

**EXTENDED PHENYTOIN SODIUM- phenytoin sodium capsule, extended release  
Marlex Pharmaceuticals Inc**

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**Phenytoin Sodium ER**

**EXTENDED PHENYTOIN SODIUM- phenytoin sodium capsule**

**Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. of New Castle, De.**

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**Extended Phenytoin Sodium Capsules, USP 100 mg**

**DESCRIPTION**

Phenytoin sodium, USP is an antiepileptic drug. Phenytoin sodium, USP is related to the barbiturates in chemical structure, but has a five-membered ring. The chemical name is sodium 5,5-diphenyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione, having the following structural formula:

Each extended phenytoin sodium capsule, USP contains 100 mg phenytoin sodium, USP. Each capsule also contains the following inactive ingredients: D&C Red #28, D&C Red #33, FD&C Blue #1, gelatin, hydroxypropyl cellulose, mannitol, magnesium stearate, talc and titanium dioxide. Product *in vivo* performance is characterized by a slow and extended rate of absorption with peak blood concentrations expected in 4 to 12 hours as contrasted to *Prompt Phenytoin Sodium Capsules*, USP with a rapid rate of absorption with peak blood concentration expected in 1½ to 3 hours.

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

**Mechanism of Action**

Phenytoin is an antiepileptic drug which can be useful in the treatment of epilepsy. The primary site of action appears to be the *motor cortex* where spread of seizure activity is inhibited. Possibly by promoting sodium efflux from neurons, phenytoin tends to *stabilize* the threshold against hyperexcitability caused by excessive stimulation or environmental changes capable of reducing membrane sodium gradient. This includes the reduction of post tetanic potentiation at synapses. Loss of post tetanic potentiation prevents cortical seizure foci from detonating adjacent cortical areas. Phenytoin reduces the maximal activity of brain stem centers responsible for the tonic phase of tonic-clonic (grandmal) seizures.

**Pharmacokinetics and Drug Metabolism**

The plasma half-life in man after oral administration of phenytoin averages 22 hours, with a range of 7 to 42 hours. Steady-state therapeutic levels are achieved at least 7 to 10 days (5 to 7 half-lives) after initiation of therapy with recommended doses of 300 mg/day.

When serum level determinations are necessary, they should be obtained at least 5 to 7 half-lives after treatment initiation, dosage change, or addition or subtraction of another drug to the regimen so that equilibrium or steady-state will have been achieved. Trough levels provide information about clinically effective serum level range and confirm patient compliance and are obtained just prior to the patient's next scheduled dose. Peak levels indicate an individual's threshold for emergence of dose-related side effects and are obtained at the time of expected peak concentration. For extended phenytoin sodium capsules, peak serum levels occur 4 to 12 hours after administration.

Optimum control without clinical signs of toxicity occurs more often with serum levels between 10 and

20 mcg/mL, although some mild cases of tonic-clonic (grand mal) epilepsy may be controlled with lower serum levels of phenytoin.

In most patients maintained at a steady dosage, stable phenytoin serum levels are achieved. There may be wide interpatient variability in phenytoin serum levels with equivalent dosages. Patients with unusually low levels may be noncompliant or hypermetabolizers of phenytoin. Unusually high levels result from liver disease, variant CYP2C9 and CYP2C19 alleles, or drug interactions which result in metabolic interference. The patient with large variations in phenytoin plasma levels, despite standard doses, presents a difficult clinical problem. Serum level determinations in such patients may be particularly helpful. As phenytoin is highly protein bound, free phenytoin levels may be altered in patients whose protein binding characteristics differ from normal.

Most of the drug is excreted in the bile as inactive metabolites which are then reabsorbed from the intestinal tract and excreted in the urine. Urinary excretion of phenytoin and its metabolites occurs partly with glomerular filtration but more important by tubular secretion. Because phenytoin is hydroxylated in the liver by an enzyme system which is saturable at high plasma levels, small incremental doses may increase the half-life and produce very substantial increases in serum levels, when these are in the upper range. The steady-state level may be disproportionately increased, with resultant intoxication, from an increase in dosage of 10% or more.

### **Special Populations**

*Patients with Renal or Hepatic Disease:* Due to an increased fraction of unbound phenytoin in patients with renal or hepatic disease, or in those with hypoalbuminemia, the interpretation of total phenytoin plasma concentrations should be made with caution (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Unbound phenytoin concentrations may be more useful in these patient populations.

*Age:* Phenytoin clearance tends to decrease with increasing age (20% less in patients over 70 years of age relative to that in patients 20 to 30 years of age). Phenytoin dosing requirements are highly variable and must be individualized (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

*Gender and Race:* Gender and race have no significant impact on phenytoin pharmacokinetics.

*Pediatrics:* Initially, 5 mg/kg/day in two or three equally divided doses, with subsequent dosage individualized to a maximum of 300 mg daily. A recommended daily maintenance dosage is usually 4 to 8 mg/kg. Children over 6 years and adolescents may require the minimum adult dose (300 mg/day).

### **INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP are indicated for the control of generalized tonic-clonic (grand mal) and complex partial (psychomotor, temporal lobe) seizures and prevention and treatment of seizures occurring during or following neurosurgery.

Phenytoin serum level determinations may be necessary for optimal dosage adjustments (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** and **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY** sections).

