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Precautions

Riluzole is contra-indicated in patients with hepatic disease or markedly raised liver enzyme values. Liver function tests should be performed before and throughout treatment with riluzole. In the UK, riluzole is not recommended in patients with renal impairment although US licensed product information states that the pharmacokinetics are not significantly different in renal impairment. Caution should be exercised in those with a history of liver disorders. Patients or their carers should be told how to recognise signs of neutropenia and should be advised to seek immediate medical attention if symptoms such as fever develop; white blood cell counts should be determined in febrile illness and riluzole stopped if neutropenia occurs. Riluzole may cause dizziness or vertigo and patients should be warned not to drive or operate machinery if these symptoms occur.

Riluzole has been reported to impair fertility in *animals*.

Pharmacokinetics

Riluzole is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract after oral doses, with peak plasma concentrations occurring in 1 to 1½ hours. The rate and extent of absorption are decreased when riluzole is given with a high-fat meal. Riluzole is widely distributed throughout the body and is about 97% bound to plasma proteins. It crosses the blood-brain barrier. Riluzole is extensively metabolised to several metabolites in the liver, mainly by the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP1A2, and subsequent glucuronidation. Riluzole is excreted mainly in the urine, mainly as glucuronides, with an elimination half-life of about 9 to 15 hours. About 2% is excreted unchanged in the urine. Small amounts are excreted in faeces. There is some evidence that clearance of riluzole is reduced in Japanese patients.

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Uses and Administration

Riluzole is a glutamate antagonist used in the management of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a form of motor neurone disease. Riluzole is indicated to slow progression of early disease but efficacy has not been demonstrated in its late stages. The precise mechanism of action is unknown but it may inhibit presynaptic glutamate release and interfere with its postsynaptic effects. The usual adult dose of riluzole is 50 mg twice daily by mouth on an empty stomach.

Motor neurone disease. Motor neurone disease (motoneuron disease) represents a group of fatal progressive degenerative disorders that affect upper and/or lower motor neurones in the brain and spinal cord. The most common form of motor neurone disease is amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (known in the USA as Lou Gehrig's disease), which involves both upper and lower motor neurones. It produces muscular atrophy and weakness and symptoms of progressive bulbar palsy such as slowness of movement and speech disturbances. Most patients die within 2 to 5 years of disease onset, usually from respiratory failure. There is no completely effective treatment and management remains largely supportive with appropriate symptomatic management of spasticity (p.1887), pain (p.8), and sialorrhoea. Tricyclic antidepressants are widely used for their multiple beneficial effects. Occupational and speech therapy also play a crucial role in maximising function. Pathological crying or laughing (pseudobulbar affect) may occur in as many as 50% of patients and has been treated with amitriptyline or fluvoxamine. Dysphagia may eventually compromise food and fluid intake necessitating enteral nutrition as an alternative or supplemental route for oral nutrition. Respiratory support will ultimately be necessary, initially with non-invasive ventilation but progressing eventually to tracheostomy.

Although the pathogenesis of motor neurone disease is still uncertain, it is thought that accumulation of the excitatory neurotransmitter glutamate in the CNS may be involved. Clinical studies have shown riluzole, a glutamate antagonist, to be modestly effective in prolonging survival by an average of 3 months and delaying the time to use of tracheostomy. However, there is still insufficient data to be able to assess which patients would derive greatest benefit. Additionally, questions have been raised about the clinical usefulness of riluzole in terms of cost-benefit, and there are concerns about adverse effects, notably hepatotoxicity. Also under study for the treatment of motor neurone disease are somatomedins, in particular mecasermin (insulin-like growth factor I). Neurotrophic factors have been investigated including brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) and recombinant ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF), but results have been generally inconclusive. Glial-cell-derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) and xaliproden are under investigation.

