

הודעה על החמרה (מידע בטיחות) בעלון לרופא

תאריך 11.2012

שם תכשיר באנגלית Tavanic 500mg IV

מספר רישום 1194329962

שם בעל הרישום sanofi aventis Israel ltd

טקסט שהוסף מסומן בצהוב, טקסט מחוק מסומן באדום עם קו חוצה, שינויי מיקום וניסוח מסומנים בירוק.

(יש להדגיש כי מוזכרים כאן רק תתי הסעיפים שבהם נעשו שינויים, מידע מלא ניתן למצוא בעלון המלא):

פרטים על השינויים המבוקשים																	
טקסט חדש	טקסט נוכחי	פרק בעלון															
<p>Tavanic solution for infusion is administered by slow intravenous infusion once or twice daily. The dosage depends on the type and severity of the infection and the susceptibility sensitivity of the presumed causative pathogen. It is usually possible to switch from initial intravenous treatment to the oral route after a few days (Tavanic 250 or 500 mg tablets), according to the condition of the patient. Treatment with Tavanic after initial use of the intravenous preparation may be completed with an appropriate oral presentation according to the SPC for the film-coated tablets and as considered appropriate for the individual patient. Given the bioequivalence of the parenteral and oral forms, the same dosage can be used.</p> <p><i>Duration of treatment</i></p> <p><i>The duration of treatment varies according to the course of the disease. As with antibiotic therapy in general, administration of Tavanic (solution for infusion or tablets) should be continued for a minimum of 48 to 72 hours after the patient has become afebrile or evidence of bacterial eradication has been obtained.</i></p> <p><i>Posology</i></p> <p>The following dose recommendations can be given for Tavanic:</p> <p><i>Dosage in patients with normal renal function</i> (creatinine clearance > 50 ml/min)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Indication</th><th>Daily dose regimen (according to severity)</th><th>Total duration of treatment¹ (according to severity)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Community-acquired pneumonia</td><td>500 mg once or twice daily</td><td>7 - 14 days</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pylonephritis</td><td>250¹ 500 mg once daily</td><td>7 - 10 days</td></tr> <tr> <td>Complicated urinary tract infections</td><td>250¹ 500 mg once daily</td><td>7 - 14 days</td></tr> <tr> <td>Skin and soft tissue infections</td><td>500 mg once or twice daily</td><td>7 - 14 days</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>¹Consideration should be given to increasing the dose in cases of severe infection.</i></p> <p><i>¹ Treatment duration includes intravenous plus oral treatment. The time to switch from intravenous to oral treatment depends on the clinical situation but is normally 2 to 4 days.</i></p>	Indication	Daily dose regimen (according to severity)	Total duration of treatment ¹ (according to severity)	Community-acquired pneumonia	500 mg once or twice daily	7 - 14 days	Pylonephritis	250¹ 500 mg once daily	7 - 10 days	Complicated urinary tract infections	250¹ 500 mg once daily	7 - 14 days	Skin and soft tissue infections	500 mg once or twice daily	7 - 14 days		<p>4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS</p> <p>4.2 Posology and method of administration</p>
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<p><u>Special populations</u></p> <p>....</p> <p><i>Impaired liver function</i></p> <p>No adjustment of dosage is required since levofloxacin is not metabolised to any relevant extent by the liver and is mainly excreted by the kidneys.</p> <p>In the elderly Elderly population</p> <p>No adjustment of dosage is required in the elderly, other than that imposed by consideration of renal function (See section 4.4 “Tendinitis and tendon rupture” and “QT interval prolongation”).</p> <p>In children Paediatric population</p> <p>Tavanic is contraindicated in children and growing adolescents (see section 4.3).</p> <p>...</p> <p>It is possible to switch from an initial intravenous application to the oral route at the same dosage after a few days, according to the condition of the patient.</p> <p>....</p>		
<p>In the most severe cases of pneumococcal pneumonia Tavanic may not be the optimal therapy.</p> <p>Nosocomial infections due to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> may require combination therapy.</p> <p>Methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i> are very likely to possess co-resistance to fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin. Therefore levofloxacin is not recommended for the treatment of known or suspected MRSA infections unless laboratory results have confirmed susceptibility of the organism to levofloxacin (and commonly recommended antibacterial agents for the treatment of MRSA-infections are considered inappropriate).</p> <p>Resistance to fluoroquinolones of <i>E. coli</i> – the most common pathogen involved in urinary tract infections – varies across the European Union. Prescribers are advised to take into account the local prevalence of resistance in <i>E. coli</i> to fluoroquinolones.</p> <p>....</p> <p><u>Sodium content</u></p> <p>This medicinal product contains 15.8 mmol (363 mg) per 100 ml dose. To be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.</p> <p><i>Tendinitis and tendon rupture</i></p> <p>Tendinitis may rarely occur. It most frequently involves the Achilles tendon and may lead to tendon rupture. This undesirable effect Tendinitis and tendon rupture, sometimes bilateral, may occur within 48 hours of starting of treatment and may be bilateral with levofloxacin and have been reported up to several months after discontinuation of treatment. The risk of tendinitis and tendon rupture is increased in the elderly patients aged over 60 years, in patients receiving daily doses of 1000 mg and in patients using corticosteroids. The daily dose should be adjusted in elderly patients based on creatinine clearance (see section 4.2). Close monitoring of these patients is therefore necessary if they are prescribed levofloxacin Tavanic. All patients should consult their physician if they experience symptoms of tendinitis. If tendinitis is suspected, treatment with levofloxacin Tavanic must be halted immediately, and appropriate treatment (e.g. immobilisation) must be initiated for the affected tendon (see sections 4.3 and 4.8).</p> <p><i>Clostridium difficile-associated disease</i></p> <p>Diarrhoea, particularly if severe, persistent and/or bloody, during or after treatment with Levofloxacin (including several weeks after treatment), may be symptomatic of <i>Clostridium difficile</i>-associated disease (CDAD). CDAD may range in severity from mild to life threatening, the most severe form of which is pseudomembranous colitis (see section 4.8). It is therefore important to consider this diagnosis in patients who develop serious diarrhoea during or after treatment with levofloxacin. If pseudomembranous colitis is suspected, If CDAD is suspected or confirmed, levofloxacin should must be stopped immediately and patients should be treated with</p>		<p>4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use</p>

