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19. VanArsdale JL, *et al.* Lead poisoning from a toy necklace. *Pediatrics* 2004; **114**: 1096–9.
20. Guillard O, *et al.* A case of acute lead poisoning in a 2-year-old child. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* 2006; **62**: 246–7.
21. Berkowitz S, Tarrago R. Acute brain herniation from lead toxicity. *Pediatrics* 2006; **118**: 2548–51.

Treatment of Adverse Effects

The main aim in the management of both acute and chronic lead poisoning is to control the symptoms and reduce the concentration of lead in the body. Patients should be removed from the source of exposure and iron and calcium deficiencies corrected. Treatment of acute symptomatic poisoning entails supportive therapy including intravenous fluids. Renal and hepatic function should also be monitored and convulsions controlled with a benzodiazepine. Encephalopathy, which is rare in adults but more common in children, requires urgent treatment.

Acute ingestion of lead or its salts should be treated if appropriate by activated charcoal or gastric lavage if within 1 hour of ingestion of a potentially life-threatening dose. Emesis is not recommended for organic lead compounds.

In severe cases of inorganic or organic lead poisoning, chelation therapy may be required to facilitate removal of lead from the body. A lead mobilisation test that measures urinary excretion of lead after a standard dose of sodium calcium edetate (p.1462) has been widely used as a means of assessing the need for therapy. However, because of difficulties in administering the test and uncertainties in interpreting results, some authorities have recommended blood-lead concentrations as a guide to treatment. The lead mobilisation test in addition to measurement of blood-lead concentrations may be useful in determining the necessity for chelation therapy in children (see below). Blood-lead concentrations should be obtained before starting chelation therapy, and then again after the first course since mobilisation of stored lead from body tissues may cause blood-lead concentrations to rebound after an initial drop; a second course of chelator may then be required. Raised blood-lead concentrations despite chelation therapy could also indicate continued exposure.

Chelation therapy is not indicated for children with a blood-lead concentration less than 25 micrograms per 100 mL. Children with a blood-lead concentration of 25 to 44 micrograms per 100 mL and a positive sodium calcium edetate mobilisation test should be considered for treatment with oral succimer (p.1466); alternative chelators are oral penicillamine (p.1456), and in the USA but not UK, dimercaprol (p.1444). For blood-lead concentrations of 45 to 70 micrograms per 100 mL, oral succimer should be given, followed by a second course if necessary. If encephalopathy is present or blood-lead concentrations are over 70 micrograms per 100 mL, parenteral sodium calcium edetate should be given with monitoring of renal and hepatic function, followed by a second course of chelator if necessary. In the USA, dimercaprol is given with sodium calcium edetate and 4 hours before the first dose; While dimercaprol has been used in the UK, it is not currently recommended as first-line treatment for lead poisoning.

It is considered that asymptomatic adults do not generally require chelation therapy. Symptomatic adults without encephalopathy may be treated with succimer; alternatives are unithiol, penicillamine or sodium calcium edetate. Adults with severe toxicity or encephalopathy should be treated with parenteral sodium calcium edetate followed by a second course if necessary. As with children (see above), dimercaprol is given with sodium calcium edetate in the USA but not in the UK.

Lead foreign bodies may need to be removed surgically or endoscopically to prevent further exposure. Long-term management of chronic lead poisoning involves eliminating environmental lead exposure. Chelation therapy is not a substitute for environmental controls in those suffering occupational exposure.

◇ Results from one study¹ indicated that succimer did not improve scores on tests of cognition, behaviour, or neuropsychological function despite lowering blood levels of lead in children who had initial levels of less than 45 micrograms per 100 mL. The authors suggested that, since succimer is as effective a chelator as any other currently available, chelation therapy in general may not be beneficial in children with these blood-lead levels.

1. Rogan WJ, *et al.* The effect of chelation therapy with succimer on neuropsychological development in children exposed to lead. *N Engl J Med* 2001; **344**: 1421–6.

