting. Metallic taste. Lactic acidosis, sometimes fatal, has been associated with METFORMIN BIOTECH but has occurred to a greater extent in patients with contraindications to therapy.

Reports of decreased Vitamin B12 absorption (see WARNINGS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS). Hypoglycaemia can occur (see INTERACTIONS).

## KNOWN SYMPTOMS OF OVERDOSAGE AND PARTICULARS OF ITS TREATMENT:

In excessive dosage, and particularly if there is a possibility of accumulation, lactic acidosis may develop. Intense symptomatic and supportive therapy is recommended which should be particularly directed at correcting fluid loss and metabolic disturbance.

## IDENTIFICATION:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: White, biconvex oblong film coated tablets, with a both sided score notch. One side engraved "M/500". The surface is faultless. The core of the tablet is white L: 17,0 to 17,4 mm, B: 7,0 to 7,4 mm, H: 5,6 to 6,4 mm

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: White, oblong film coated tablets. Upside with "snap-tab" Downside convex and engraved "M/850". The surface is faultless. The core of the tablet is white L: 19,0 to 19,4 mm, B: 8,0 to 8,4 mm

## PRESENTATION:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: White HDPE containers containing 100, 112 or 500 tablets.

Patient ready packs (PRP's) are available in pack sizes of 56 or 84 tablets.

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: White HDPE containers containing 60, 100 or 300 tablets.

Patient ready packs (PRP's) are available in pack sizes of 28, 56 or 84 tablets.

All pack sizes may not necessarily be marketed at one time.

## STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS:

Store at or below 25° C in a well-closed container. Protect from light and moisture. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

## REGISTRATION NUMBER:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: 35/21.2/0093

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: 35/21.2/0094

## NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE HOLDER OF THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION:

Biotech Laboratories (Pty) Ltd.  
Ground Floor, Block K West, Central Park  
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South Africa

## DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE PACKAGE INSERT:

Date of registration: 06 June 2003

Date compliant with Reg. 9: 21 July 2017

## SKEDULERINGSSTATUS:

[S3]

### EIENDOMSNAAM EN DOSEERVORM:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH filmbedekte tablet  
METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH filmbedekte tablet

### SAMESTELLING:

Elke filmbedekte tablet bevat:  
500 mg Metformienhidrochloried.  
850 mg Metformienhidrochloried.

#### Onaktiewe bestanddele:

Tablet kern: kolloidale anhidriese silika, copolyvidoon, magnesiumstearaat, mikrokristallyne sellulose, natriumstyselglykokaat.

Tablet bedekking: Opdryf wit bestaande uit: makrogol 4000, metielhidroksiepropielsellulose, titaniumdioksied (E171).

Bevat suiker (Laktose Monohidraat).

### FARMAKOLOGIESE KLASSIFIKASIE:

A.21.2 Orale hipoglisemiese middels.

### FARMAKOLOGIESE WERKING:

#### Farmakodinamiese eienskappe

Metformienhidrochloried is 'n biguanidiese orale antihyperglisemiese middel. Die werking daarvan word beskou as multifaktoriaal en sluit in vertraagde opname van glukose vanuit die spysverteringskanaal, verhoogde perifere glukose verbruik, wat vermeerder word deur verhoogde insulien sensitiviteit, en inhibering van verhoogde lewer- en nierglukoneogenese.

### INDIKASIES:

Nie-insulien afhanklike diabetes (Tipe II), wanneer dieet nie werk nie en veral wanneer die pasiënt oorgewig is. METFORMIN BIOTECH kan alleen as aanvanklike behandeling gebruik word, of kan in kombinasie met 'n sulfonielurea toegedien word.

### KONTRAÏNDIKASIES:

Hipersensitiviteit vir metformienhidrochloried of enige van die ander bestanddele van METFORMIN BIOTECH.

Diabetiese koma en keto-asidose, inkorting van nier- of lewerfunksie, hartversaking en onlangse miokardiale infarksie.