supportive measures ± specific therapy without delay (e.g. oral vancomycin) appropriate treatment initiated without delay. ~~Products inhibiting the peristalsis~~ Anti-peristaltic medicinal products are contraindicated in this clinical situation.

Patients predisposed to seizures

Quinolones may lower the seizure threshold and may trigger seizures. ~~Tavanic solution for infusion~~ Levofloxacin is contraindicated in patients with a history of epilepsy (see section 4.3) and, as with other quinolones, should be used with extreme caution in patients predisposed to seizures ~~or such as patients with pre-existing central nervous system lesions~~, concomitant treatment with ~~active substances that fenbufen and similar non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or with drugs which~~ lower the cerebral seizure threshold, such as theophylline (see section 4.5). In case of convulsive seizures (see section 4.8), treatment with levofloxacin should be discontinued.

Patients with G-6- phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency

Patients with latent or actual defects in glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase activity may be prone to haemolytic reactions when treated with quinolone antibacterial agents, ~~and so levofloxacin should be used with caution~~. Therefore, if levofloxacin has to be used in these patients, potential occurrence of haemolysis should be monitored.

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Severe bullous reactions

Cases of severe bullous skin reactions such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis have been reported with levofloxacin (see section 4.8). Patients should be advised to contact their doctor immediately prior to continuing treatment if skin and/or mucosal reactions occur.

Hypoglycemia Disglycaemia

As with all quinolones, ~~hypoglycemia has~~ disturbances in blood glucose, including both hypoglycaemia and hyperglycaemia have been reported, usually in diabetic patients receiving concomitant treatment with an oral hypoglycaemic agent (e.g., glibenclamide) or with insulin. ~~In these~~ Cases of hypoglycaemic coma have been reported. In diabetic patients, careful monitoring of blood glucose is recommended. (see section 4.8).