Lead in the Environment

Many countries have taken action to reduce lead exposure from environmental sources, including food, paint, and petrol, by limiting or banning altogether the use of lead compounds in such sources. Such measures have been of value in reducing childhood exposure to lead. Screening of all children to detect those at risk of chronic lead poisoning and developmental deficit has been advocated, but selective screening in areas perceived as high risk may be more appropriate in countries where the overall level of lead contamination is low.

Pharmacokinetics

Lead is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract. It is also absorbed by the lungs from dust particles or fumes.

Inorganic lead is not absorbed through intact skin, but organic lead compounds may be absorbed rapidly.

Lead is distributed in the soft tissues, with higher concentrations in the liver and kidneys. In the blood it is associated with the erythrocytes. Over a period of time lead accumulates in the body and is deposited in calcified bone, hair, and teeth. Lead crosses the placental barrier. It is excreted in the faeces, urine, and sweat, and also appears in breast milk.

Uses and Administration

Lead compounds were formerly used as astringents, but the medicinal use of preparations containing lead is no longer recommended. The lead salts or compounds that have been used have included lead acetate and lead subacetate (for lead lotion, still known sometimes as lotio plumbi), lead carbonate, lead monoxide, and lead oleate (for lead plaster-mass).

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: *Austria:* Vulpuran; *Mex.:* Emplasto Monopolis.

Lecithin

E322; E442 (ammonium phosphatides); Lécithine; Lecithinum; Lecitina; Lestitiner.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Ger.* Also in *USNF*.

USNF 26 (Lecithin). A complex mixture of acetone-insoluble phosphatides, which consists chiefly of phosphatidyl choline, phosphatidyl olamine, phosphatidyl serine, and phosphatidyl inositol, combined with various amounts of other substances such as triglycerides, fatty acids, and carbohydrates, as separated from the crude vegetable oil source. It contains not less than 50% of acetone-insoluble matter.

The consistency of both natural grades and refined grades of lecithin may vary from plastic to fluid, depending upon the content of free fatty acid and oil, and upon the presence or absence of other diluents. Its colour varies from light yellow to brown, depending on the source, on crop variations, and on whether it is bleached or unbleached.

It is odourless or has a characteristic, slight nutlike odour. It is partially soluble in water, but readily hydrates to form emulsions. The oil-free phosphatides are soluble in fatty acids, but are practically insoluble in fixed oils. When all phosphatide fractions are present, lecithin is partially soluble in alcohol and practically insoluble in acetone.

Profile

Lecithin is an emulsifying and stabilising agent used in both the pharmaceutical and the food industries.

Lecithin has also been used as a source of choline in the treatment of dementia (p.362) but with little evidence of clinical benefit. Phosphatidyl serine (p.2367) has been used similarly. Other constituents of lecithin such as phosphatidyl olamine and phosphatidyl inositol may be found in natural pulmonary surfactants (p.2375).

Lecithin is also an ingredient of preparations promoted as tonics and dietary supplements in an enormous range of disorders.

◇ References.

1. Higgins JPT, Flicker L. Lecithin for dementia and cognitive impairment. Available in The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews; Issue 4. Chichester: John Wiley; 2000 (accessed 14/02/06).

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Arg.: Herbaccion Lecitina; Reducin; **Austral.:** Buerlecinthin; **Austria:** Buerlecinthin Compact; Dermo WAS; **Cz.:** Buerlecinthin; Essentiale Nt; **Ger.:** Buerlecinthin; **India:** Essentiale-L; **Indon.:** Neurochol; **Mex.:** Leciderm; **Pol.:** Lecitin; **Port.:** Pansebase Solido; **Switz.:** Buerlecinthin Compact; **Venez.:** Lecivar.