Geskiedenis van, of toestand wat verband hou met melksuursinose, soos skok of pulmonale ooreroidenheid, alkoholisme (akuut of chronies), dehidrasie en toestand wat verband hou met hipoksemie.

Pankreatitis.

Die gebruik van METFORMIN BIOTECH tydens swangerskap is teenaangedui aangesien veiligheid nog nie vasgestel is nie (sien SWANGERSKAP EN LAKTASIE).

Daar is geen inligting beskikbaar oor die veiligheid van gebruik van METFORMIN BIOTECH tydens brosoeding nie (sien SWANGERSKAP EN LAKTASIE).

Erge infeksie, spanning, trauma of ander ernstige toestand waar die biguanidiese waarsynlik nie die hiperglisemie kan beheer nie.

### WAARSKUWINGS EN SPESIALE VOORSORGMATREËLS:

Die toediening van mondelinge hipoglisemiese middels mag met verhoogde kardiovaskulêre mortaliteit geassosieer word, in vergelyking met die behandeling met dieet alleen of dieet met insulien.

METFORMIN BIOTECH kan moontlik keto-asidose veroorsaak by kinders na oefening. By pasiënte met 'n metaboliese asidose waar tekens van keto-asidose (ketonurie en ketonemie) afwesig is, moet laktasiese vermoed word en moet behandeling met METFORMIN BIOTECH gestaak word. Laktasiese asidose is 'n mediese noodgeval wat in die hospitaal behandel moet word.

METFORMIN BIOTECH word uitgeskei deur die niere, gereelde monitering van nierfunksie word aanbeveel vir alle diabetie. METFORMIN BIOTECH behandeling moet 2 tot 3 dae voor chirurgie en kliniese ondersoek, soos binnearsie urografie en binnearsie angiografie gestaak word en eers hervat word nadat beheer oor nierfunksie herwin is. Die gebruik van METFORMIN BIOTECH word nie aanbeveel in toestand wat dehidrasie kan veroorsaak, of in pasiënte wat aan ernstige infeksies of trauma ly, of op 'n lae kalorie-inname is nie (sien KONTRAÏNDIKASIES).

Stabilisasie van diabetiese pasiënte met METFORMIN BIOTECH en insulien moet in die hospitaal uitgevoer word weens die moontlikheid van hipoglisemie, totdat die korrekte verhouding van die twee middels vasgestel is (sien INTERAKSIES).

Pasiënte wat voortdurend METFORMIN BIOTECH behandeling ontvang, moet 'n jaarlikse beraming van Vitamien B12-vlakke ondergaan as gevolg van verslae van verlaagde Vitamien B12-absorpsie.

METFORMIN BIOTECH bevat laktose. Pasiënte met die seldsame oorerflikke toestande van galaktose-onverdraagsaamheid, bv.galaktosemie, Lapp-laktase tekort, glukose-galaktose wanabsorpsie moet nie METFORMIN BIOTECH neem nie.

### INTERAKSIES:

- Hipoglisemie kan voorkom wanneer METFORMIN BIOTECH saam met 'n sulfonielureum, insulien of alkohol gegee word (sien WAARSKUWINGS EN SPESIALE VOORSORGMATREËLS).
- Verlaagde renale opruiming van METFORMIN BIOTECH is gedurende simetindien behandeling geparpoorteer, en daarom moet 'n vermindering in dosis oorweeg word (sien DOSIS EN GEBRUIKSAANWYSINGS).
- 'n Interaksie tussen METFORMIN BIOTECH en antistolmiddels is 'n moontlikheid en die dosering van die laasgenoemde sal moontlik aangepas moet word (sien DOSIS EN GEBRUIKSAANWYSINGS).

### SWANGERSKAP EN LAKTASIE:

Die gebruik van METFORMIN BIOTECH tydens swangerskap en laktasie is gekontraïndikeerd aangesien veiligheid nog nie vasgestel is nie (sien KONTRAÏNDIKASIES).