Prevention of photosensitisation

~~Although photosensitisation is very rare~~ Photosensitisation has been reported with levofloxacin (see section 4.8). It is recommended that patients should not expose themselves unnecessarily to strong sunlight or to artificial UV rays (e.g. sunray lamp, solarium), during treatment and for 48 hours following treatment discontinuation in order to prevent photosensitisation.

Patients treated with Vitamin K antagonists

Due to possible increase in coagulation tests (PT/INR) and/or bleeding in patients treated with ~~levofloxacin Tavanic~~ in combination with a vitamin K antagonist (e.g. warfarin), coagulation tests should be monitored when these drugs are given concomitantly (see section 4.5).

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QT interval prolongation

Caution should be taken when using fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin, in patients with known risk factors for prolongation of the QT interval such as, for example:

- congenital long QT syndrome
- concomitant use of drugs that are known to prolong the QT interval (e.g. Class IA

and III antiarrhythmics, tricyclic antidepressants, macrolides, antipsychotics).

- uncorrected electrolyte imbalance (e.g. hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia)

~~—elderly~~

- cardiac disease (e.g. heart failure, myocardial infarction, bradycardia)

Elderly patients and women may be more sensitive to QTc-prolonging medications. Therefore, caution should be taken when using fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin, in these populations.

(See section 4.2 Elderly, section 4.5, section 4.8, section and 4.9).

Peripheral neuropathy

~~Sensory or sensorimotor peripheral neuropathy has~~ Peripheral sensory neuropathy and peripheral sensory motor neuropathy have been reported in patients receiving fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin, which can be rapid in its onset (see section 4.8). Levofloxacin should be discontinued if the patient experiences symptoms of neuropathy in order to prevent the development of an irreversible condition.

Opiates

~~In patients treated with levofloxacin, determination of opiates in urine may give false-positive results. It may be necessary to confirm positive opiate screens by more specific method.~~

Hepatobiliary disorders

Cases of hepatic necrosis up to ~~life-threatening~~ fatal hepatic failure have been reported with levofloxacin, primarily in patients with severe underlying diseases, e.g. sepsis (see section 4.8). Patients should be advised to stop treatment and contact their doctor if signs and symptoms of hepatic disease develop such as anorexia, jaundice, dark urine, pruritus or tender abdomen.

Exacerbation of myasthenia gravis

Fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin Tavanic, have neuromuscular blocking activity and may exacerbate muscle weakness in ~~persons~~ patients with myasthenia gravis. Postmarketing serious adverse ~~events~~ reactions, including deaths and the requirement for ~~ventilatory~~ respiratory support, have been associated with fluoroquinolone use in ~~persons~~ patients with myasthenia gravis. Avoid Levofloxacin Tavanic is not recommended in patients with a known history of myasthenia gravis.

Vision disorders

If vision becomes impaired or any effects on the eyes are experienced, an eye specialist should be consulted immediately (see sections 4.7 and 4.8).

Superinfection

~~As with other antibiotics,~~ The use of Tavanic levofloxacin, especially if prolonged, may result in overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms. ~~Repeated evaluation of the patient's condition is essential.~~ If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

Interference with laboratory test

In patients treated with levofloxacin, determination of opiates in urine may give false-positive results. It may be necessary to confirm positive opiate screens by more specific method.

Levofloxacin may inhibit the growth of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and, therefore, may give false-negative results in the bacteriological diagnosis of tuberculosis.

