Giving ammonium chloride produces a transient diuresis and acidosis. It may be used in the treatment of severe metabolic alkalosis (p.1667). Each g of ammonium chloride represents 18.69 mmol of chloride. It is usually given as a 1 to 2% solution by slow intravenous infusion, in a dosage depending on the severity of the alkalosis. A concentrated solution of ammonium chloride may be diluted by sodium chloride injection.

Ammonium chloride may also be used to maintain the urine at an acid pH in the treatment of some urinary-tract disorders. It is usually given orally, often as enteric-coated tablets, in a dose of 1 to 2 g every four to six hours. Higher doses were sometimes used in forced acid diuresis procedures to aid the excretion of basic drugs, such as amfetamines, in severe cases of overdosage (but see p.2153).

Ammonium chloride has been promoted for self administration as a diuretic, for example in premenstrual water retention; an oral dose of 650 mg three times daily for up to 6 days has been suggested, but such use is generally considered inappropriate.

Preparations

BP 2008: Ammonium Chloride Mixture; Aromatic Ammonia Solution; Aromatic Ammonia Spirit; Strong Ammonium Acetate Solution; White Liniment;
USP 31: Ammonium Chloride Delayed-release Tablets; Ammonium Chloride Injection; Aromatic Ammonia Spirit; Potassium Gluconate, Potassium Citrate, and Ammonium Chloride Oral Solution.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)
Austral.: Nyal Bronchitis; ***Fr.:*** Chlorammonic†; ***Ger.:*** Extin N; ***Switz.:*** Chloramon.

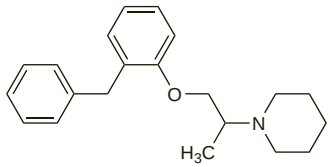
Multi-ingredient: numerous preparations are listed in Part 3.

Benproperine *(rINN)*

ASA-158/5 (benproperine phosphate); Benproperiini; Benproperin; Benproperina; Benpropérine; Benproperinum. 1-[2-(2-Benzylphenoxy)-1-methylethyl]piperidine.

Бенпроперин

$C_{21}H_{27}NO$ = 309.4.
CAS — 2156-27-6.
ATC — R05DB02.
ATC Vet — QR05DB02.



Pharmacopoeias. *Chin.* includes the phosphate.

Profile

Benproperine is used as a cough suppressant in non-productive cough (p.1547). It is reported to have a peripheral and central action and has been given in usual oral doses of 25 to 50 mg two to four times daily as the phosphate. Benproperine embonate has been used similarly.

Preparations

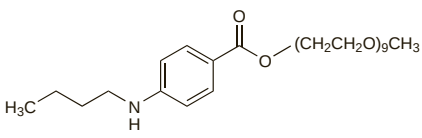
Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)
Ger.: Tussafug; ***Hong Kong:*** Cofrel; ***Jpn:*** Flaveric.

Benzonatate *(BAN, rINN)*

Bensonatat; Bentsonataatti; Benzonatato; Benzonatatum; Benzononatine; KM-65. 3,6,9,12,15,18,21,24,27-Nonaoxaoctacosyl 4-butylaminobenzoate.

Бензонатат

$C_{13}H_{18}NO_2(OCH_2CH_2)_nOCH_3$, where *n* has an average value of 8.
CAS — 104-31-4 (where n = 8).
ATC — R05DB01.
ATC Vet — QR05DB01.



Pharmacopoeias. In *US.*
USP 31 (Benzonatate). A clear, pale yellow, viscous liquid having a faint characteristic odour. Soluble 1 in less than 1 of water, of alcohol, of chloroform, and of ether; freely soluble in benzene. Store in airtight containers. Protect from light.

Adverse Effects

Headache, dizziness, gastrointestinal disturbances, nasal congestion, hypersensitivity, pruritus, and skin rash have been reported. There may be drowsiness. Benzonatate has local anaesthetic properties and can produce numbness of the mouth, tongue, and pharynx. CNS stimulation and convulsions, followed by CNS depression, may occur in overdosage.

Uses and Administration

Benzonatate is a cough suppressant used in non-productive cough (p.1547); it is stated to act peripherally. It is related to tetracaine (p.1871) and has a local anaesthetic action on mucosa. It is given to adults and children over the age of 10 years in an oral dose of 100 mg three times daily; up to 600 mg daily in divided doses may be given if necessary. Benzonatate is reported to act within about 20 minutes and its effects are reported to last for 3 to 8 hours.

Preparations

USP 31: Benzonatate Capsules.

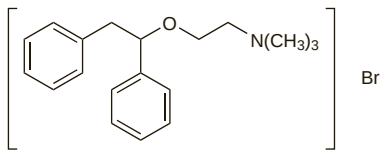
Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)
Mex.: Alzomed-F†; Beknol; Benzonal; Bronpax; Capsicof; D-Tato; Lemtosid; Nactol†; Novapsyl; Parven†; Pebegal; Pharben; Supracof; Tesalon; Tesopen; Texoven; Tusical; Tusitato; Tuzzil; Velpro; ***USA:*** Tessalon.