Multi-ingredient: **Arg.:** Ayton; Cholesterol Reducing Plan; Herbaccion Memory; KLB6 Fruit Diet; No-Gras; Prueboi; Sojasterol; Top Life Diet; **Austral.:** Berberis Complex; Bioglan Zellulean with Escin; Extralife Arthritis Care; Extralife Extra-Brite; Extralife Liva-Care; ML 20; Plantidine Plus; **Austria:** Bilatin; Buerlecinthin; Leckur; **Canad.:** Complex 15; Kyolic 104; **Chile:** Cartilago T-500; **Cz.:** Vita Buerlecinthin; **Fr.:** Cholegerol; **Ger.:** Hicoton; Lipidavit; Tears Again; Vita Buerlecinthin; **Hong Kong:** Apaisac; Ginkgo-PS; Vani-Nutrocomil; **India:** Livage; **Indon.:** BIO-EPL; Cholesiv; Curson; Epatin; Hepachol; Lanagogum; Lanaven Plus; Lesichol; Nutrilam; Verona; **Ital.:** Nutrigel; Ottovis; Solecin; Tricortin; **Malaysia:** Livguard; **Mex.:** Lecifar-K; **Philipp.:** Korgivit-E; Liverine; Memori Plus; Memory DD; **Pol.:** Leciga; Lecytyna E; **Port.:** Pansebase; Pansebase Composto; Secpel; Secpel Composto; **Singapore:** Ginkgo-PS; **Switz.:** Biovital Ginseng; Vita Buerlecinthin; **Thai:** Wari-Procomil; **UK:** Kelp Plus 3; S.P.H.P.; **USA:** KLB6; **Venez.:** Lecivar Plus.

Leishmanin

Leishmanina.

Profile

Leishmanin is a suspension of *Leishmania* promastigotes used in an intradermal test to indicate previous exposure to leishmanial antigens. Its chief use is in epidemiological studies of leishmaniasis (p.824). The leishmanin skin test has also been known as the Montenegro test.

Lemon

Pharmacopoeias. *Br.* includes dried lemon peel and *Swiss* includes fresh lemon peel.

BP 2008 (Dried Lemon Peel). The dried outer part of the pericarp of the ripe, or nearly ripe, fruit of *Citrus limon*. It contains not less than 2.5% v/w of volatile oil.

Profile

Lemon, *Citrus limon* (*Citrus limonum*) (Rutaceae), is an ingredient of herbal remedies used for gastrointestinal disorders and as tonics. The juice is traditionally included in preparations for colds and coughs. Lemon is a source of bioflavonoids used to improve capillary function (see Flavonoid Compounds, p.2304). The peel is the source of lemon oil (p.2332). Citrus fruits are a source of vitamin C (p.1983).

Photosensitivity is associated with citrus oils.

Preparations

BP 2008: Concentrated Compound Gentian Infusion;

USNF 26: Lemon Tincture.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: *Austria:* Gencydo; **Braz.:** Balsamo Branco; **Ger.:** Doppelherz Melissegeist; Gencydo; **Ital.:** Altadine; **Port.:** Erpecalm; **Rus.:** Doppelherz Melissa (Доппельгерц Мелисса); **Switz.:** Gencydo.

Lemon Oil

Aetheroleum Citri; Citri Etheroleum; Citrinų eterinis aliejus; Citromolaj; Citron, huile essentielle de; Citronenöl; Citronolja; Citronová silice; Esencia de Cidra; Essence de Citron; Essência de Limão; Limón, aceite esencial de; Limonis aetheroleum; Ol. Limon; Olejek cytrynowy; Oleum Citri; Oleum Limonis; Sitruunaöljy.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Eur.* (see p.vii). Also in *USNF*.

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Lemon Oil). The essential oil obtained by suitable mechanical means without the aid of heat from the fresh peel of *Citrus limon*. It contains a maximum of 0.5% β-caryophyllene, 0.5 to 2.3% geranial, 0.1 to 0.8% geranyl acetate, 56.0 to 78.0% limonene, 0.3 to 1.5% neral, 0.2 to 0.9% neryl acetate, 7.0 to 17.0% β-pinene, 1.0 to 3.0% sabinene, 6.0 to 12.0% γ-terpinene, and a maximum of 0.6% α-terpineol.

A clear mobile pale yellow to greenish-yellow liquid with a characteristic odour. It may become cloudy at low temperatures. Store in well-filled airtight containers at a temperature not exceeding 25°. Protect from light. Where applicable the label should state that the contents are Italian-type lemon oil.

USNF 26 (Lemon Oil). The volatile oil obtained by expression, without the aid of heat, from the fresh peel of the fruit of *Citrus × limon* (Rutaceae), with or without the previous separation of the pulp and the peel. The total aldehyde content, calculated as citral, is not less than 2.2% and not more than 3.8% for California-type lemon oil, and not less than 3.0% and not more than 5.5% for Italian-type lemon oil. Store in well-filled airtight containers.