<p>....</p> <p><u>Effect of Tavanic on other medicinal products</u></p> <p>....</p> <p><i>Drugs known to prolong QT interval</i> Levofloxacin, like other fluoroquinolones, should be used with caution in patients receiving drugs known to prolong the QT interval (e.g. Class IA and III antiarrhythmics, tricyclic antidepressants, macrolides , antipsychotics). (See section 4.4 QT interval prolongation).</p> <p><i>Other relevant information</i> In a pharmacokinetic interaction study, levofloxacin did not affect the pharmacokinetics of theophylline (which is a probe substrate for CYP1A2), indicating that levofloxacin is not a CYP1A2 inhibitor.</p>		<p>4.5 Interactions with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction</p>
<p><i>Pregnancy</i> Reproductive studies in animals did not raise specific concern. There are limited amount of data from the use of levofloxacin in pregnant women. Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). However in the absence of human data and due to that experimental data suggest a risk of damage by fluoroquinolones to the weight-bearing cartilage of the growing organism, levofloxacin Tavanic must not be used in pregnant women (see section 4.3 and 5.3).</p> <p>Lactation <i>Breast-feeding</i> Tavanic is contraindicated in breast-feeding women. There is insufficient information on the excretion of levofloxacin in human milk; however other fluoroquinolones are excreted in breast milk. In the absence of human data and due to that experimental data suggest a risk of damage by fluoroquinolones to the weight-bearing cartilage of the growing organism, Tavanic solution for infusion levofloxacin must not be used in breast-feeding women (see section 4.3 and 5.3).</p> <p><i>Fertility</i> Levofloxacin caused no impairment of fertility or reproductive performance in rats.</p>		<p>4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation</p>
<p>The information given below is based on data from clinical studies in more than 50008300 patients and on extensive post marketing experience.</p> <p>The adverse reactions are described according to the MedDRA system organ class in the table below.</p> <p>Frequencies in this table are defined using the following convention: very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$, $<1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$, $\leq 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10000$, $\leq 1/1000$), very rare ($\leq 1/10000$), not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).</p> <p>Within each frequency grouping, undesirable effects are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.</p>		<p>4.8 Undesirable effects</p>

System organ class	Common (≥1/100 to <1/10)	Uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100)	Rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000)	Very rare (<1/10000)	Not known (cannot be estimated from available data)		
Infections and infestations		Fungal infection (and proliferation of other resistant microorganisms) including Candida infection Pathogen resistance					
Blood and the lymphatic system disorders		Leukopenia Eosinophilia	Thrombocytopenia Neutropenia	agranulocytosis	Pancytopenia Agranulocytosis Haemolytic anaemia		
Immune system disorders			Angioedema Hypersensitivity (see section 4.4)	Anaphylactic shock	Hypersensitivity (see section 4.4) Anaphylactic shock ^a Anaphylactoid shock ^a (see section 4.4)		
Metabolism and nutrition disorders		Anorexia	Hypoglycaemia particularly in diabetic patients (see section 4.4)	Hypoglycaemia, particularly in diabetic patients (see section 4.4)	Hyperglycaemia Hypoglycaemic coma (see section 4.4)		
Psychiatric disorders	Insomnia	Insomnia Anxiety Confusional state Nervousness	Psychotic reactions (with e.g. hallucination, paranoia) Depression Confusional state Agitation Abnormal dreams Nightmares Anxiety	Psychotic reactions with self-endangering behaviour including suicidal ideation or acts (see section 4.4); hallucination	Psychotic disorders with self-endangering behaviour including suicidal ideation or suicide attempt (see section 4.4)		

Nervous system disorders	Headache Dizziness	Dizziness, headache Somnolence Tremor Dysgeusia	Convulsion (see sections 4.3 and 4.4) tremor Paraesthesia	sensory or sensorimotor peripheral neuropathy, dysgeusia including ageusia, parosmia including anosmia	Peripheral sensory neuropathy (see section 4.4) Peripheral sensory motor neuropathy (see section 4.4) Parosmia including anosmia Dyskinesia Extrapyramidal disorder Ageusia Syncope Benign intracranial hypertension		
Eye disorders			Visual disturbances such as blurred vision (see section 4.4)	Visual disturbance	Transient vision loss (see section 4.4)		
Ear and Labyrinth disorders		Vertigo	Tinnitus	Hearing impaired	Tinnitus Hearing loss Hearing impaired		
Cardiac disorders			Tachycardia, Palpitation		Ventricular tachycardia, which may result in cardiac arrest Ventricular arrhythmia and torsade de pointes (reported predominantly in patients with risk factors of QT prolongation), electrocardiogram QT prolonged (see sections 4.4 QT interval prolongation and 4.9)		
Vascular disorders	Applies to iv form only: Phlebitis		Hypotension				
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders		Dyspnoea	Bronchospasm, Dyspnoea	Pneumonitis allergic	Bronchospasm Pneumonitis allergic		

