

## **Primaquine**

### **INDICATIONS:**

1. Radical treatment of vivax and ovale malaria
2. Prophylaxis of chloroquine resistant malaria

### **SAFETY ALERT:**

#### **1. Adverse Drug Reactions:**

Nausea, vomiting, epigastric distress, abdominal cramps, leucopaenia, leucocytosis, agranulocytosis, methaemoglobinaemia in NADH methaemoglobin reductase deficient individuals. Haemolytic anaemia, thrombocytopenia, leucopaenia, AV block

#### **2. Drug interactions:**

Primaquine may inhibit metabolism of chloroquine. Avoid ethanol. Methacrine may potentiate toxicity of primaquine. Potentially hemolytic drugs, e.g. sulphonamides, nitrofurans & bone marrow suppressants e.g. methotrexate, phenylbutazone, chloramphenicol should not be coadministered with primaquine

#### **3. Contraindications:**

Hypersensitivity. Children < 1 y. acute flare-ups of systemic diseases (RA, SLE) having tendency for agranulocytopenia. Pregnancy & lactation

#### **4. Precautions:**

G6PD deficiency, pregnancy, NADH methaemoglobin reductase deficient patients. Monitor Hb levels and blood counts routinely. Patients with systemic diseases that have an increased risk of granulocytopenia. Withdraw treatment if signs of haemolysis or methaemoglobinaemia occur