There has been some interest in the antiepileptic drug gabapentin, which may inhibit glutamate formation in the CNS from branched-chain amino acids. Lamotrigine and topiramate have also been tried but with disappointing results. ONO-2506 is an enantiomeric homologue of valproate that is also under investigation. Dextromethorphan has been studied in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Minocycline has demonstrated neuroprotective effects in *animal* studies and is therefore also being studied in this condition; ceftriaxone is also under investigation. Immunoglobulins have been tried in some forms of motor neurone disease such as multifocal motor neuropathy.

Antioxidants, including vitamins C and E, are commonly used by patients in the belief that one mechanism for neuronal death is free radical accumulation resulting from oxidative stress. However, despite substantial literature on the subject and widespread use of antioxidants, significant evidence to support their benefit in motor neurone disease is lacking. Creatine supplements have been tried in a bid to preserve motor function and motor neurones, although benefit has not been shown in controlled studies.

A small percentage of patients with familial amyotrophic lateral sclerosis has been shown to have a mutation in the gene encoding for the enzyme copper-zinc superoxide dismutase but there has been no consensus as to whether patients with this mutation should be given superoxide dismutase supplements.

References

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Movement disorders. Beneficial results have been obtained with riluzole in small studies of patients with Huntington's chorea.^{1,2} Riluzole has been tried in a small number of patients with early Parkinson's disease but no evidence of benefit was observed.³ It has also been tried in levodopa-induced dyskinesias in advanced Parkinson's disease with conflicting reports of benefit⁴ or no benefit.⁵

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Psychiatric disorders. Glutamate is implicated in the aetiology of various psychiatric disorders and consequently riluzole has been suggested as a potential treatment in view of its glutamate-modulating properties.

References

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Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Arg.: Rilaset; **Rilutek:** **Austral.:** Rilutek; **Austria:** Rilutek; **Belg.:** Rilutek; **Braz.:** Rilutek; **Canada:** Rilutek; **Chile:** Rilutek; **Cz.:** Rilutek; **Denm.:** Rilutek; **Fin.:** Rilutek; **Fr.:** Rilutek; **Ger.:** Rilutek; **Gr.:** Rilutek; **Hong Kong:** Rilutek; **Hung.:** Rilutek; **Irl.:** Rilutek; **Israel:** Rilutek; **Ital.:** Rilutek; **Jpn.:** Rilutek; **Mex.:** Rilutek; **Neth.:** Rilutek; **Norw.:** Rilutek; **NZ:** Rilutek; **Pol.:** Rilutek; **Port.:** Rilutek; **S.Afr.:** Rilutek; **Singapore:** Rilutek; **Spain:** Rilutek; **Swed.:** Rilutek; **Switz.:** Rilutek; **Thai.:** Rilutek; **Turk.:** Rilutek; **UK:** Rilutek; **USA:** Rilutek; **Venez.:** Rilutek.

Rimonabant (USAN, rINN)

Rimocaban; Rimonabantum; SR-141716. 5-(p-Chlorophenyl)-1-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-N-piperidinopyrazole-3-carboxamide.

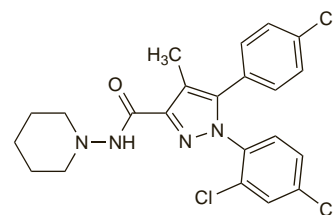
Римонабант

C₂₂H₂₁Cl₃N₃O = 463.8.

CAS — 168273-06-1 (rimonabant); 158681-13-1 (rimonabant hydrochloride).

ATC — A08AX01.

ATC Vet — QA08AX01.



Profile

Rimonabant is a selective cannabinoid type-1 receptor antagonist used as an adjunct to diet and exercise for the treatment of obese patients (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²), and also for overweight patients (BMI > 27 kg/m²) who have associated risk factors such as type 2 diabetes mellitus or dyslipidaemia. It is given orally in doses of 20 mg daily before breakfast. However, following concern about psychiatric reactions marketing of rimonabant was suspended in Europe in October 2008.