### **CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Phenytoin, USP is contraindicated in those patients with a history of hypersensitivity to phenytoin, USP, its inactive ingredients, or other hydantoin.

Coadministration of extended phenytoin sodium is contraindicated with delavirdine due to potential for loss of virologic response and possible resistance to delavirdine or to the class of non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

## WARNINGS

### Effects of Abrupt Withdrawal

Abrupt withdrawal of phenytoin in epileptic patients may precipitate status epilepticus. When, in the judgement of the clinician, the need for dosage reduction, discontinuation, or substitution of alternative antiepileptic medication arises, this should be done gradually. In the event of an allergic or hypersensitivity reaction, more rapid substitution of alternative therapy may be necessary. In this case, alternative therapy should be an antiepileptic drug not belonging to the hydantoin chemical class.

### Suicidal Behavior and Ideation

Antiepileptic drugs (AEDs), including extended phenytoin sodium, increase the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior in patients taking these drugs for any indication. Patients treated with any AED for any indication should be monitored for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior.

Pooled analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical trials (mono- and adjunctive therapy) of 11 different AEDs showed that patients randomized to one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% CI: 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. In these trials, which had a median treatment duration of 12 weeks, the estimated incidence rate of suicidal behavior or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in drug-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number is too small to allow any conclusion about drug effect on suicide.

The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior with AEDs was observed as early as one week after starting drug treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed.

The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed.

The finding of increased risk with AEDs of varying mechanisms of action and across a range of indications suggests that the risk applies to all AEDs used for any indication. The risk did not vary substantially by age (5 to 100 years) in the clinical trials analyzed.

Table 1 shows absolute and relative risk by indication for all evaluated AEDs.

**Table 1 Risk by Indication for Antiepileptic Drugs in the Pooled Analysis**

Indication	Placebo Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients	Drug Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients	Relative Risk: Incidence of Events in Drug Patients/Incidence in Placebo Patients	Risk Difference: Additional Drug Patients with Events Per 1000 Patients
Epilepsy	1	3.4	3.5	2.4
Psychiatric	5.7	8.5	1.5	2.9
Other	1	1.8	1.9	0.9
Total	2.4	4.3	1.8	1.9

The relative risk for suicidal thought or behavior was higher in clinical trials for epilepsy than in clinical trials for psychiatric or other conditions, but the absolute risk differences were similar for the epilepsy and psychiatric indications.

Anyone considering prescribing extended phenytoin sodium or any other AED must balance the risk of

suicidal thoughts or behavior with the risk of untreated illness. Epilepsy and many other illnesses for which AEDs are prescribed are themselves associated with morbidity and mortality and an increased risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior. Should suicidal thoughts and behavior emerge during treatment, the prescriber needs to consider whether the emergence of these symptoms in any given patient may be related to the illness being treated.

Patients, their caregivers, and families should be informed that AEDs increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior and should be advised of the need to be alert for the emergence or worsening of the signs and symptoms of depression, any unusual changes in mood or behavior, or the emergence of suicidal thoughts, behavior, or thoughts about self-harm. Behaviors of concern should be reported immediately to healthcare providers.

### **Serious Dermatologic Reactions**

Serious and sometimes fatal dermatologic reactions, including toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), have been reported with phenytoin treatment. The onset of symptoms is usually within 28 days, but can occur later. Extended phenytoin sodium should be discontinued at the first sign of a rash, unless the rash is clearly not drug-related. If signs or symptoms suggest SJS/TEN, use of this drug should not be resumed and alternative therapy should be considered. If a rash occurs, the patient should be evaluated for signs and symptoms of Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (see **DRESS/Multiorgan hypersensitivity** below).

Studies in patients of Chinese ancestry have found a strong association between the risk of developing SJS/TEN and the presence of HLA-B\*1502, an inherited allelic variant of the HLA B gene, in patients using carbamazepine. Limited evidence suggests that HLA-B\*1502 may be a risk factor for the development of SJS/TEN in patients of Asian ancestry taking other antiepileptic drugs associated with SJS/TEN, including phenytoin. Consideration should be given to avoiding phenytoin as an alternative for carbamazepine in patients positive for HLA-B\*1502.

The use of HLA-B\*1502 genotyping has important limitations and must never substitute for appropriate clinical vigilance and patient management. The role of other possible factors in the development of, and morbidity from, SJS/TEN, such as antiepileptic drug (AED) dose, compliance, concomitant medications, comorbidities and the level of dermatologic monitoring have not been studied.

### **Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS)/Multiorgan hypersensitivity**

Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS), also known as Multiorgan hypersensitivity, has been reported in patients taking antiepileptic drugs, including extended phenytoin sodium. Some of these events have been fatal or life-threatening. DRESS typically, although not exclusively, presents with fever, rash and/or lymphadenopathy, in association with other organ system involvement, such as hepatitis, nephritis, hematological abnormalities, myocarditis, or myositis sometimes resembling an acute viral infection. Eosinophilia is often present. Because this disorder is variable in its expression, other organ systems not noted here may be involved. It is important to note that early manifestations of hypersensitivity, such as fever or lymphadenopathy, may be present even though rash is not evident. If such signs or symptoms are present, the patient should be evaluated immediately. Extended phenytoin sodium should be discontinued if an alternative etiology for the signs or symptoms cannot be established.

