

## Unlicensed & Name Patient Medicines in palliative care

### **ANTACID and OXETACAINE ORAL SUSPENSION**

(Alternative to Mucaine Suspension)

Manufacturer ROSEMONT Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
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**Composition:** Each 5ml contains 10mg Oxetacaine,  
Aluminium hydroxide equivalent to 200mg aluminium oxide + 100mg magnesium hydroxide  
Also contains:  
methyl parahydroxybenzoate (E218), propyl parahydroxybenzoate (E216),  
sorbitol solution 70% (E420) 1.3g/5mls, propylene glycol.

The suspension appearance is creamy white in colour and has a mint flavour.

**Presentation / Pack Size:** Amber glass bottle, 150mls:

**Shelf life** 9 months

**NHS Retail Price:** £19.00 + VAT + Delivery

Rosemount Pharmaceuticals state that the suspension is sucrose-free,  
lactose - free,  
diabetic safe  
gluten - free.  
Low sodium: 1mmol or less sodium per 10mls

**Pharmacological Action:** Alumina gel and magnesium hydroxide react chemically to neutralize or buffer existing quantities of acid. It has no direct effect on the production of gastric acid. Gastroscopic observations have shown that alumina gel, if taken undiluted, forms a coating over the inflamed mucosa for a variable period. Oxetacaine is a topical potent anaesthetic. Combining oxetacaine with alumina gel exerts a prolonged topical anaesthetic action when applied to mucous membranes.

**Indications:** Painful swallowing, during and following radiotherapy to the head & neck and chest areas. Should be reserved for patients with oral mucositis and oesophageal lesions which is causing painful swallowing.

**Dose:** Shake well before use. Give 10-15ml, swallowed undiluted 15 to 30minutes before meals and at night. Drinking anything immediately afterwards should be avoided to prevent the antacid/oxetacaine suspension being washed away before the local anaesthetic has had the desired effect.

This should be short-term symptomatic treatment while time and specific treatment of the underlying condition permits healing of the damaged mucosa.

**Precautions/ Contraindications:** Aluminium-containing antacids may cause constipation and magnesium-containing antacids may cause diarrhoea.

The use of magnesium-containing antacids in patients with mild to moderate renal impairment should be carefully observed due to the increased risk of hypermagnesaemia.

In patients with chronic renal failure, hyperaluminaemia may occur. Encephalopathy and dementia may occur in patients with poor renal function or patients in dialysis, due to an increase in plasma concentration of aluminium.

The use of aluminium- containing antacids is contraindicated in patients with hypophosphataemia due to the phosphate binding properties of aluminium salts.

Sensitivity to the ingredients of the suspension. Sensitivity reactions reported with Mucaine include skin eruptions (dermatitis, urticaria), pruritus, glossitis, angioedema and collapse.

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Approved by: NHS Ayrshire and Arran ADTC

If the dose exceeds exceeds 60mls/day, some patients may experience dizziness, faintness or drowsiness. Treatment of overdosage is symptomatic and supportive.

**Drug interactions:** The rate and/or extent of absorption of certain drugs may be increased or decreased. Therefore give medication at least 1 to 2 before or after of this suspension.

Drugs that could be affected include: digoxin, tetracycline, iron salts, isoniazid, ethambutol, some antimuscarinic drugs, benzodiazepines, phenothiazines, ranitidine, indomethacin, phenytoin, nitrofurantoin, vitamin A, fluoride and phosphate.

An increase in the plasma level of quinidine and possible toxicity may result if alkalisation of the urine occurs following antacid therapy.

Antacids may cause some enteric coatings on tablets and capsules to dissolve.

**Storage instructions:** Keep bottle tightly closed in a cool place, but keep from freezing.

**Availability:** Antacid and Oxetacaine can be ordered and stocked by all community pharmacies by contacting Rosemont Pharmaceuticals Ltd, contact details above. The lead-time in delivery is 2 working days. Up to 6 bottles can be posted by Special Delivery for next day receipt (postage cost can be claimed back from the health board for community pharmacies).