

HYDROXYPROPYL METHYLCELLULOSE (Ophthalmic)
CARBOXY METHYL SOLUTION

Introduction

Category

Protectant (ophthalmic); tears (artificial); lubricant (ophthalmic); diagnostic aid (contact lens procedures; gonioscopy).

Indications

Accepted

Keratitis, exposure (treatment)

Keratitis, neuroparalytic (treatment) or

Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (treatment) ¼ Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose is indicated for the relief of dry eyes and eye irritation associated with deficient tear production in order to prevent corneal damage. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 24

[Corneal erosions, recurrent (treatment)] * or 21

[Corneal sensitivity, decreased (treatment)] * 21 ¼ Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose is used in the treatment of recurrent corneal erosions and decreased corneal sensitivity. 1, 21

Ocular lubrication * 21 ¼ Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose is indicated as an ocular lubricant for hard contact lenses 2, 3, 8 and artificial eyes and to protect the cornea during gonioscopy 7, 17, 33, 34, 36, 37 and procedures involving use of a diagnostic contact lens, such as laser photocoagulation of the retina, laser gonioplasty, and laser iridectomy.

* Not included in Canadian product labeling.

Precautions to Consider

Pregnancy/Reproduction

Problems in humans have not been documented.

Breast-feeding

Problems in humans have not been documented.

Pediatrics

Appropriate studies on the relationship of age to the effects of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose have not been performed in the pediatric population. However, pediatrics-specific problems that would limit the usefulness of this medication in children are not expected.

Geriatrics

Appropriate studies on the relationship of age to the effects of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose have not been performed in the geriatric population. However, geriatrics-specific problems that would limit the usefulness of this medication in the elderly are not expected.

Medical considerations/Contraindications

The medical considerations/contraindications included have been selected on the basis of their potential clinical significance (reasons given in parentheses where appropriate)¼ not necessarily inclusive (>> = major clinical significance).

Risk-benefit should be considered when the following medical problem exists

Sensitivity to hydroxypropyl methylcellulose

Side/Adverse Effects

The following side/adverse effects have been selected on the basis of their potential clinical significance (possible signs and symptoms in parentheses where appropriate)¼not necessarily inclusive:

Those indicating need for medical attention

Eye irritation not present before therapy

Those indicating need for medical attention only if they continue or are bothersome

Incidence less frequent¼more frequent with 1% solution Blurred vision; matting or stickiness of eyelashes

Patient Consultation

As an aid to patient consultation, refer to Advice for the Patient, Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose (Ophthalmic).

In providing consultation, consider emphasizing the following selected information (>> = major clinical significance):

Before using this medication

>> Conditions affecting use, especially:

Sensitivity to hydroxypropyl methylcellulose