Gastro-intestinal disorders	Diarrhoea Vomiting Nausea	Vomiting Abdominal pain Dyspepsia Flatulence Constipation	Diarrhoea—haemorrhagic which in very rare cases may be indicative of enterocolitis, including pseudomembranous colitis		Diarrhoea—haemorrhagic which in very rare cases may be indicative of enterocolitis, including pseudomembranous colitis (see section 4.4) Pancreatitis		
Hepatobiliary disorders	Hepatic enzyme increased (ALT/AST, alkaline phosphatase, GGT)	Blood bilirubin increased		Hepatitis	Jaundice and severe liver injury, including fatal cases with acute liver failure, has been reported with levofloxacin, primarily in patients with severe underlying diseases (see section 4.4) Hepatitis		
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders ^b		Rash Pruritus Urticaria Hyperhidrosis	Urticaria	Angioneurotic oedema, photosensitivity reaction	Toxic epidermal necrolysis Stevens-Johnson syndrome Erythema multiforme hyperhidrosis Photosensitivity reaction (see section 4.4) Leukocytoclastic vasculitis Stomatitis		
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders		Arthralgia Myalgia	Tendon disorders (see sections 4.3 and 4.4) including tendinitis (e.g. Achilles tendon) Muscular weakness which may be of special importance in patients with myasthenia gravis (see section 4.4) Arthralgia; Myalgia	Tendon rupture (see section 4.4). This undesirable effect may occur within 48 hours of starting treatment and may be bilateral, muscular weakness which may be of special importance in patients with myasthenia gravis (see section 4.4)	Rhabdomyolysis Tendon rupture (e.g. Achilles tendon) (see sections 4.3 and 4.4) Ligament rupture Muscle rupture Arthritis		

Renal and Urinary disorders		Blood creatinine increased	Renal failure acute (e.g. due to interstitial nephritis)	Renal failure acute (e.g. due to nephritis interstitial)		
General disorders and administration site conditions	<i>Applies to iv form only:</i> Infusion site reaction (pain, reddening)	Asthenia	Pyrexia	Pyrexia	Pain (including pain in back, chest, and extremities)	
<p>^a Anaphylactic and anaphylactoid reactions may sometimes occur even after the first dose.</p> <p>^b Mucocutaneous reactions may sometimes occur even after the first dose</p> <p>Other undesirable effects which have been associated with fluoroquinolone administration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extrapyramidal symptoms and other disorders of muscular coordination; • hypersensitivity vasculitis; • attacks of porphyria in patients with porphyria. 						
<p>...</p> <p>CNS effects including confusional state, convulsion, hallucination, and tremor have been observed in post marketing experience.</p> <p>...</p>						4.9 Overdose
<p>...</p> <p>Mechanism of resistance</p> <p>The main mechanism of resistance is due to a gyr A mutation. In vitro there is a cross-resistance between levofloxacin and other fluoroquinolones.</p> <p>Resistance to levofloxacin is acquired through a stepwise process by target site mutations in both type II topoisomerases, DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV. Other resistance mechanisms such as permeation barriers (common in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>) and efflux mechanisms may also affect susceptibility to levofloxacin.</p> <p>Cross-resistance between levofloxacin and other fluoroquinolones is observed. Due to the mechanism of action, there is generally no cross-resistance between levofloxacin and other classes of antibacterial agents.</p> <p>Breakpoints</p> <p>The EUCAST recommended MIC breakpoints for levofloxacin, separating susceptible from intermediately susceptible organisms and intermediately susceptible from resistant organisms are presented in the below table for MIC testing (mg/L).</p> <p>EUCAST clinical MIC breakpoints for levofloxacin (2006-06-20) (version 2.0, 2012-01-01):</p>						<p>5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES</p> <p>5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties</p>