### **Hypersensitivity**

Extended phenytoin sodium and other hydantoins are contraindicated in patients who have experienced phenytoin hypersensitivity (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**). Additionally, consider alternatives to structurally similar drugs such as carboxamides (e.g., carbamazepine), barbiturates, succinimides and oxazolidinediones (e.g., trimethadione) in these same patients. Similarly, if there is a history of hypersensitivity reactions to these structurally similar drugs in the patient or immediate family members, consider alternatives to extended phenytoin sodium.

## **Hepatic Injury**

Cases of acute hepatotoxicity, including infrequent cases of acute hepatic failure, have been reported with extended phenytoin sodium. These events may be part of the spectrum of DRESS or may occur in isolation. Other common manifestations include jaundice, hepatomegaly, elevated serum transaminase levels, leukocytosis and eosinophilia. The clinical course of acute phenytoin hepatotoxicity ranges from prompt recovery to fatal outcomes. In these patients with acute hepatotoxicity, extended phenytoin sodium should be immediately discontinued and not readministered.

## **Hematopoietic System**

Hematopoietic complications, some fatal, have occasionally been reported in association with administration of extended phenytoin sodium. These have included thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, granulocytopenia, agranulocytosis and pancytopenia with or without bone marrow suppression.

There have been a number of reports suggesting a relationship between phenytoin and the development of lymphadenopathy (local or generalized) including benign lymph node hyperplasia, pseudolymphoma, lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease. Although a cause and effect relationship has not been established, the occurrence of lymphadenopathy indicates the need to differentiate such a condition from other types of lymph node pathology. Lymph node involvement may occur with or without symptoms and signs of DRESS.

In all cases of lymphadenopathy, follow-up observation for an extended period is indicated and every effort should be made to achieve seizure control using alternative antiepileptic drugs.

## **Effects on Vitamin D and Bone**

The chronic use of phenytoin in patients with epilepsy has been associated with decreased bone mineral density (osteopenia, osteoporosis and osteomalacia) and bone fractures. Phenytoin induces hepatic metabolizing enzymes. This may enhance the metabolism of vitamin D and decrease vitamin D levels, which may lead to vitamin D deficiency, hypocalcemia and hypophosphatemia. Consideration should be given to screening with bone-related laboratory and radiological tests as appropriate and initiating treatment plans according to established guidelines.

## **Effects of Alcohol Use on Phenytoin Serum Levels**

Acute alcoholic intake may increase phenytoin serum levels, while chronic alcohol use may decrease serum levels.

## **Exacerbation of Porphyria**

In view of isolated reports associating phenytoin with exacerbation of porphyria, caution should be exercised in using this medication in patients suffering from this disease.

## **Usage In Pregnancy:**

### *Clinical:*

- *Risks to Mother.* An increase in seizure frequency may occur during pregnancy because of altered phenytoin pharmacokinetics. Periodic measurement of plasma phenytoin concentrations may be valuable in the management of pregnant women as a guide to appropriate adjustment of dosage (see **PRECAUTIONS, Laboratory Tests**). However, postpartum restoration of the original dosage will probably be indicated.
- *Risks to the Fetus.* If this drug is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking the drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential harm to the fetus.

Prenatal exposure to phenytoin may increase the risks for congenital malformations and other adverse developmental outcomes. Increased frequencies of major malformations (such as orofacial clefts and cardiac defects), minor anomalies (dysmorphic facial features, nail and digit hypoplasia), growth

abnormalities (including microcephaly) and mental deficiency have been reported among children born to epileptic women who took phenytoin alone or in combination with other antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy. There have also been several reported cases of malignancies, including neuroblastoma, in children whose mothers received phenytoin during pregnancy. The overall incidence of malformations for children of epileptic women treated with antiepileptic drugs (phenytoin and/or others) during pregnancy is about 10%, or two- to three-fold that in the general population. However, the relative contributions of antiepileptic drugs and other factors associated with epilepsy to this increased risk are uncertain and in most cases it has not been possible to attribute specific developmental abnormalities to particular antiepileptic drugs.

Patients should consult with their physicians to weigh the risks and benefits of phenytoin during pregnancy.

*Postpartum Period.* A potentially life-threatening bleeding disorder related to decreased levels of vitamin K dependent clotting factors may occur in newborns exposed to phenytoin *in utero*. This drug-induced condition can be prevented with vitamin K administration to the mother before delivery and to the neonate after birth.

#### *Preclinical:*

Increased resorption and malformation rates have been reported following administration of phenytoin doses of 75 mg/kg or higher (approximately 120% of the maximum human loading dose or higher on a mg/m basis) to pregnant rabbits.

## **PRECAUTIONS**

### **General:**

The liver is the chief site of biotransformation of phenytoin; patients with impaired liver function, elderly patients, or those who are gravely ill may show early signs of toxicity.

A small percentage of individuals who have been treated with phenytoin have been shown to metabolize the drug slowly. Slow metabolism may be due to limited enzyme availability and lack of induction; it appears to be genetically determined. If early signs of dose-related CNS toxicity develop, plasma levels should be checked immediately.

Hyperglycemia, resulting from the drug's inhibitory effects on insulin release, has been reported.

Phenytoin may also raise the serum glucose level in diabetic patients.

Phenytoin is not indicated for seizures due to hypoglycemic or other metabolic causes. Appropriate diagnostic procedures should be performed as indicated.