Nausea, anxiety, and dizziness occur commonly with rimonabant. Depressive symptoms have also occurred and rimonabant should not be given to patients with major depression or to those being treated with antidepressants; it is also not recommended in patients with other uncontrolled serious psychiatric disorders. Since rimonabant is metabolised by the liver, caution is advised in patients with moderate hepatic impairment. Licensed product information does not recommend its use in patients with severe hepatic or renal impairment because of lack of data in these patient groups. Plasma concentrations of rimonabant are increased when given with ketoconazole; other CYP3A4 inhibitors might have the same effect.

Rimonabant is also being investigated as an aid for smoking cessation.

◇ The action and potential uses of rimonabant have been reviewed.^{1–5} Rimonabant is a selective cannabinoid type-1 receptor antagonist that reduces the overactivity of the endocannabinoid (endogenous cannabinoid) system. Studies of rimonabant *in vitro* and in *animals* have shown that it inhibits the proliferation and maturation of adipocytes, improves lipid and glucose metabolism, and regulates food intake and energy balance.^{1,3,4}

Four large multicentre randomised controlled studies have been carried out to examine the effects of rimonabant in obesity (RIO) in conjunction with a mildly hypocaloric diet (deficit of about 600 kcal/day),^{6–9} and all studies showed that rimonabant was of benefit when given at a dose of 20 mg daily. A significant decrease in body-weight and waist circumference was reported from the RIO-Europe study⁶ over 1 year, although results from the RIO-North America study⁷ conducted over 2 years were more modest; both studies also showed improvement in cardiovascular risk factors. The RIO-Lipids study⁸ examined the effects of rimonabant over 1 year in overweight or obese patients with untreated dyslipidaemias and noted improvement in several metabolic risk factors as well as weight loss. Similar results including improvement in plasma-glucose concentrations (as indicated by glycosylated haemoglobin measurements) were obtained in overweight or obese patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus given rimonabant over 1 year in the RIO-Diabetes study.⁹ Meta-analysis¹⁰ and systematic review¹¹ of the 4 studies in the RIO-programme agreed that rimonabant produced statistically greater weight loss than placebo, although some problems with methodology were noted. Since no follow-up data were reported, no conclusion could be reached about weight regain.¹⁰ Of particular concern was the increase in incidence of psychiatric adverse effects such as depression and anxiety in the treatment group.¹⁰

Rimonabant is also being studied as an aid to smoking cessation but a systematic review¹² of randomised controlled studies concluded that although rimonabant 20 mg daily may be of benefit in stopping smoking, the evidence in maintaining abstinence is inconclusive.

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Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Arg.: Acomplia; Resibant; **Cz.:** Acomplia; **Fr.:** Acomplia; **Gr.:** Acomplia; **Port.:** Zimulti; **UK:** Acomplia.

Rociverine (rINN)

LG-30158; Rociverina; Rocivérine; Rociverinum. 2-Diethylamino-1-methylethyl dis-1-hydroxy(bicyclohexyl)-2-carboxylate.

Рокиверин

$C_{20}H_{37}NO_3 = 339.5$.

CAS — 53716-44-2.

ATC — A03AA06.

ATC Vet — QA03AA06.

Profile

Rociverine is an antispasmodic that has been given orally in doses of 30 to 40 mg or rectally in doses of 50 to 75 mg daily. It has also been given by injection.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Ital.: Rilaten.

Rose Bengal Sodium

CI Acid Red 94; Colour Index No. 45440; Rosa de bengala sodio; Rose Bengal; Sodium Rose Bengal. The disodium salt of 4,5,6,7-tetrachloro-2',4',5',7'-tetraiodofluorescein.

$C_{20}H_2Cl_4I_4Na_2O_5 = 1017.6$.

CAS — 11121-48-5 (rose bengal); 632-69-9 (rose bengal disodium).

ATC — S01JA02.

ATC Vet — QS01JA02.

NOTE. The name Rose Bengale has been applied to the substance described in this monograph as well as to dichlorotetraiodofluorescein (CI Acid Red 93; Ext. D & C Reds Nos. 5 and 6; Colour Index No. 45435), a compound used as its disodium or dipotassium salt as a colouring agent.