Pathogen	Susceptible	Resistant
Enterobacteriaceae	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>Staphylococcus spp.</i>	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> ¹	≤2 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>Streptococcus A, B, C, G</i>	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l
<i>H. influenzae</i> ^{2,3}	≤1 mg/l	>1 mg/l
<i>M. catarrhalis</i> ³	≤1 mg/l	>1 mg/l
Non-species related breakpoints ⁴	≤1 mg/l	>2 mg/l

1. ~~The S/I breakpoint was increased from 1.0 to 2.0 to avoid dividing the wild type MIC distribution.~~ The breakpoints for levofloxacin relate to high dose therapy.
2. Low-level fluoroquinolone resistance (ciprofloxacin MICs of 0.12-0.5 mg/l) may occur but there is no evidence that this resistance is of clinical importance in respiratory tract infections with *H. influenzae*.
3. Strains with MIC values above the susceptible breakpoint are very rare or not yet reported. The identification and antimicrobial susceptibility tests on any such isolate must be repeated and if the result is confirmed the isolate must be sent to a reference laboratory. Until there is evidence regarding clinical response for confirmed isolates with MIC above the current resistant breakpoint they should be reported resistant.
4. ~~Non-species related breakpoints have been determined mainly on the basis of pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic data and are independent of MIC distributions of specific species. They are for use only for species that have not been given a species-specific breakpoint and are not for use with species where susceptibility testing is not recommended or for which there is insufficient evidence that the species in question is a good target (Enterococcus, Neisseria, Gram-negative anaerobes).~~ Breakpoints apply to an oral dose of 500 mg x 1 to 500 mg x 2 and an intravenous dose of 500 mg x 1 to 500 mg x 2.

The CLSI (Clinical And Laboratory Standards Institute, formerly NCCLS) recommended MIC breakpoints for levofloxacin, separating susceptible from intermediately susceptible organisms and intermediately susceptible from resistant organisms are presented in the below table for MIC testing (µg/mL) or disc diffusion testing (zone diameter [mm]) using a 5 µg levofloxacin disc).

CLSI recommended MIC and disc diffusion breakpoints for levofloxacin (M100-S17, 2007):

Pathogen	Susceptible	Resistant
Enterobacteriaceae	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
Non-Enterobacteriaceae:	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
<i>Staphylococcus spp.</i>	≤ 1 µg/mL	≥ 4 µg/mL

	≥ 19 mm	≤ 15 mm
<i>Enterococcus spp.</i>	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
<i>H. influenzae M. catarrhalis</i> [†]	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	- -
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
<i>beta-hemolytic Streptococcus</i>	≤ 2 µg/mL ≥ 17 mm	≥ 8 µg/mL ≤ 13 mm
[†] The absence or rare occurrence of resistant strains precludes defining any results categories other than « susceptible ». for strains yielding results suggestive of a « nonsusceptible » category, organism identification and antimicrobial susceptibility test results should be confirmed by a reference laboratory using CLSI reference dilution method.		

Antibacterial spectrum

...