Phenytoin is not effective for absence (petit mal) seizures. If tonic-clonic (grand mal) and absence (petit mal) seizures are present, combined drug therapy is needed.

Serum levels of phenytoin sustained above the optimal range may produce confusional states referred to as "delirium," "psychosis," or "encephalopathy," or rarely irreversible cerebellar dysfunction. Accordingly, at the first sign of acute toxicity, plasma levels are recommended. Dose reduction of phenytoin therapy is indicated if plasma levels are excessive; if symptoms persist, termination is recommended. (See **WARNINGS** section.)

### **Information for Patients**

Inform patients of the availability of a Medication Guide, and instruct them to read the Medication Guide prior to taking extended phenytoin sodium. Instruct patients to take extended phenytoin sodium only as prescribed.

Patients taking phenytoin should be advised of the importance of adhering strictly to the prescribed dosage regimen, and of informing the physician of any clinical condition in which it is not possible to

take the drug orally as prescribed, e.g., surgery, etc.

Patients should be made aware of the early toxic signs and symptoms of potential hematologic, dermatologic, hypersensitivity, or hepatic reactions. These symptoms may include, but are not limited to fever, sore throat, rash, ulcers in the mouth, easy bruising, lymphadenopathy and petechial or purpuric hemorrhage, and in the case of liver reactions, anorexia, nausea/vomiting, or jaundice. The patients should be advised that, because these signs and symptoms may signal a serious reaction, that they must report and occurrence immediately to a physician. In addition, the patient should be advised that these signs and symptoms should be reported even if mild or when occurring after extended use.

Patients should also be cautioned on the use of other drugs or alcoholic beverages without first seeking the physician's advice.

The importance of good dental hygiene should be stressed in order to minimize the development of gingival hyperplasia and its complications.

Patients, their caregivers, and families should be counseled that AEDs, including extended phenytoin sodium, may increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior and should be advised of the need to be alert for the emergence or worsening of symptoms of depression, any unusual changes in mood or behavior, or the emergence of suicidal thoughts, behavior, or thoughts about self-harm. Behaviors of concern should be reported immediately to healthcare providers.

Patients should be encouraged to enroll in the North American Antiepileptic Drug (NAAED) Pregnancy Registry if they become pregnant. This registry is collecting information about the safety of antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy. To enroll, patients can call the toll free number 1-888-233-2334 (see **PRECAUTIONS: Pregnancy** section).

**Do not use capsules which are discolored.**

### **Laboratory Tests:**

Phenytoin serum level determinations may be necessary to achieve optimal dosage adjustments.

Phenytoin doses are usually selected to attain therapeutic plasma total phenytoin concentrations of 10 to 20 mcg/mL (unbound phenytoin concentrations of 1 to 2 mcg/mL).

### **Drug Interactions:**

Phenytoin is extensively bound to serum plasma proteins and is prone to competitive displacement.

Phenytoin is metabolized by hepatic cytochrome P450 enzymes CYP2C9 and CYP2C19, and is particularly susceptible to inhibitory drug interactions because it is subject to saturable metabolism. Inhibition of metabolism may produce significant increases in circulating phenytoin concentrations and enhance the risk of drug toxicity. Phenytoin is a potent inducer of hepatic drug-metabolizing enzymes. Serum level determinations for phenytoin are especially helpful when possible drug interactions are suspected.

The most commonly occurring drug interactions are listed below:

Note: The list is not intended to be inclusive or comprehensive. Individual drug package inserts should be consulted.

*Drugs that affect phenytoin concentrations:*

- Drugs that may increase phenytoin serum levels include: acute alcohol intake, amiodarone, antiepileptic agents (ethosuximide, felbamate, oxcarbazepine, methsuximide, topiramate), azoles (fluconazole, ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole), capecitabine, chloramphenicol, chlordiazepoxide, diazepam, disulfiram, estrogens, fluorouracil, fluoxetine, fluvastatin, fluvoxamine, H<sub>2</sub>-antagonists (e.g. cimetidine), halothane, isoniazid, methylphenidate, omeprazole, phenothiazines, salicylates, sertraline, succinimides, sulfonamides (e.g., sulfamethizole, sulfaphenazole, sulfadiazine, sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim), ticlopidine,

tolbutamide, trazodone and warfarin.

- Drugs that may decrease phenytoin levels, include: anti-cancer drugs usually in combination (e.g., bleomycin, carboplatin, cisplatin, doxorubicin, methotrexate) carbamazepine, chronic alcohol abuse, folic acid, fosamprenavir, nelfinavir, reserpine, ritonavir, St. John's Wort, sucralfate and vigabatrin.
- Administration of phenytoin with preparations that increase gastric pH (e.g., supplements or antacids containing calcium carbonate, aluminum hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide) may affect the absorption of phenytoin. In most cases where interactions were seen, the effect is a decrease in phenytoin levels when the drugs are taken at the same time. When possible, phenytoin and these 2 products should not be taken at the same time of day.
- Drugs that may either increase or decrease phenytoin serum levels, include: phenobarbital, sodium valproate and valproic acid. Similarly, the effect of phenytoin on phenobarbital, valproic acid and sodium valproate serum levels is unpredictable.
- The addition or withdrawal of these agents in patients on phenytoin therapy may require an adjustment of the phenytoin dose to achieve optimal clinical outcome.