Bibenzonium Bromide *(BAN, rINN)*

Bibenzonii Bromidum; Bibenzonium, Bromure de; Bromuro de bibenzonio; Diphenetholine Bromide; ES-132. [2-(1,2-Diphenylethoxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium bromide.

Бибензония Бромид

$C_{19}H_{26}BrNO$ = 364.3.
CAS — 59866-76-1 (bibenzonium); 15585-70-3 (bibenzonium bromide).
ATC — R05DB12.
ATC Vet — QR05DB12.



Profile

Bibenzonium bromide is a cough suppressant used in non-productive cough (p.1547) which is stated to have a central action. It has been given in a usual oral dose of 30 to 60 mg two or three times daily.

Preparations

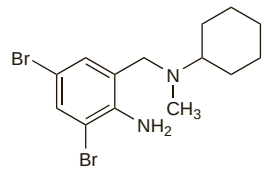
Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)
Austria: Lysbex.

Bromhexine *(BAN, rINN)*

Bromexina; Bromhexin; Bromhexina; Bromhexinum; Bromiheksiini; Butamirat. 2-Amino-3,5-dibromobenzyl(cyclohexyl)methylamine.

Бромгексин

$C_{14}H_{20}Br_2N_2$ = 376.1.
CAS — 3572-43-8.
ATC — R05CB02.
ATC Vet — QR05CB02.



Bromhexine Hydrochloride *(BANM, USAN, rINNM)*

Bromheksino hidrochloridas; Bromhexine, chlorhydrate de; Brómhexin-hidroklorid; Bromhexin-hydrochlorid; Bromhexinhydroklorid; Bromhexini hydrochloridum; Bromiheksiinihydrokloridi; Bromoheksyny chlorowodorek; Cloridrato de Bromexina; Hidrocloruro de bromhexina; NA-274.

Бромгексина Гидрохлорид

$C_{14}H_{20}Br_2N_2$,HCl = 412.6.
CAS — 611-75-6.
ATC — R05CB02.
ATC Vet — QR05CB02.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Chin.*, *Eur.* (see p.vii), and *Jpn.*
Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Bromhexine Hydrochloride). A white or almost white crystalline powder. It exhibits polymorphism. Very slightly soluble in water; slightly soluble in alcohol and in dichloromethane. Protect from light.

Adverse Effects

Gastrointestinal adverse effects may occur occasionally with bromhexine and a transient rise in serum aminotransferase values has been reported. Other reported adverse effects include headache, dizziness, sweating, and skin rashes. Inhalation of bromhexine has occasionally produced cough or bronchospasm in susceptible subjects.

Precautions

Since mucolytics may disrupt the gastric mucosal barrier bromhexine should be used with care in patients with a history of peptic ulcer disease. Care is also advisable in asthmatic patients. Clearance of bromhexine or its metabolites may be reduced in patients with severe hepatic or renal impairment.

Pharmacokinetics

Bromhexine hydrochloride is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract; peak plasma concentrations occur after about 1 hour. Bromhexine undergoes extensive first-pass metabolism in the liver: its oral bioavailability is stated to be only about 20%. It is widely distributed to body tissues. About 85 to 90% of a dose is excreted in the urine mainly as metabolites. Ambroxol (p.1550) is a metabolite of bromhexine. Bromhexine is highly bound to plasma proteins. It has a terminal elimination half-life of 13 to 40 hours. Bromhexine crosses the blood-brain barrier and small amounts cross the placenta.

Uses and Administration

Bromhexine is a mucolytic used in the treatment of respiratory disorders associated with productive cough (p.1547). Bromhexine is usually given orally in a dose of 8 to 16 mg of the hydrochloride three times daily. It has also been given by deep intramuscular or slow intravenous injection or inhaled as an aerosol solution.

Bromhexine has also been used orally and topically in the treatment of dry eye syndromes associated with abnormal mucus production (see below).

Dry eye. Bromhexine has been used orally in the treatment of dry eye (p.2140) in Sjögren's syndrome but results have been conflicting; it appears to have no effect on tear secretion in healthy subjects.[1] It has also been tried topically.

1. Avisar R, *et al.* Oral bromhexine has no effect on tear secretion in healthy subjects. *Ann Pharmacother* 1996; **30:** 1498.