Profile

Lemon oil is chiefly used in perfumery and as a flavour. It is used in the preparation of terpeneless lemon oil (below). It has also been used with other volatile agents in rubefacient preparations and preparations for respiratory-tract disorders. Both lemon oil and lemon petitgrain oils (prepared from the leaves and twigs) are used in aromatherapy.

Photosensitivity reactions and contact dermatitis have been reported.

Preparations

BP 2008: Aromatic Ammonia Spirit;

USNF 26: Compound Orange Spirit.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **Austral.:** Genuine Australian Eucalyptus Drops; **Austria:** Spasmo Claim; **Canad.:** SH-206; **Chile:** Agua del Carmen; Agua Mellisa Carminativa; **Cz.:** Amol; Coldastop; **Fr.:** Ephydrol; Poudre du Marcheur; **Ger.:** Amol Heilkräutergeist N; Babix-Wundsalbe Nt; GeloSitin; Melissegeist; **Indon.:** OBH; **Israel:** Garonsept; **Ital.:** Eskolin; Valda Timo e Limone; Venalta; **NZ:** Electric Blue Headlice; Lemsp Dry Cough; **Pol.:** Amol; Argol Essenza Balsamica; Argol Grip; Argol Rheuma; Aromatol; Carmolis; **Rus.:** Carmolis (Кармолис); **S.Afr.:** Balsem Vita GEEL; Balsem Vita ROOL; Spiritus Contra Tussim Drops; **Switz.:** Alcolat de Melisse; Carmol; Neo-Angin au miel et citron; Perskindol Classic; Pirom; Sansilla; Sibrovita; **UK:** Melissa Comp; **USA:** Mexsana.

Terpeneless Lemon Oil

Limón exento de terpeno, aceite esencial de; Oleum Limonis Deterpenatum.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Br.*

BP 2008 (Terpeneless Lemon Oil). A clear colourless or pale yellow liquid, visibly free from water, with the characteristic odour and taste of lemon, prepared by concentrating lemon oil under reduced pressure until most of the terpenes have been removed, or by solvent partition. It contains not less than 40% w/w of aldehydes calculated as citral. Soluble 1 in 1 of alcohol (80%). Store in well-filled containers at a temperature not exceeding 25°. Protect from light.

Profile

Terpeneless lemon oil is used as a flavour. It has the advantages of being stronger in taste and odour and more readily soluble

than the natural oil and is used in the preparation of lemon spirit and lemon syrup.

Photosensitivity is associated with citrus oils.

Preparations

BP 2008: Compound Orange Spirit; Lemon Spirit; Lemon Syrup.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **UK:** Lemsip Cough & Cold Dry Cough; Meltus Honey & Lemon.

Lemon Grass Oil

Essência de Capim-Limão; Indian Melissa Oil; Indian Verbena Oil; Lemongrass, aceite de; Lemongrass Oil; Oleum Graminis Citrati.

Profile

Lemon grass oil is the volatile oil obtained by distillation from *Cymbopogon flexuosus* or *C. citratus* (Gramineae). It contains citral (p.2284) and citronellal.

Lemon grass oil was formerly given as a carminative. It has been used in perfumery and as a flavour. It is also used in aromatherapy.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **Austral:** Apex Repel Natural; **NZ:** Apex Repel Natural; **Switz:** Carmol; Carmol Plus†.

Lemon Verbena

Herba Lippiae Citriodorae; Herba Verbenae Odoratae; Hierba Luisa; Verbenae citriodoratae folium (lemon verbena leaf); Verveine Odorante; Verveine odorante, feuille de (lemon verbena leaf).

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

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Lemon Verdana Leaf). The whole or fragmented, dried leaves of *Aloysia citriodora* (A. triphylla, *Verbena triphylla*, *Lippia citriodora*). It contains a minimum of 2.5% acteoside (C₂₉H₃₀O₁₅ = 624.6) expressed as ferulic acid and not less than 0.3% v/w essential oil for the whole drug and 0.2% v/w essential oil for the fragmented drug, all calculated with reference to the dried drug. After grinding it has a characteristic odour reminiscent of lemon.