#### *Drugs affected by phenytoin:*

- Drugs that should not be coadministered with phenytoin: Delavirdine (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).
- Drugs whose efficacy is impaired by phenytoin include: azoles (fluconazole, ketoconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole, posaconazole), corticosteroids, doxycycline, estrogens, furosemide, irinotecan, oral contraceptives, paclitaxel, paroxetine, quinidine, rifampin, sertraline, teniposide, theophylline and vitamin D.
- Increased and decreased PT/INR responses have been reported when phenytoin is coadministered with warfarin.
- Phenytoin decreases plasma concentrations of active metabolites of albendazole, certain HIV antivirals (efavirenz, lopinavir/ritonavir, indinavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir), anti-epileptic agents (felbamate, topiramate, oxcarbazepine, quetiapine) atorvastatin, cyclosporine, digoxin, fluvastatin, folic acid, mexiletine, nisoldipine, praziquantel and simvastatin.
- Phenytoin when given with fosamprenavir alone may decrease the concentration of amprenavir, the active metabolite. Phenytoin when given with the combination of fosamprenavir and ritonavir may increase the concentration of amprenavir.
- Resistance to the neuromuscular blocking action of the non-depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agents pancuronium, vecuronium, rocuronium and cisatracurium has occurred in patients chronically administered phenytoin. Whether or not phenytoin has the same effect on other non-depolarizing agents is unknown. Patients should be monitored closely for more rapid recovery from neuromuscular blockade than expected, and infusion rate requirements may be higher.
- The addition or withdrawal of phenytoin during concomitant therapy with these agents may require adjustment of the dose of these agents to achieve optimal clinical outcome.

#### **Drug Enteral Feeding/Nutritional Preparations Interaction:**

Literature reports suggest that patients who have received enteral feeding preparations and/or related nutritional supplements have lower than expected phenytoin plasma levels. It is therefore suggested that phenytoin not be administered concomitantly with an enteral feeding preparation. More frequent serum phenytoin level monitoring may be necessary in these patients.

#### **Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions:**

Phenytoin may decrease serum concentrations of T4. It may also produce lower than normal values for dexamethasone or metyrapone tests. Phenytoin may cause increased serum levels of glucose, alkaline phosphatase and gamma glutamyl transpeptidase (GGT).

Care should be taken when using immune analytical methods to measure plasma phenytoin



concentrations.

### **Carcinogenesis:**

See **WARNINGS** section for information on carcinogenesis.

### **Pregnancy:**

Pregnancy Category D; See **WARNINGS** section.

To provide information regarding the effects of *in utero* exposure to extended phenytoin sodium, physicians are advised to recommend that pregnant patients taking extended phenytoin sodium enroll in the North American Antiepileptic Drug (NAAED) Pregnancy Registry. This can be done by calling the toll free number 1-888-233-2334, and must be done by patients themselves. Information on the registry can also be found at the website <http://www.aedpregnancyregistry.org/>.

### **Nursing Mothers:**

Infant breast-feeding is not recommended for women taking this drug because phenytoin appears to be secreted in low concentrations in human milk.

### **Pediatric Use:**

See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** section.

### **Geriatric Use:**

Phenytoin clearance tends to decrease with increasing age (see **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Special Populations**).

## **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

**Body as a Whole:** Allergic reactions in the form of rash and rarely more serious forms (see Skin and Appendages paragraph below) and DRESS (see **WARNINGS**) have been observed. Anaphylaxis has also been reported.

There have also been reports of coarsening of facial features, systemic lupus erythematosus, periarteritis nodosa and immunoglobulin abnormalities.

**Nervous System:** The most common manifestations adverse reactions encountered with phenytoin therapy are referable to this nervous system reactions and are usually dose-related. These Reactions include nystagmus, ataxia, slurred speech, decreased coordination, somnolence and mental confusion. Dizziness, vertigo, insomnia, transient nervousness, motor twitchings, paresthesias and headaches have also been observed. There have also been rare reports of phenytoin induced dyskinesias, including chorea, dystonia, tremor and asterixis, similar to those induced by phenothiazine and other neuroleptic drugs.

A predominantly sensory peripheral polyneuropathy has been observed in patients receiving long-term phenytoin therapy.

**Digestive System:** Acute hepatic failure, toxic hepatitis, liver damage, nausea, vomiting, constipation, enlargement of the lips, and gingival hyperplasia, toxic hepatitis and liver damage.

**Skin and Appendages:** Dermatological manifestations sometimes accompanied by fever have included scarlatiniform or morbilliform rashes. A morbilliform rash (measles-like) is the most common; other types of dermatitis are seen more rarely. Other more serious forms which may be fatal have included bullous, exfoliative or purpuric dermatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis (see **WARNINGS** section). There have also been reports of hypertrichosis.

**Hematologic and Lymphatic System:** Hematopoietic complications, some fatal, have occasionally

been reported in association with administration of phenytoin. These have included thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, granulocytopenia, agranulocytosis and pancytopenia with or without bone marrow suppression. While macrocytosis and megaloblastic anemia have occurred, these conditions usually respond to folic acid therapy. Lymphadenopathy including benign lymph node hyperplasia, pseudolymphoma, lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease have been reported (see **WARNINGS** section).