Commonly susceptible species

Aerobic Gram-positive bacteria

Bacillus anthracis

*Staphylococcus aureus** methicillin-susceptible

Staphylococcus saprophyticus

Streptococci, group C and G

Streptococcus agalactiae

*Streptococcus pneumoniae**

*Streptococcus pyogenes**

Aerobic Gram- negative bacteria

Burkholderia cepacia

Eikenella corrodens

*Haemophilus influenzae**

*Haemophilus para-influenzae**

Klebsiella oxytoca

Klebsiella pneumoniae*

*Moraxella catarrhalis**

Pasteurella multocida

Proteus vulgaris

Providencia rettgeri

Anaerobic bacteria

Peptostreptococcus

Other

*Chlamydophila pneumoniae**

Chlamydophila psittaci

Chlamydia trachomatis

*Legionella pneumophila**

<p><i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>* <i>Mycoplasma hominis</i> <i>Ureaplasma urealyticum</i></p> <p><u>Species for which acquired resistance may be a problem</u></p> <p><u>Aerobic Gram-positive bacteria</u></p> <p><i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>* <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> methicillin-resistant# Coagulase negative <i>Staphylococcus</i> spp</p> <p><u>Aerobic Gram- negative bacteria</u></p> <p><i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> * <i>Citrobacter freundii</i>* <i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i> <i>Enterobacter agglomerans</i> <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>* <i>Escherichia coli</i>* <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> <i>Morganella morganii</i>* <i>Proteus mirabilis</i>* <i>Providencia stuartii</i> <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>* <i>Serratia marcescens</i> *</p> <p><u>Anaerobic bacteria</u></p> <p><i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> <i>Bacteroides ovatus</i>\$ <i>Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron</i>\$ <i>Bacteroides vulgatus</i>\$ <i>Clostridium difficile</i>\$</p> <p><u>Inherently Resistant Strains</u></p> <p><u>Aerobic Gram-positive bacteria</u></p> <p><i>Enterococcus faecium</i></p>		
<p>*Clinical efficacy has been demonstrated for susceptible isolates in the approved clinical indications \$Natural intermediate susceptibility #Methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i> are very likely to possess co-resistance to fluoroquinolones, including levofloxacin</p> <p><u>Other information</u></p> <p>Nosocomial infections due to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> may require combination therapy.</p>		
<p>Absorption</p> <p>Orally administered levofloxacin is rapidly and almost completely absorbed with peak plasma concentrations being obtained within 1-2 h. The absolute bioavailability is approximately 99-100 %.</p> <p>Food has little effect on the absorption of levofloxacin.</p> <p>Steady state conditions are reached within 48 hours following a 500 mg once or twice daily dosage regimen.</p>		<p>5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties</p>

Distribution

Approximately 30 - 40 % of levofloxacin is bound to serum protein.

The mean volume of distribution of levofloxacin is approximately 100 l after single and repeated 500 mg doses, indicating widespread distribution into body tissues.

500 mg once daily multiple dosing with levofloxacin showed negligible accumulation. There is modest but predictable accumulation of levofloxacin after doses of 500 mg twice daily. Steady-state is achieved within 3 days.

Penetration into tissues and body fluids:

Penetration into Bronchial Mucosa, Epithelial Lining Fluid (ELF)

Maximum levofloxacin concentrations in bronchial mucosa and epithelial lining fluid after 500 mg p.o. were 8.3 µg/g and 10.8 µg/ml respectively. These were reached approximately one hour after administration.

Penetration into Lung Tissue

Maximum levofloxacin concentrations in lung tissue after 500 mg p.o. were approximately 11.3 µg/g and were reached between 4 and 6 hours after administration. The concentrations in the lungs consistently exceeded those in plasma.

Penetration into Blister Fluid

Maximum levofloxacin concentrations of about 4.0 and 6.7 µg/ml in the blister fluid were reached 2–4 hours after administration following 3 days dosing at 500 mg once or twice daily, respectively.

Penetration into Cerebro Spinal Fluid

Levofloxacin has poor penetration into cerebro-spinal fluid.

Concentration in urine

The mean urine concentrations 8–12 hours after a single oral dose of 150 mg, 300 mg or 500 mg levofloxacin were 44 mg/L, 91 mg/L and 200 mg/L, respectively.

Levofloxacin has been shown to penetrate into bronchial mucosa, epithelial lining fluid, alveolar macrophages, lung tissue, skin (blister fluid), prostatic tissue and urine. However, levofloxacin has poor penetration into cerebro-spinal fluid.

Metabolism-Biotransformation

Levofloxacin is metabolised to a very small extent, the metabolites being desmethyl-levofloxacin and levofloxacin N-oxide. These metabolites account for < 5% of the dose and are excreted in urine. Levofloxacin is stereochemically stable and does not undergo chiral inversion.

Elimination

Following oral and intravenous administration of levofloxacin, it is eliminated relatively slowly from the plasma ($t_{1/2}$: 6 - 8 h). Excretion is primarily by the renal route > 85 % of the administered dose).

The mean apparent total body clearance of levofloxacin following a 500 mg single dose was 175 +/-29.2 ml/min.

There are no major differences in the pharmacokinetics of levofloxacin following intravenous and oral administration, suggesting that the oral and intravenous routes are interchangeable.

Linearity

Levofloxacin obeys linear pharmacokinetics over a range of 50 to 600-1000 mg.