Profile

Lemon verbena, the flowering tops or leaves of *Lippia citriodora* (*Aloysia triphylla*, *Verbena triphylla*) (Verbenaceae), has antispasmodic and sedative actions and has been used for gastrointestinal disorders and as a tonic. It is most commonly used as an ingredient of herbal teas.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **Spain:** Agua del Carmen.

Lentinan

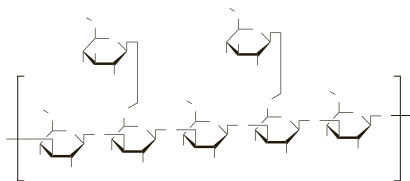
LC-33; Lentinano.

ЛЕНТИНАН

CAS — 37339-90-5.

ATC — L03AX01.

ATC Vet — QL03AX01.



Profile

Lentinan is a β-1,3-D-glucan extracted from the shiitake mushroom *Lentinus edodes* (*Lentinula edodes*). It appears to act as an immunostimulant and has been tried in the treatment of malignant neoplasms and in HIV infection.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **USA:** Better Cholesterol.

Lepromin

Lepromina.

Profile

Lepromin is a suspension of killed *Mycobacterium leprae* prepared from the skin of heavily infected patients suffering from lepromatous leprosy (lepromin H) or from armadillo tissue infected with *M. leprae* (lepromin A). It is used in an intradermal

skin test for the classification of leprosy (p.176) and the assessment of immune responsiveness to *M. leprae*. The test is not diagnostic for leprosy.

◇ The original lepromin (of Mitsuda and Hayashi), a suspension of the whole autoclaved homogenised leproma including some tissue elements, is sometimes called integral lepromin, whereas purified bacillary suspensions are sometimes called bacillary lepromins.¹ Leprolins are the soluble proteins of the bacilli with or without proteins of the lepra, not coagulated by heating, and do not elicit the early reaction. The Dharmendra antigen is neither a lepromin nor a leprolin and is used especially for testing the early reactions; it gives only a weak late reaction. Purified protein derivatives of *Mycobacterium leprae*, such as leprosin A,² have also been developed.

1. Abe M, *et al.* Immunological problems in leprosy research. *Lepr Rev* 1974; **45**: 244–72.

2. Stanford JL. Skin testing with mycobacterial reagents in leprosy. *Tubercle* 1984; **65**: 63–74.

Leptin

Leptina; OB protein.

Лептин

Profile

Leptin, an endogenous peptide hormone produced mainly by white adipocytes in adipose tissue, is involved in the long-term maintenance of body-weight through regulation of food intake and energy expenditure. Leptin has a negative feedback effect on hypothalamic control of neurotransmitters involved in the control of appetite: thus, an increase in adipose tissue mass results in an increase in leptin concentrations that in turn suppresses expression of appetite stimulatory peptides and *vice versa*. Mutations of either the leptin receptor or the *ob* gene that encodes the leptin protein result in failure of leptin's control over appetite producing forms of morbid early-onset obesity. However, it is not clear that common obesity (p.2149) is associated with similar genetic mutations or, as also postulated, is associated with functional leptin resistance caused by sustained high leptin concentrations.

Leptin is produced in other tissues, and studies have suggested additional functions and properties including modulation of neuroendocrine, immune, and reproductive processes. The potential role of leptin in a variety of disease states including syndromes of insulin resistance, auto-immune diseases, and cardiovascular disorders is also being studied.

Replacement therapy with recombinant leptin is under investigation in the management of obesity as well as some other disorders including generalised lipodystrophy and hypothalamic amenorrhoea secondary to energy deficits or low body-weight.

◇ References.