**Special Senses:** Altered taste sensation including metallic taste.

**Urogenital:** Peyronie's disease.

## **OVERDOSAGE**

The lethal dose in pediatric patients is not known. The lethal dose in adults is estimated to be 2 to 5 grams. The initial symptoms are nystagmus, ataxia and dysarthria. Other signs are tremor, hyperreflexia, lethargy, slurred speech, nausea, vomiting. The patient may become comatose and hypotensive. Death is due to respiratory and circulatory depression.

There are marked variations among individuals with respect to phenytoin plasma levels where toxicity may occur. Nystagmus, on lateral gaze, usually appears at 20 mcg/mL, ataxia at 30 mcg/mL; dysarthria and lethargy appear when the plasma concentration is over 40 mcg/mL, but as high a concentration as 50 mcg/mL has been reported without evidence of toxicity. As much as 25 times the therapeutic dose has been taken to result in a serum concentration over 100 mcg/mL with complete recovery.

### **Treatment:**

Treatment is nonspecific since there is no known antidote.

The adequacy of the respiratory and circulatory systems should be carefully observed and appropriate supportive measures employed. Hemodialysis can be considered since phenytoin is not completely bound to plasma proteins. Total exchange transfusion has been used in the treatment of severe intoxication in pediatric patients.

In acute over dosage, the possibility of other CNS depressants, including alcohol, should be borne in mind.

## **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Serum concentrations should be monitored in changing from extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP to Prompt Phenytoin Sodium Capsules, USP, and from the sodium salt to the free acid form.

Extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP are formulated with the sodium salt of phenytoin. Because there is approximately an 8% increase in drug content with the free acid form over that of the sodium salt, dosage adjustments and serum level monitoring may be necessary when switching from a product formulated with the free acid to a product formulated with the sodium salt and vice versa.

### **General:**

Dosage should be individualized to provide maximum benefit. In some cases, serum blood level determinations may be necessary for optimal dosage adjustments—the clinically effective serum level is usually 10 to 20 mcg/mL. With recommended dosage, a period of seven to ten days may be required to achieve steady-state blood levels with phenytoin and changes in dosage (increase or decrease) should not be carried out at intervals shorter than seven to ten days.

### **Adult Dosage:**

#### **Divided daily dosage:**

Patients who have received no previous treatment may be started on one 100-mg extended phenytoin sodium capsule, USP three times daily and the dosage then adjusted to suit individual requirements. For

most adults, the satisfactory maintenance dosage will be one capsule three to four times a day. An increase up to two capsules three times a day may be made, if necessary.

### **Once-a-day dosage:**

In adults, if seizure control is established with divided doses of three 100-mg extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP daily, once-a-day dosage with 300 mg of extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP may be considered. Studies comparing divided doses of 300 mg with a single daily dose of this quantity indicated absorption, peak plasma levels, biologic half-life, difference between peak and minimum values, and urinary recovery were equivalent. Once-a-day dosage offers a convenience to the individual patient or to nursing personnel for institutionalized patients and is intended to be used only for patients requiring this amount of drug daily. A major problem in motivating noncompliant patients may also be lessened when the patient can take this drug once a day. However, patients should be cautioned not to miss a dose, inadvertently.

Only extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP are recommended for once-a-day dosing. Inherent differences in dissolution characteristics and resultant absorption rates of phenytoin due to different manufacturing procedures and/or dosage forms preclude such recommendation for other phenytoin products. When a change in the dosage form or brand is prescribed, careful monitoring of phenytoin serum levels should be carried out.

### **Loading dose:**

Some authorities have advocated use of an oral loading dose of phenytoin in adults who require rapid steady-rate serum levels and where intravenous administration is not desirable. This dosing regimen should be reserved for patients in a clinic or hospital setting where phenytoin serum levels can be closely monitored. Patients with a history of renal or liver disease should not receive the oral loading regimen.

Initially, one gram of extended phenytoin sodium capsules, USP is divided into three doses (400mg, 300mg, 300mg) and administered at two-hour intervals. Normal maintenance dosage is then instituted 24 hours after the loading dose, with frequent serum level determinations.

### **Dosing in Special Populations**

*Patients with Renal or Hepatic Disease:* Due to an increased fraction of unbound phenytoin in patients with renal or hepatic disease, or in those with hypoalbuminemia, the interpretation of total phenytoin plasma concentrations should be made with caution. Unbound phenytoin concentrations may be more useful in these patient populations.

*Elderly Patients:* Phenytoin clearance is decreased slightly in elderly patients and lower or less frequent dosing may be required.

*Pediatric:* Initially, 5 mg/kg/day in two or three equally divided doses, with subsequent dosage individualized to a maximum of 300 mg daily. A recommended daily maintenance dosage is usually 4 to 8 mg/kg. Children over 6 years old and adolescents may require the minimum adult dose (300 mg/day).

### **HOW SUPPLIED**

Extended Phenytoin Sodium Capsules, USP **100mg** are supplied as white opaque/light lavender opaque, hard gelatin capsules imprinted with "IP 212" on both cap and body.

They are available as follows:

Bottles of 100: NDC 10135-603-01

Bottles of 1000 NDC 10135-603-10

**Store at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) [See USP Controlled Room Temperature]. Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers. Protect from moisture.**

**Rx only**

Manufactured for:  
**Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**  
New Castle, DE 19720

Distributed by:  
**Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**  
New Castle, DE 19720

Rev. 08/15

## **MEDICATION GUIDE**

### **Extended Phenytoin (FEN-i-toyn) Sodium Capsules**

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. If you have any questions about extended phenytoin sodium capsules, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

#### **What is the most important information I should know about extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

**Do not stop taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules without first talking to your healthcare provider.** Stopping extended phenytoin sodium capsules suddenly can cause serious problems.