### DOSIS EN GEBRUIKSAANWYSINGS:

Dit is belangrik dat METFORMIN BIOTECH tablette in verdeelde dosisse met maaltye geneem word.

*Volwassenes:* Aanvanklik, een 850 mg tablet twee maal per dag of een 500 mg tablet drie maal per dag, met voedsel of na voedselinname. Goeie diabetiese beheer kan binne 'n paar dae behaal word, maar dit is nie buitengewoon dat die volledige uitwerking vir tot twee weke vertraag mag wees nie. Indien beheer onvolledig is, is versigtige verhoging in dosis tot 'n maksimum van 3 g per dag gereedgery. Sodra beheer behaal is, kan dit moontlik wees om die dosis METFORMIN BIOTECH weer te verlaag.

*Kinders:* METFORMIN BIOTECH word nie aanbeveel vir gebruik in kinders nie.

*Bejaardes:* METFORMIN BIOTECH word by bejaardes aangedui, maar nie wanneer nierfunksie verswak is nie.

*Kombinasiebehandeling:* (Sien WAARSKUWINGS EN SPESIALE VOORSORGMATREËLS).

### NEWE EFFEKTE:

Gastroïntestinale nadelige effekte soos anorexia, naarheid en braking. Metaalsmaak. Laktasiese asidose, soms noodlottig, is geassosieer met METFORMIN BIOTECH gebruik, maar het in 'n groter mate by pasiënte met kontraïndikasies behandeling plaasgevind.

Verslae van verminderde Vitamien B12 absorpsie (sien WAARSKUWINGS EN SPESIALE VOORSORGMATREËLS). Hipoglisemie kan voorkom (sien INTERAKSIES).

### BEKEDE SIMPTOME VAN OORDOSERING EN BESONDERHEDE VIR DIE BEHANDELING DAARVAN:

In oormaat dosisse, en veral indien daar 'n moontlikheid van akkumulاسie bestaan, mag laktasiese asidose ontwikkel. Intensiewe simptomatiese en ondersteunende behandeling word aanbeveel wat spesifiek gerig moet wees op die regstelling van vloeistofverlies en metaboliese versteuring.

### IDENTIFIKASIE:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: Wit, bikonvekse, langwerpige, filmbedekte tablette, met 'n keep aan beide kante. "M/500" is gegraveer aan die een kant. Die oppervlak is foutloos. Die kern van die tablet is wit L: 17,0 tot 17,4 mm, B: 7,0 tot 7,4 mm, H: 5,6 tot 6,4 mm.

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: Wit, langwerpige filmbedekte tablette. Bokant met 'snap-tab', onderkant konvekse en gegraveer met "M/850". Die oppervlak is foutloos. Die kern van die tablet is wit L: 19,0 tot 19,4 mm, B: 8,0 tot 8,4 mm

### AANBIEDING:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: Wit HDPE houers met 100, 112 of 500 tablette bevat.

Pasiënt gereed pakke (PGP's) is beskikbaar in verpakkingsgroottes van 56 of 84 tablette.

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: Wit HDPE houers met 60, 100 of 300 tablette bevat.

Pasiënt gereed pakke (PGP's) is beskikbaar in verpakkingsgroottes van 28, 56 of 84 tablette.

Al die verpakkingsgroottes word nie noodwendig op een slag bemark nie.

### BERGINGSINSTRUKSIES:

Bewaar teen of benede 25 °C in 'n goed-geslote houer. Beskerm teen lig en vog.

HOU BUITE BEREIK VAN KINDERS.

### REGISTRASIONUMMERS:

METFORMIN 500 BIOTECH: 35/21.2/0093

METFORMIN 850 BIOTECH: 35/21.2/0094

### NAAM EN BESIGHEIDSADRES VAN DIE HOUER VAN DIE REGISTRASIESERTIFIKAAT:

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Suid Afrika

### DATUM VAN PUBLIKASIE VAN HIERDIE VOUBLIJET:

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