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- Oral EA, *et al.* Leptin-replacement therapy for lipodystrophy. *N Engl J Med* 2002; **346**: 570–8.
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- Brennan AM, Mantzoros CS. Drug insight: the role of leptin in human physiology and pathophysiology — emerging clinical applications. *Nat Clin Pract Endocrinol Metab* 2006; **2**: 318–27.
- Ebihara K, *et al.* Efficacy and safety of leptin-replacement therapy and possible mechanisms of leptin actions in patients with generalized lipodystrophy. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2007; **92**: 532–41.
- Chan JL, *et al.* Pharmacokinetics of recombinant methionyl human leptin after subcutaneous administration: variation of concentration-dependent parameters according to assay. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2007; **92**: 2307–11.

Lerdelimumab (rINN)

Lérdelimumab; Lerdelimumabum. Immunoglobulin G4, anti-(human transforming growth factor β2) (human monoclonal CAT-152 γ4-chain), disulfide with human monoclonal CAT-152 λ-chain, dimer.

Лерделимуаб

CAS — 285985-06-0.

Profile

Lerdelimumab is a human monoclonal antibody specific for transforming growth factor β2 that has been investigated for the prevention of excessive postoperative scarring after glaucoma surgery.

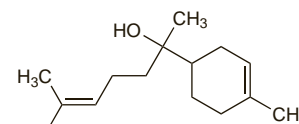
Levomenol (rINN)

(–)-α-Bisabolol; Lévoménol; Levomenolum; Lewomenol. (–)-6-Methyl-2-(4-methyl-3-cyclohexen-1-yl)-5-hepten-2-ol.

ЛЕВОМЕНОЛ

C₁₅H₂₆O = 222.4.

CAS — 23089-26-1.



Profile

Levomenol is a sesquiterpene isolated from the volatile oil of chamomile (p.2279). It has been tried as a transepidermal penetration enhancer and is present in many emollient preparations.

◇ References.

- Kadir R, Barry BW. α-Bisabolol, a possible safe penetration enhancer for dermal and transdermal therapeutics. *Int J Pharmaceutics* 1991; **70**: 87–94.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: **Arg:** Confortel†; Keracnyl; **Austria:** Sencutan; **Belg:** Purigel Crisp; **Chile:** Cuidado Intimo; Eucerin Piel Grasa; Queratopli; Rubonil; Suavigel; **Cz:** Fyterol†; Sencutan; **Fr:** Alpha 5 DS†; Apaisance†; Clean AC; Dermophil Indien†; Epiphane†; Keracnyl; Keracnyl eau nettoyante; Seborheane; Squaphane E; Telfrax; **Ger:** Mirfulan Spray N; Sencutan; **Hong Kong:** Kamillosan†; **Ital:** Biothymus DS; Broxo al Fluoro; Decon Lavanda; Intim; Pitiren; Saugella Poligin 7; Tial-Z; **Mex:** Aveendx; **Port:** Hidratante VV; Lactonico†; **Switz:** Antidry; Dermophil Indien; Tenderdol; **Thal:** Kamillosan†; **UK:** Xclair; **Venez:** Kamillosan.

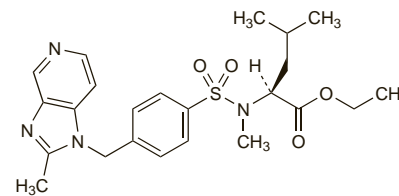
Lexipafant (BAN, USAN, rINN)

BB-882; DO-6; Lexipafantum. Ethyl N-methyl-N-[α-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl)tosyl]-L-leucinate.

Лексипафант

C₂₃H₃₀N₄O₄S = 458.6.

CAS — 139133-26-9.



Profile

Lexipafant is a platelet-activating factor antagonist that is being investigated in the prevention of neurological and renal complications after cardiac surgery. It has also been studied for possible applications in asthma, sepsis, and pancreatitis.

Linseed

Flaxseed; Linsamen; Lenmag; Lin; Lin, graine de; Linaza; Linfrö; Linho; Lini semen; Lini Semina; Linum; Lnéné semeno; Nasienie Inu; Pellavansiemen; Séménys; Semilla de Lino.

ATC — A06AC05.

ATC Vet — QA06AC05.

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

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Linseed). The dried ripe seeds of *Linum usitatissimum*. Protect from light.

Profile

Preparations of linseed have been administered for their demulcent and laxative actions. Crushed linseed has been used as a

The symbol † denotes a preparation no longer actively marketed