#### **Extended phenytoin sodium capsules can cause serious side effects including:**

**1. Like other antiepileptic drugs, extended phenytoin sodium capsules may cause suicidal thoughts or actions in a very small number of people, about 1 in 500.**

**Call a healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms, especially if they are new, worse, or worry you:**

- Thoughts about suicide or dying
- Attempts to commit suicide
- New or worse depression
- New or worse anxiety
- Feeling agitated or restless
- Panic attacks
- Trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- New or worse irritability
- Acting aggressive, being angry, or violent
- Acting on dangerous impulses
- An extreme increase in activity and talking (mania)
- Other unusual changes in behavior or mood

#### **How can I watch for early symptoms of suicidal thoughts and actions?**

- Pay attention to any changes, especially sudden changes in mood, behaviors, thoughts, or feelings.
- Keep all follow-up visits with your healthcare provider as scheduled.

Call your healthcare provider between visits as needed, especially if you are worried about symptoms.

**Do not stop taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules without first talking to a healthcare provider.**

Stopping extended phenytoin sodium capsules suddenly can cause serious problems. Stopping a seizure medicine suddenly in a patient who has epilepsy can cause seizures that will not stop (status epilepticus).

Suicidal thoughts or actions can be caused by things other than medicines. If you have suicidal thoughts or actions, your healthcare provider may check for other causes.

## **2. Extended phenytoin sodium capsules may harm your unborn baby.**

- If you take extended phenytoin sodium capsules during pregnancy, your baby is at risk for serious birth defects.
- Birth defects may occur even in children born to women who are not taking any medicines and not have other risk factors.
- If you take extended phenytoin sodium capsules during pregnancy, your baby is also at risk for bleeding problems right after birth. Your healthcare provider may give you and your baby medicine to prevent this.
- All women of child-bearing age should talk to their healthcare provider about using other possible treatments instead of extended phenytoin sodium capsules. If the decision is made to use extended phenytoin sodium capsules, you should use effective birth control (contraception) unless you are planning to become pregnant.
- Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take extended phenytoin sodium capsules while you are pregnant.
- **Pregnancy Registry:** If you become pregnant while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules, talk to your healthcare provider about registering with the North American Antiepileptic Drug Pregnancy Registry. You can enroll in this registry by calling 1-888-233-2334. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the safety of antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy.

## **3. Swollen glands (lymph nodes)**

**4. Allergic reactions or serious problems which may affect organs and other parts of your body like the liver or blood cells.** You may or may not have a rash with these types of reactions. Symptoms can include any of the following:

- Swelling of your face, eyes, lips, or tongue
- Trouble swallowing or breathing
- A skin rash
- Hives
- Fever, swollen glands (lymph nodes), or sore throat that does not go away or come and goes
- Painful sores in the mouth or around your eyes
- Yellowing of your skin or eyes
- Bruising or bleeding
- Severe fatigue or weakness
- Severe muscle pain
- Frequent infections or an infection that does not go away
- Loss of appetite (anorexia)
- Nausea or vomiting

**Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the symptoms listed above.**

## **What are extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

Extended phenytoin sodium capsules are a prescription medicine used to treat tonic-clonic (grand mal), complex partial (psychomotor or temporal lobe) seizures, and to prevent and treat seizures that happen during or after brain surgery.

## **Who should not take extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

Do not take extended phenytoin sodium capsules if you:

- Are allergic to phenytoin or any of the ingredients in extended phenytoin sodium capsules. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in extended phenytoin sodium capsules.

- Have had an allergic reaction to CEREBYX (fosphenytoin), PEGANON (ethotoin), or MESANTOIN (mephenytoin).
- Take delavirdine

### **What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

Before you take extended phenytoin sodium capsules, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or had liver disease
- Have or had porphyria
- Have or had diabetes
- Have or have had depression, mood problems, or suicidal thoughts or behavior
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. If you become pregnant while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules, the level of extended phenytoin sodium in your blood may decrease, causing your seizures to become worse. Your healthcare provider may change your dose of extended phenytoin sodium capsules.
- Are breastfeeding or plan to breast feed. Extended phenytoin sodium can pass into breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take extended phenytoin sodium capsules or breastfeed. You should not do both.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements.

- Taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules with certain other medicines can cause side effects or affect how well they work. Do not start or stop other medicines without talking to your healthcare provider. Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

### **How should I take extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

- Take extended phenytoin sodium capsules exactly as prescribed. Your healthcare provider will tell you how much extended phenytoin sodium capsules to take.
- Your healthcare provider may change your dose. Do not change your dose of extended phenytoin sodium capsules without talking to your healthcare provider.
- Extended phenytoin sodium capsules can cause overgrowth of your gums. Brushing and flossing your teeth and seeing a dentist regularly while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules can help prevent this.
- If you take too much extended phenytoin sodium capsules, call your healthcare provider or local Poison Control Center right away.
- Do not stop taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules without first talking to your healthcare provider. Stopping extended phenytoin sodium capsules suddenly can cause serious problems.

