

(procyclidine)

**Pharmacopoeias.** In *Br.* and *US.*

**BP 2008** (Procyclidine Hydrochloride). A white, odourless or almost odourless, crystalline powder. Sparingly soluble in water; soluble in alcohol; practically insoluble in acetone and in ether. A 1% solution in water has a pH of 4.5 to 6.5.

**USP 31** (Procyclidine Hydrochloride). A white crystalline powder, having a moderate characteristic odour. Soluble 1 in 35 of water, 1 in 9 of alcohol, 1 in 6 of chloroform, and 1 in 11 000 of ether; insoluble in acetone. pH of a 1% solution in water is between 5.0 and 6.5. Store in a dry place in airtight containers. Protect from light.

**Adverse Effects, Treatment, and Precautions**

As for Atropine Sulfate, p.1219. Psychotic episodes may be precipitated in patients with mental disorders when procyclidine is used for the treatment of drug-induced extrapyramidal syndrome.

**Abuse.** Like other antimuscarinics (see also under Trihexyphenidyl Hydrochloride, p.820) procyclidine has been abused for its euphoriant effects.<sup>1,2</sup>

1. McGucken RB, *et al.* Teenage procyclidine abuse. *Lancet* 1985; **1**: 1514.
2. Dooris B, Reid C. Feigning dystonia to feed an unusual drug addiction. *J Accid Emerg Med* 2000; **17**: 311.

**Interactions**

As for antimuscarinics in general (see Atropine Sulfate, p.1220).

Paroxetine increases plasma-procylidine concentrations and it is recommended that the dose of procyclidine should be reduced if antimuscarinic effects are seen in patients receiving both drugs.

**Pharmacokinetics**

Procyclidine hydrochloride is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and bioavailability has been reported to be 75% after oral doses; it disappears rapidly from the tissues. Procyclidine given intravenously acts within 5 to 20 minutes and has a duration of effect of up to 4 hours. The mean plasma elimination half-life after oral or intravenous doses is about 12 hours. About one-fifth of an oral dose is metabolised in the liver, mainly by the cytochrome P450 isoenzymes, followed by conjugation with glucuronic acid. A small amount of unchanged drug is excreted in the urine.

## ◇ References.

1. Whiteman PD, *et al.* Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of procyclidine in man. *Eur J Clin Pharmacol* 1985; **28**: 73–8.

**Uses and Administration**

Procyclidine hydrochloride is a tertiary amine antimuscarinic with actions and uses similar to those of trihexyphenidyl (p.820). It is used for the symptomatic treatment of parkinsonism (p.791), including the alleviation of the extrapyramidal syndrome induced by drugs such as phenothiazines, but, like other antimuscarinics, is of no value against tardive dyskinesias. It has been used in the treatment of dystonias (but see under Uses and Administration of Levodopa, p.809).

In **parkinsonism**, the initial oral dose of 2.5 mg three times daily may be increased gradually by 2.5 to 5 mg every 2 or 3 days (or by 2.5 mg daily if used for drug-induced extrapyramidal syndrome) until the optimum maintenance dose, usually 10 to 30 mg daily in 3 (or occasionally 4) divided doses, is reached; daily doses of up to 60 mg have occasionally been required. As a rule, postencephalitic patients tolerate and require the larger doses; elderly and arteriosclerotic patients may require smaller doses.

In emergency, 5 to 10 mg may be given by intravenous injection; higher doses have sometimes been used. The intramuscular route has also been employed: 5 to 10 mg may be given as a single injection, repeated if necessary after 20 minutes to a maximum of 20 mg daily. Parenteral doses are usually effective within 5 to 10 minutes but may need 30 minutes to produce relief.

Although not licensed in the UK for management of **dystonias in children**, the *BNFC* suggests oral doses of 1.25 mg 3 times daily in those aged 7 to 12 years, and 2.5 mg 3 times daily in those aged 12 to 18 years. In an emergency, a single dose may be given by intramuscular or intravenous injection to children as follows: aged under 2 years, 0.5 to 2 mg; 2 to 10 years, 2 to 5 mg; 10 to 18 years, 5 to 10 mg or occasionally more.

**Preparations**

**BP 2008:** Procyclidine Injection; Procyclidine Tablets;  
**USP 31:** Procyclidine Hydrochloride Tablets.

**Proprietary Preparations** (details are given in Part 3)

**Austria:** Kemadrin; **Belg.:** Kemadrin; **Canad.:** Kemadrin†; Procyclid†; **Cz.:** Kemadrin; **Denm.:** Kemadrin; **Ger.:** Osnervan; **Hung.:** Kemadrin; **India:** Kemadrin; **Ir.:** Kemadrin; **Israel:** Kemadrin; **Ital.:** Kemadrin†; **Malaysia:** Kemadrin†; **NZ:** Kemadrin; **Spain:** Kemadrin; **Switz.:** Kemadrin; **UK:** Arpicolin; Kemadrin; Muscinil†; **USA:** Kemadrin.

**Profenamine Hydrochloride** (*BANM, rINN*)

Cloridrato de Profenamina; Ethopropazine Hydrochloride; Hidrocloruro de profenamina; Isothazine Hydrochloride; Profenamine, Chlorhydrate de; Profenamine Hydrochloridum; Prophenamini Chloridum. 10-(2-Diethylaminopropyl)phenothiazine hydrochloride.

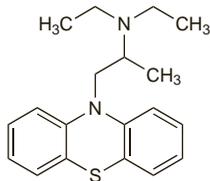
Профенamina Гидрохлорид

$C_{19}H_{24}N_2S \cdot HCl = 348.9$ .

CAS — 522-00-9 (*profenamine*); 1094-08-2 (*profenamine hydrochloride*).

ATC — N04AA05.