ROS is a code approved by the BP 2008 for use on single unit doses of eye drops containing rose bengal sodium where the individual container may be too small to bear all the appropriate labelling information.

Profile

Rose bengal sodium stains devitalised conjunctival and corneal epithelial cells as well as mucus and is used as an aid in the diagnosis of dry eye. It is used to detect or assess ocular damage resulting from Sjögren's syndrome or from ill-fitting contact lenses, and for keratitis, squamous cell carcinomas, and detection of foreign bodies. Rose bengal sodium is applied as 1% eye drops or as sterile papers impregnated with the dye.

Instillation of this dye may be painful, especially in dry eyes. Rose bengal sodium can stain exposed skin, clothing, and soft contact lenses. Rose bengal sodium should not be used before taking swabs as it possesses some antiviral activity.

The symbol † denotes a preparation no longer actively marketed

Rose bengal sodium is taken up by the liver and excreted in the bile; the iodine-131-labelled compound (p.2054) has been used as a diagnostic aid in the determination of hepato-biliary function.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Canad.: Ak-Rose; **USA:** Rosets.

Rose Fruit

Brier Fruit; Cspikeróza átermés; Cynorrhodon; Cynosbati Fructus; Cynosbati Pseudofructus; Dog Rose Fruits; Églantier; Erškēčiy vaisiai; Escaramujo; Hips; Hypanthium Rosae; Nypon; Rosae Fructus; Rosae pseudo-fructus; Rose Hips; Ruusunmarja; Šipek.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Eur.* (see p.vii) and *Jpn.*

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Dog Rose). The rose hips made up by the receptacle and the remains of the dried sepals of *Rosa canina*, *R. pendulina*, and other *Rosa* spp., with the achenes removed. It contains not less than 0.3% of ascorbic acid, calculated with reference to the dried drug. Protect from light.

Profile

The fruits of various *Rosa* species, in particular the dog rose, *R. canina*, are used as a source of vitamin C (p.1983). Rose fruit is included in herbal preparations for constipation and urinary-tract disorders.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

UK: LitoZin.

Multi-ingredient. Arg.: Vitamina C-Complex; **Austral.:** Bio C; Bioglan Mega C; Bioglan Super Cal C; C Supa + Bioflavonoids; Flavons; Glycyrhiza Complex; Plantiodine Plus; Sustained Release C; **Austria:** Amersan; **Chile:** Calcio 520; Natursel-C; Reduc-Te; Romox-ARL; **Cz.:** Amersan; Bronchicum Hustersirup†; Pruduškova; Stoffwechseltee N†; **Ger.:** Nephronorm med†; **Ital.:** Angiorex Complex; Golapiol C; Longevital; Nepiros; Sambuco (Specie Composita)†; **Malaysia:** Nat-C; **Philipp.:** Delrosa; **Pol.:** Cholesol; Diabetofort; Diges-Tonic; Echinasal; Sedomix; Tiliros; **Rus.:** Bronchicum Husten (Бронхикум Хустон или Кашля); **Switz.:** A Vogel Capsules polyvitaminees†; Tisane contre les refroidissements; **Thai.:** Nat-C Medici-rafts; **UK:** GlucOsamax; Top C; **USA:** Amino-Opti-C; C Factors "1000" Plus; Ester-C Plus; Ester-C Plus Multi-Mineral; **Venez.:** Ro-C-Var.

Rose Oil

Attar of Rose; Esencia de Rosa; Oleum Rosae; Otto of Rose; Rosa, aceite esencial de.

Pharmacopoeias. In *USNF*.

USNF 26 (Rose Oil). A volatile oil distilled with steam from the fresh flowers of *Rosa gallica*, *R. damascena*, *R. alba*, *R. centifolia*, and varieties of these species (Rosaceae). It is a colourless or yellow liquid, having the characteristic odour of rose. At 25° it is a viscous liquid. On gradual cooling, it changes to a translucent, crystalline mass, easily liquefied by warming. Miscible with an equal volume of chloroform. Store in well-filled airtight containers.