### **What should I avoid while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

- Do not drink alcohol while you take extended phenytoin sodium capsules without first talking to your healthcare provider. Drinking alcohol while taking extended phenytoin sodium capsules may change your blood levels of extended phenytoin sodium capsules which can cause serious problems.
- Do not drive, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities until you know how extended phenytoin sodium capsules affect you. Extended phenytoin sodium capsules can slow your thinking and motor skills.

### **What are the possible side effects of extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

See **“What is the most important information I should know about extended phenytoin sodium capsules?”**

**Extended phenytoin sodium capsules may cause other serious side effects including:**

- Softening of your bones (osteopenia, osteoporosis and osteomalacia). This can cause broken bones. **Call your healthcare provider right away, if you have any of the symptoms listed above.** The most common side effects of extended phenytoin sodium capsules include:
- problems with walking and coordination
- slurred speech
- confusion
- dizziness
- trouble sleeping
- nervousness
- tremor
- headache
- nausea
- vomiting
- constipation
- rash

These are not all the possible side effects of extended phenytoin sodium capsules. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

**Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.**

**How should I store extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**

- Store extended phenytoin sodium capsules at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C) in tight, light-resistant containers. Protect from moisture.

**Keep extended phenytoin sodium capsules and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

**General information about extended phenytoin sodium capsules**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use extended phenytoin sodium capsules for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give extended phenytoin sodium capsules to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about extended phenytoin sodium capsules. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about extended phenytoin sodium capsules that was written for healthcare professionals.

**What are the ingredients in extended phenytoin sodium capsules?**Extended Oral Capsule

Extended phenytoin sodium capsule 100mg: White opaque/lavender opaque, hard gelatin capsules imprinted "IP 212" on both cap and body.

Active ingredient: 100 mg phenytoin sodium

Inactive ingredients: D&C Red #28, D&C Red #33, FD&C Blue #1, gelatin, hydroxypropyl cellulose, mannitol, magnesium stearate, talc and titanium dioxide.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Manufactured for:

**Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

New Castle, DE 19720

Distributed by:

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New Castle, DE 19720

Rev. 08/15

## PRINCIPAL DISPLAY PANEL

**NDC 10135-0603-01**

**Extended**

**Phenytoin Sodium**

**Capsules, USP**

**100 mg**

<p><b>USUAL DOSAGE:</b> See accompanying prescribing information.</p> <p>Store at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) [See USP Controlled Room Temperature]. Protect from moisture and light. KEEP TIGHTLY CLOSED.</p> <p>Dispense in a tight, light-resistant container as defined in the USP.</p> <p><b>KEEP THIS AND ALL MEDICATION OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.</b></p> <p><b>NOTE TO PHARMACIST:</b> Do not dispense capsules which are discolored.</p> <p><b>PHARMACIST:</b> Please dispense with medication guide provided separately.</p>		<p>Each capsule contains: Phenytoin Sodium, USP..... 100 mg</p> <p>Manufactured for: Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. New Castle, DE 19720</p> <p>Distributed by: Marlex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. New Castle, DE 19720 Made in USA</p> <p>REV. 08/15</p>	<p>Lot No.:</p> <p>Exp. Date:</p>
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## EXTENDED PHENYTOIN SODIUM

phenytoin sodium capsule, extended release

### Product Information

<b>Product Type</b>	HUMAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG	<b>Item Code (Source)</b>	NDC:10 135-603
<b>Route of Administration</b>	ORAL		

### Active Ingredient/Active Moiety

Ingredient Name	Basis of Strength	Strength
PHENYTOIN SODIUM (UNII: 4182431BJH) (PHENYTOIN - UNII:6158TKW0C5)	PHENYTOIN SODIUM	100 mg

### Inactive Ingredients

Ingredient Name	Strength
D&C RED NO. 28 (UNII: 767IP0Y5NH)	
D&C RED NO. 33 (UNII: 9DBA0SBB0L)	
FD&C BLUE NO. 1 (UNII: HBR47K3TBD)	
GELATIN (UNII: 2G86QN327L)	



<b>HYDROXYPROPYL CELLULOSE (TYPE H)</b> (UNII: RFW2ET671P)	
<b>MANNITOL</b> (UNII: 3OWL53L36A)	
<b>MAGNESIUM STEARATE</b> (UNII: 70097M6I30)	
<b>TALC</b> (UNII: 7SEV7J4R1U)	
<b>TITANIUM DIOXIDE</b> (UNII: 15FIX9V2JP)	

### Product Characteristics

<b>Color</b>	WHITE (white opaque/light lavender opaque)	<b>Score</b>	no score
<b>Shape</b>	CAPSULE	<b>Size</b>	16mm
<b>Flavor</b>		<b>Imprint Code</b>	IP;212
<b>Contains</b>			

### Packaging

#	Item Code	Package Description	Marketing Start Date	Marketing End Date
1	NDC:10135-603-01	100 in 1 BOTTLE; Type 0: Not a Combination Product		
2	NDC:10135-603-10	1000 in 1 BOTTLE; Type 0: Not a Combination Product		

### Marketing Information

Marketing Category	Application Number or Monograph Citation	Marketing Start Date	Marketing End Date
ANDA	ANDA040765	08/01/2015	

**Labeler** - Marlex Pharmaceuticals Inc (782540215)

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Marlex Pharmaceuticals Inc