ATC Vet — QN04AA05.



(profenamine)

**Adverse Effects, Treatment, and Precautions**

As for Atropine Sulfate, p.1219.

Profenamine may also cause muscle cramps, paraesthesia, and a sense of heaviness in the limbs, epigastric discomfort, and nausea.

Profenamine is a phenothiazine derivative; adverse effects associated with phenothiazines may occur, especially with high doses (see under Chlorpromazine, p.969).

**Breast feeding.** Profenamine is distributed into the milk of lactating mothers.<sup>1</sup>

1. Rowan JJ. Excretion of drugs in milk. *Pharm J* 1976; **217**: 184–7.

**Interactions**

As for antimuscarinics in general (see Atropine Sulfate, p.1220).

**Uses and Administration**

Profenamine hydrochloride is a phenothiazine derivative with antimuscarinic, adrenergic-blocking, antihistaminic, local anaesthetic, and ganglion-blocking properties. It has been used in the symptomatic treatment of parkinsonism (p.791), including the alleviation of the extrapyramidal syndrome induced by drugs such as other phenothiazines, but, like other antimuscarinics, is of no value against tardive dyskinesias. It has been used in a usual initial oral dose of 50 mg three times daily, gradually increased to 500 mg or more daily in divided doses, according to response.

**Preparations**

**Proprietary Preparations** (details are given in Part 3)

**Canad.:** Parsitan.

**Rasagiline Mesilate** (*rINN*)

Mesilato de rasagilina; Rasagiline, Mésilate de; Rasagiline Mesylate (*USAN*); Rasagilini Mesilas; TYP-1012. (R)-N-2-Propynyl-1-indanamine methanesulfonate.

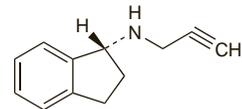
Разагилина Мезилат

$C_{12}H_{13}N \cdot CH_4O_3S = 267.3$ .

CAS — 136236-51-6 (*rasagiline*); 161735-79-1 (*rasagiline mesilate*).

ATC — N04BD02.

ATC Vet — QN04BD02.



(rasagiline)

**Adverse Effects and Precautions**

Common adverse effects reported with rasagiline monotherapy include headache, flu-like syndrome, malaise, neck pain, angina pectoris, dyspepsia, anorexia, leucopenia, arthralgia, arthritis, depression, vertigo, rhinitis, conjunctivitis, skin rashes, melanoma, and urinary urgency. Cerebrovascular accidents and myocardial infarction have been reported rarely. Other adverse effects include orthostatic hypotension and hallucinations.

Rasagiline should not be used in patients with severe hepatic impairment; use in moderate impairment should also be avoided. It should be used with caution in patients with mild hepatic impairment and therapy should be stopped in those who progress to moderate impairment.

**Interactions**

As for Selegiline Hydrochloride, p.817. Unlike the non-selective MAOIs, such as phenelzine, rasagiline can be used safely without dietary tyramine restrictions, although these have been recommended in some countries.

Rasagiline should not be given with other MAOIs because of the risk of non-selective MAO inhibition that may lead to hypertensive reactions.

It is metabolised by the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP1A2 and potent inhibitors of this enzyme such as ciprofloxacin may increase the plasma levels of rasagiline. UK licensed product information for rasagiline advises caution when such drugs are used with rasagiline whereas US licensed product information recommends that the dose of rasagiline be reduced to 0.5 mg daily when given with CYP1A2 inhibitors. Tobacco smoking induces hepatic metabolic enzymes and may decrease the plasma levels of rasagiline.

Entacapone has been reported to increase the clearance of oral rasagiline by 28% when used together.

**Pharmacokinetics**

Rasagiline is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract, with peak plasma levels occurring in about 30 minutes to an hour. Bioavailability is reported to be about 36%. Rasagiline is about 60 to 70% bound to plasma proteins.

It is extensively metabolised in the liver by *N*-dealkylation and hydroxylation, via the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP1A2, and conjugation. 1-Aminoindan is a major metabolite and is stated to be active although it is not a monoamine oxidase B inhibitor. Metabolites are excreted mainly in the urine and partly in the faeces; less than 1% of a dose is excreted as unchanged drug in the urine. The terminal half-life is 0.6 to 2 hours.

**Uses and Administration**

Rasagiline is an irreversible selective inhibitor of monoamine oxidase type B, an enzyme involved in the metabolic degradation of dopamine in the brain. It enhances the effects of levodopa and is used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease (p.791), either alone or as an adjunct to levodopa therapy to reduce 'end-of-dose' fluctuations in response. Rasagiline is given orally as the mesilate and doses are expressed in terms of the base; rasagiline mesilate 1.56 mg is equivalent to about 1 mg of rasagiline. The usual dose is the equivalent of rasagiline 1 mg once daily. In the USA, an initial daily dose of 0.5 mg is recommended for adjunctive therapy.

The dose of rasagiline may need to be reduced when given with drugs that inhibit the cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP1A2 (see Interactions, above for details) and in patients with hepatic impairment (see below).

## ◇ References.

1. Parkinson Study Group. A controlled trial of rasagiline in early Parkinson disease: the TEMPO Study. *Arch Neurol* 2002; **59**: 1937–43.
2. Stern MB, *et al.* Double-blind, randomized, controlled trial of rasagiline as monotherapy in early Parkinson's disease patients. *Mov Disord* 2004; **19**: 916–23.
3. Thebault JJ, *et al.* Tolerability, safety, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics of rasagiline: a potent, selective, and irreversible monoamine oxidase type B inhibitor. *Pharmacotherapy* 2004; **24**: 1295–1305.
4. Parkinson Study Group. A controlled, randomized, delayed-start study of rasagiline in early Parkinson disease. *Arch Neurol* 2004; **61**: 561–6.