Profile

Rose oil is largely employed in perfumery and toilet preparations and has been used as a flavour. It is also used in aromatherapy. It contains citronellol. Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported.

Preparations

USNF 26: Stronger Rose Water;

USP 31: Rose Water Ointment.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Hung.: Naksolt†.

Multi-ingredient. Arg.: Estri-Atlas; **Chile:** Cicapost; **Ger.:** Rosatum Heil-salbe; **Port.:** Cicapost.

Rosemary

Romarin; Romarin (rosemary leaf); Roris Marini; Rosmariniinlehti (rosemary leaf); Rosmarin; Rosmarinblad (rosemary leaf); Rosmarini folium (rosemary leaf); Rozmaringlevél (rosemary leaf); Rozmariny lapai (rosemary leaf); Rozmarýnový list (rosemary leaf).

Pharmacopoeias. *Eur.* (see p.vii) includes the dried leaf.

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Rosemary Leaf; Rosmarini Folium). The whole, dried leaf of *Rosmarinus officinalis*. It contains not less than 1.2% w/w of essential oil and not less than 3% of total hydroxy-cinnamic derivatives, expressed as rosmarinic acid ($C_{18}H_{16}O_8 = 360.3$) both with reference to the anhydrous drug.

Profile

Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*, Lamiaceae) has rubefacient and mild analgesic activity when applied topically, and is included in external preparations for rheumatic and circulatory disorders. It is also reported to have carminative, spasmolytic, and diuretic effects and is included in herbal preparations for gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and urinary-tract disorders.

Rosemary is a source of rosemary oil (below).

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Braz.: Alnrite.

Multi-ingredient. Arg.: Acnetrol; Sequal; **Austral.:** Avena Complex; Garlic Allium Complex; Vitanox; **Austria:** Euka; **Chile:** Rhos Opodeldoc; Romox-ARL; **Cz.:** Hertz- und Kreislaufftee†; Naturland Grosser Swedenbitter†; **Fr.:** Depuratum; Hepax; Mediflor Tisane Contre la Constipation Passagère No 7; Mediflor Tisane Digestive No 3; Mediflor Tisane Hépatique No 5; Romarene; **Ger.:** Canephron; JuViton†; Melissengetee-De-Plantina†; **Mon.:** Romanex; **Pol.:** Cardiactiv; **Rus.:** Canephron N (Канефрон Н); **Spain:** Linimento Naion; Mesat†; Natutor Hepavesical†; Natutor Low Blood Pressure†; Natutor Sinulan†; Resolutivo Regium; **Switz.:** Phytomed Cardio; **Venez.:** Floca-dep.

Rosemary Oil

Esencia de Romero; Essence de Romanin; Essência de Alecrim; Oleum Roris Marini; Oleum Rosmarini; Romarin, huile essentielle de; Romero, aceite esencial de; Rosmariniölj; Rosmarini aetheroleum; Rosmarini Etheroleum; Rosmarinöl; Rosmarinolja; Rozmaringolaj; Rozmariny eterinis aliejus; Rozmarýnová silice.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Eur.* (see p.vii).

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Rosemary Oil). The essential oil obtained by steam distillation from the flowering aerial parts of *Rosmarinus officinalis*. It is available as Spanish type rosemary oil and Moroccan and Tunisian type rosemary oil. Spanish type rosemary oil contains 2.0 to 4.5% borneol, 0.5 to 2.5% bornyl acetate, 8.0 to 12.0% camphene, 13.0 to 21.0% camphor, 16.0 to 25.0% cineole, 1.0 to 2.2% *p*-cymene, 2.5 to 5.0% limonene, 1.5 to 5.0% β -myrcene, 18 to 26% α -pinene, 2.0 to 6.0% β -pinene, 1.0 to 3.5% α -terpineol, and 0.7 to 2.5% verbenone. Moroccan and Tunisian type rosemary oil contains 1.5 to 5.0% borneol, 0.1 to 1.5% bornyl acetate, 2.5 to 6.0% camphene, 5.0 to 15.0% camphor, 38.0 to 55.0% cineole, 0.8 to 2.5% *p*-cymene, 1.5 to 4.0% limonene, 1.0 to 2.0% β -myrcene, 9.0 to 14.0% α -pinene, 4.0 to 9.0% β -pinene, 1.0 to 2.6% α -terpineol, and a maximum of 0.4% verbenone.

