chemopet

LOMUSTINE – DRUG SAFETY INFORMATION

Form: Lomustine 40mg oral capsules
(also reformulated to 5mg, 10mg and 15mg capsules)

General:

- If there is evidence of damage to the packaging in transit please contact us prior to administration.
- Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
- Protect product from light and store at ambient temperature less than 25^{o}C until ready to use.
- The expiry date for the product under the recommended storage conditions will be stated on the label.
- For safety, any unused medications or empty drug storage containers should be discarded in accordance with local requirements for handling of cytotoxic waste.

Handling and administration:

(At risk groups include pregnant or lactating women, women or men trying to conceive, young children, the elderly or patients receiving chemotherapy themselves).

Do not eat, drink or smoke in chemotherapy handling or administration areas.

Lomustine is a cytotoxic drug and should only be handled by adequately trained personnel wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). Staff members who are pregnant or trying to conceive should not be involved in the administration of the medication or be present in the immediate work environment when the drug is being administered or dispensed. Likewise they should not come into contact with the patient's urine, faeces, saliva or vomitus after treatment. Nursing staff involved in the care of hospitalised patients that have received chemotherapy should wear appropriate PPE for handling.

Lomustine is often administered orally at home and those handling the drug are recommended to wear protective gloves and a gown. Capsules should **not** be opened.

A gown and chemo-protection gloves can be provided to an owner for administration of treatment at home or for cleaning up after their pet in the home environment.

Individuals in at risk groups should ideally not be involved in the administration or handling of cytotoxic agents.

Disposal:

Tablet containers and disposables that have potentially come into contact with lomustine should be disposed of in appropriate cytotoxic waste containers prior to incineration.

Warnings and contraindications:

- Similar to all chemotherapy agents, treatment with lomustine is associated with toxicity in normal tissue. For this medication, these may include bone marrow suppression (myelosuppression), gastrointestinal toxicity, reproductive failure and alopecia in certain breeds. Myelosuppression may be marked to severe and in cats, also prolonged.
- Lomustine is potentially hepatotoxic in dogs and patients receiving this medication should have appropriate monitoring of biochemical parameters including ALT, ALKP and albumin. Concurrent administration of S-Adenosylmethionine/silybin-phosphatidylcholine complex may reduce the hepatotoxic effects.
- Nephrotoxicity has also been reported with cumulative dosing of lomustine.
- Concurrent use of other myelosuppressives should be avoided unless clinically indicated.
- Peripheral blood counts, with particular attention to neutrophil and platelet numbers should be monitored closely during treatment.
- Drug residues may be found in the urine and faeces of treated patients for a minimum of **3 days** after treatment and owners must be warned about this hazard. Individuals in at risk groups should be particularly careful to avoid contact with patient excreta and saliva.
- For canine patients, faeces should be double bagged for clean-up and water should be poured over areas where a pet urinates outdoors to dilute any residues. For cats, the litter box should be cleaned every day taking adequate care when handling and bagging any contaminated litter material.

Further information:

Further information is available on request by contacting us at info@chemopet.co.uk or by telephone: 01928 250052.