Special populations

Subjects with renal insufficiency

The pharmacokinetics of levofloxacin are affected by renal impairment. With decreasing renal function renal elimination and clearance are decreased, and elimination half-lives increased as shown in the table below:

Pharmacokinetics in renal insufficiency following single oral 500 mg dose

Clcr [ml/min]	<20	20 - 40 49	50 – 80
CLR [ml/min]	13	26	57
t1/2 [h]	35	27	9

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Acute toxicity

The median lethal dose (LD₅₀) values obtained in mice and rats after oral administration of levofloxacin were in the range 1500-2000 mg/kg.

Administration of 500 mg/kg p.o. to monkeys induced little effect apart from vomiting.

Repeated dose toxicity

Studies of one and six months duration by gavage have been carried out in the rat and monkey. Doses were 50, 200, 800 mg/kg/day and 20, 80, 320 mg/kg/day for 1 and 6 months in the rat and 10, 30, 100 mg/kg/day and 10, 25, 62.5 mg/kg/day for 1 and 6 months in the monkey.

Signs of reaction to treatment were minor in the rat with slight effects principally at 200 mg/kg/day and above in reducing food consumption and slightly altering haematological and biochemical parameters. The No Observed Adverse Effect Levels (NOELs) in these studies were concluded to be 200 and 20 mg/kg/day after 1 and 6 months respectively.

Toxicity after oral dosing in the monkey was minimal with reduced body weight at 100 mg/kg/day together with salivation, diarrhoea and decreased urinary pH in some animals at this dose. No toxicity was seen in the 6-month study. The NOELs were concluded to be 30 and 62.5 mg/kg/day after 1 and 6 months respectively.

The NOELs in the six-month studies were concluded to be 20 and 62.5 mg/kg/day in the rat and monkey respectively.

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of single dose toxicity, repeated dose toxicity, carcinogenic potential and toxicity to reproduction and development.

Reproductive toxicity

Levofloxacin caused no impairment of fertility or reproductive performance in rats and its only effect on fetuses was delayed maturation as a result of maternal toxicity, at oral doses as high as 360 mg/kg/day or intravenous doses up to 100 mg/kg/day.

Levofloxacin was not teratogenic in rats at oral doses as high as 810 mg/kg/day, or at intravenous doses as high as 160 mg/kg/day. No teratogenicity was observed when rabbits were dosed orally with up to 50 mg/kg/day or intravenously with up to 25 mg/kg/day.

Genotoxicity

Levofloxacin did not induce gene mutations in bacterial or mammalian cells but did induce chromosome aberrations in Chinese hamster lung cells *in vitro* at or above 100 µg/ml, in the absence of metabolic activation. These effects can be attributed to inhibition of topoisomerase II. *In vivo* tests (micronucleus, sister chromatid exchange, unscheduled DNA synthesis, dominant lethal tests) did not show any genotoxic potential.

Phototoxic potential

Studies in the mouse after both oral and intravenous dosing showed levofloxacin to have phototoxic activity only at very high doses. Levofloxacin did not show any genotoxic potential in a photomutagenicity assay, and it reduced tumour development in a photocarcinogenicity assay study.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

<p>Carcinogenic potential</p> <p>No indication of carcinogenic potential was seen in a two year study in the rat with dietary administration (0, 10, 30 and 100 mg/kg/day).</p> <p>Toxicity to joints</p> <p>In common with other fluoroquinolones, levofloxacin showed effects on cartilage (blistering and cavities) in rats and dogs. These findings were more marked in young animals.</p>		
<p>Shelf life as packaged for sale: 3 years</p> <p>Shelf life after removal of the outer packaging: 3 days (under indoor light conditions).</p> <p>Shelf life after perforation of the rubber stopper: immediate use (see section 6.6 3 hours (see 6.6).</p> <p>From a microbiological point of view, the solution for infusion should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of the user.</p>		6.3 Shelf life
<p>...</p> <p>This medicinal product is for single use only.</p> <p>The solution should be visually inspected prior to use. It must only be used if the solution is clear, greenish-yellow solution, practically free from particles.</p> <p>...</p>		6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

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