A clear, mobile, colourless to pale yellow liquid with a characteristic odour. Store in well-filled airtight containers at a temperature not exceeding 25°. Protect from light.

Profile

Rosemary oil is carminative and mildly irritant. It is used in perfumery and as a flavour and has been employed in hair lotions, inhalations, and liniments. It is also used in aromatherapy.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Ger.: Caprisana†; Rosapinol.

Multi-ingredient. Arg.: Bano Liquido con Eucalipto†; **Austral.:** Bacopa Complex; Bosisto's Vaporising Ointment; Euky Bearub; Tixily Chest Rub†; **Austria:** Bergeest; Carl Baders Divinal; Criniton; Opino; Pulmex; Rheuma; Rowalind; Salhum†; **Belg.:** Perubore; Pulmex; Pulmex Baby; **Braz.:** Alivioli; Analgent†; Benegel; Gelfex; Gelo†; Gelonevral†; Mialgex†; Nevrol; **Chile:** Agua del Carmen; Agua Melisa Carminativa; Lefkafiam; Pulmex†; **Cz.:** Pulmex Baby†; Pulmex†; Thrombocid; **Fr.:** Aromasol; Dinacode†; Item Lentex; Maghora; Perubore; **Ger.:** Arthrodeformat P†; Arthrodynat P†; Cor-Vel; Criniton†; Dolo-cyl†; Hingfong-Essenz Hofmanns; Leukona-Kreislauf-Bad†; Leukona-Rheumasalbe†; polio-elan; Retterspitz Ausserlich; Retterspitz Quick; Rheuma Bad; Rosarthron†; Tettesep Badekonzentrat Rheuma Bad†; Thrombocid; Top-Sabona†; Vaxicum NA†; Weleda-Rheumasalbe M; **Gr.:** Opino-jel†; **Indon.:** Opino; **Ital.:** Calypotol; Cinarepe; Neuralta Migren; Valda Propoli; Vicks Vapo Rub; Vicks Baby Balsam; **Pol.:** Argol Rheuma; Aromagel; Depulol; Pulmex Baby; **Port.:** Thrombocid; **Rus.:** Carmolis Fluid (Кармолис Жидкость)†; Pulmex (Пульмекс)†; Pulmex Baby (Пульмекс Бэби)†; Theraflu Bro (Терафлю Брод)†; **S.Afr.:** Amica Massage Oil; Balsam Vita CEEL; Balsam Vita ROOL; Entressdruppels HM†; Oleum Salviae Comp; Rooilavental; Stuidruppels; **Spain:** Beta Romero; Dolokey; Linimento Klar†; Masagil; Tonimax; **Switz.:** Carmol; Carmol Plus†; Frigoplasma†; Frixo-Drag-on Vert†; Liberoil Bain†; Nasobol N†; Novital; Perskindol Classic; Perubare†; Pulmex; Pulmex Baby; Spagyrom; Thrombocid; Wolo Medicinal bain antirhumatismal; Ziegella; **UK:** Adiantine; Amica Massage Bain; Medicated Extract of Rosemary; Soothol.

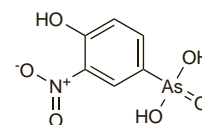
Roxarsone (BAN, USAN, rINN)

NSC-2101; Roxarsone; Roxarsonum. 4-Hydroxy-3-nitrophenylarsonic acid.

Роксарсон

$C_6H_6AsNO_6 = 263.0$.

CAS — 121-19-7.



Pharmacopoeias. In *US* for veterinary use only.

USP 31 (Roxarsone). A pale yellow, crystalline powder. Slightly soluble in cold water; soluble in boiling water; freely soluble in dehydrated alcohol, in acetic acid, in acetone, in methyl alco-