Respiratory-tract infection. ***USE WITH AN ANTIBACTERIAL.*** Bromhexine has been shown to enhance the penetration of erythromycin into bronchial secretions.[1] Although bromhexine is used as an adjuvant in the treatment of respiratory infections, few controlled studies appear to have been conducted to determine if any additional benefit is obtained. However, some studies have found improved responses with cefalexin[2] and amoxicillin.[3]

1. Bergogne-Berezin E, *et al.* Etude de l'influence d'un agent mucolytique (bromhexine) sur le passage de l'érythromycine dans les sécrétions bronchiques. *Therapie* 1979; **34:** 705–11.
2. Boraldi F, Palmieri B. Antibiotic and mucolytic therapy in elderly patients with different cases of bronchopulmonary diseases. *Curr Ther Res* 1983; **33:** 686–91.
3. Roa CC, Dantes RB. Clinical effectiveness of a combination of bromhexine and amoxicillin in lower respiratory tract infection: a randomized controlled trial. *Arzneimittelforschung* 1995; **45:** 267–72.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)
Arg.: Amiorel; Aseptobron Expectorante; Balsasulf; Bisolvon; Brometos; Bromexidryl; Broncocalmine; Brondilax; Bronquisedan Elixir; Bronquisedan Paediatrico; Catarrosine; Expectosan Extra Forte; Funciobron B; Jarabe Medex; Lisi-Tos; Lorbi; Lorbi-Bis; Namir; Nastizol Expectorante; No-Tos Mucolitico; Pectoral Pagliano†; Pulmonix; Pulmosan; Qura Plus; Sandival; Toscalmin; Tostop; ***Austral.:*** Bisolvon Chesty; Duro-Tuss Mucolytic Cough Liquid; ***Austria:*** Bisolvon; ***Belg.:*** Bisolvon; Bromex; Bronchi-Mereprine; ***Braz.:*** Bisolvon; Clarus†; ***Chile:*** Bisolvon; Flumed; ***Cz.:*** Bisolvon†; Flegamina†; Mucohex; Paxirasol; ***Denm.:*** Bisolvon; Viscolyt†; ***Fin.:*** Bisolvon; Medipekt; Mucovin; ***Fr.:*** Bisolvon; ***Ger.:*** Aparsonin N†; Bisolvon; Hustentabs†; Omniapharm†; ***Gr.:*** Bisolvon; Bolisegna†; Bromiramin†; Bronchotussine; ***Hong Kong:*** Asthmaxine; Bisolvon; Bromoson; Bromxine; Duro-Tuss Mucolytic; Exolit; Vasican; ***Hung.:*** Paxirasol; ***India:*** Bromex; ***Indon.:*** Bisolvon; Bromika; Dexolut; Ethisolvan; Exovon; Farmavon; Hexon; Lexavon; Mucobron; Mucohexin; Mucosolvan; Poncosolvon; Solvinex; Thephidron; Yavon; ***Irl.:*** Bisolvon; ***Israel:*** Movex; Solvex; ***Ital.:*** Bisolvon; Broncokin†; ***Jpn:*** Bisolvon; ***Malaysia:*** Beacolytic; Bislan; Bisolvon†; Bromxine; Disol; Ekxine†; Hexolvon†; Vasican; ***Mex.:*** Bisolvon; Bromicof; Dibroxin†; Dizolvin†; Meroxan; Nastizol Ex; Normoflex; Tesacof; Toridran-N; ***Neth.:*** Bisolvon; Darolan Slijmoplossende; Famel Broomhexine†; Kruidvat Hoestelixer; Kruidvat Hoesttabletten; Streptuss vastzittende hoest†; Trekpleister Hoesttabletten†; ***Norw.:*** Bisolvon; ***NZ:*** Bisolvon; Duro-Tuss Mucolytic†; ***Philipp.:*** Bisolvon; Dur-Elix; Easepex; Fleminate; Mucolyptus; Xinebrom; ***Pol.:*** Flegamina; ***Port.:*** Bisolvon; Bromocal; Lisomucin; Tosseque; ***Rus.:*** Flegamin (Флегамин); ***S.Afr.:*** Bisolvon; Bronkese; ***Singapore:*** Bislan; Bisolvon; Bromxine; Broxine†; Duro-Tuss Mucolytic; Mucosol†; Vasican; ***Spain:*** Bisolvon; ***Swed.:*** Bisolvon; ***Switz.:*** Bisolvon; Hustosol†; Solvolin; ***Thai.:*** Asovon; Axistal; Behexine†; Bisoltab; Bisolvon; Bomexin; Bromex†; Bromoson; Bromso; Bromxin†; Bromxine; Bronclear; Disol; Dutross†; Exolit†; Ida; Manovon; Mihexine; Mucine†; Mucola†; Mucoxin; Ohexine; Romulin; Tromadil; ***Turk.:*** Bromek; Bromeksin; Viscol; ***UAE:*** Mucolyte; ***Venez.:*** Bedena; Bexilon; Bisectron; Bisolvon; Bromedrina; Brometix†; Bromexol; Bromox; Bronacim†; Drometox†; Inquixol; Kecnitril; Lisomucin; Mucobrol; Reosil; Teraflem; Tolmix†.

Multi-ingredient: numerous preparations are listed in Part 3.