



Public Assessment Report

National Procedure

Citalopram 10 mg Tablets

Citalopram 20 mg Tablets

Citalopram 40 mg Tablets

citalopram hydrobromide

PL 28444/0271 - 0273

ACTIVASE PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED

LAY SUMMARY

Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets citalopram hydrobromide

This is a summary of the Public Assessment Report (PAR) for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets. It explains how these products were assessed and their authorisation recommended, as well as their conditions of use. It is not intended to provide practical advice on how to use these products.

These products will be referred to as Citalopram Tablets in this lay summary for ease of reading.

For practical information about using Citalopram Tablets, patients should read the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) or contact their doctor or pharmacist.

What are Citalopram Tablets and what are they used for?

These applications are the same as Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC) which are already authorised.

The Company responsible for the reference medicines has agreed that its scientific data can be used as the basis for the grant of identical licences for Citalopram Tablets.

Citalopram Tablets are used to treat depression and, when patients feel better, to help prevent these symptoms recurring. Citalopram is also used for long-term treatment to prevent the occurrence of new episodes of depression if patients have recurrent depression. Citalopram is also useful in treating people suffering from panic attacks.

How do Citalopram Tablets work?

Citalopram is a Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) and belongs to a group of medicines known as antidepressants. These medicines help to correct certain chemical imbalances in the brain that are causing the symptoms of patient's illness.

How are Citalopram Tablets used?

The pharmaceutical form of these medicines is tablets and the route of administration is oral (by mouth). Citalopram tablets should be taken every day as a single daily dose, with or without food. The tablets should be swallowed with a drink of water and should not be chewed as they have a bitter taste.

This medicine is not recommended for children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

To treat adults with depression, the usual dose is 20 mg per day. This may be increased by the doctor to a maximum of 40 mg per day. In adults with panic disorder, the starting dose is 10 mg per day for the first week before increasing the dose to 20 to 30 mg per day. The dose may be increased by the doctor to a maximum of 40 mg per day.

Patients with liver complaints should not receive more than 20 mg per day.

For elderly patients (above 65 years of age), the starting dose should be decreased to half of the recommended dose, e.g. 10 to 20 mg per day. Elderly patients should not usually receive more than 20 mg per day.

For further information on how Citalopram Tablets are used, refer to the PIL and Summaries of Product Characteristics (SmPCs) available on the Medicines and Healthcare products

Regulatory Agency (MHRA) website.

These medicines can only be obtained with a prescription.

The patient should always take the medicine exactly as their doctor/pharmacist has told them. The patient should check with their doctor or pharmacist if they are not sure.

What benefits of Citalopram Tablets have been shown in studies?

Citalopram Tablets are considered identical to the previously authorised product/products with the same benefits and risks. No new studies have been provided for Citalopram Tablets, however, reference is made to the studies for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC).

What are the possible side effects of Citalopram Tablets?

For the full list of all side effects reported with these medicines, see Section 4 of the PIL or the SmPCs available on the MHRA website.

If a patient gets any side effects, they should talk to their doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in the product information or the PIL that comes with the medicine. Patients can also report suspected side effects themselves, or a report can be made on their behalf by someone else who cares for them, directly via the Yellow Card scheme at <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk> or search for ‘MHRA Yellow Card’ online. By reporting side effects, patients can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Citalopram Tablets are considered to be identical to the previously authorised product/products with the same benefits and risks.

Why were Citalopram Tablets approved?

The MHRA decided that the benefits of Citalopram Tablets are greater than the risks and recommended that these medicines are approved for use.

What measures are being taken to ensure the safe and effective use of Citalopram Tablets?

As for all newly-authorised medicines, a Risk Management Plan (RMP) has been developed for Citalopram Tablets. The RMP details the important risks of Citalopram Tablets, how these risks can be minimised, any uncertainties about Citalopram Tablets (missing information), and how more information will be obtained about the important risks and uncertainties.

The following safety concerns have been recognised for Citalopram Tablets:

Summary of safety concerns	
Important identified risks	None
Important potential risks	Bone fractures
Missing information	Long-term safety in children and adolescents concerning growth, maturation and cognitive and behavioural development

The information included in the SmPC and the PIL is compiled based on the available quality, non-clinical and clinical data, and includes appropriate precautions to be followed by healthcare professionals and patients. Side effects of Citalopram Tablets are continuously

monitored and reviewed including all reports of suspected side-effects from patients, their carers, and healthcare professionals.

An RMP and a summary of the pharmacovigilance system have been provided with these applications and are satisfactory.

Other information about Citalopram Tablets

Marketing Authorisations were granted in the United Kingdom on 20 October 2023.

The full PAR for Citalopram Tablets follows this summary.

This summary was last updated in February 2024.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Based on the review of the data on quality, safety and efficacy, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) considered that the applications for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 28444/0271 - 0273) could be approved.

The products are approved for the following indications:

- Treatment of depressive illness in the initial phase and as maintenance against potential relapse/recurrence.
- Treatment of panic disorder with or without agoraphobia.

Biochemical and behavioural studies have shown that citalopram is a potent inhibitor of serotonin (5-HT)-uptake. Tolerance to the inhibition of 5-HT uptake is not induced by long-term treatment with citalopram. Citalopram is the most Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) yet described, with no, or minimal, effect on noradrenaline (NA), dopamine (DA) and gamma aminobutyric acid (GABA) uptake.

These are national abridged applications approved under Regulation 56 of The Human Medicines Regulation 2012, as amended (previously Article 10c of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended) as informed consent applications. The applications cross-refer to the reference products Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC).

No new non-clinical or clinical data have been supplied and none are required for these informed consent applications.

Suitable justification has been provided for non-submission of an Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA). As the applications are for identical versions of already authorised products, no increase in environmental exposure is anticipated and no ERA is required.

The MHRA has been assured that acceptable standards of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) are in place for these products at all sites responsible for the manufacture, assembly and batch release of these products.

A Risk Management Plan (RMP) and a summary of the pharmacovigilance system have been provided with these applications and are satisfactory.

National marketing authorisations were granted in the United Kingdom on 20 October 2023

II. EXPERT REPORT

The applicant cross-refers to the data for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC), to which these applications are claimed to be identical. This is acceptable.

III. ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS ON THE PRODUCT INFORMATION

Summaries of Product Characteristics (SmPCs)

The SmPCs are in line with those for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC), dated December 2020.

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

A leaflet mock-up has been provided which has been aligned with that for Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC), dated for November 2020. The user test report submitted for PL 21880/0060 – 0062 has been provided.

LABEL

Label mock-ups have been provided.

IV. QUALITY ASPECTS**IV.1 Drug Substance****Drug substance specification(s)**

The source(s) of the active substance(s) are in line with the cross-reference products. The proposed drug substance specification is consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference products.

IV.2. Drug Product**Name**

The product has been named in line with current requirements.

Strength, pharmaceutical form, route of administration, container and pack sizes

The tablets are packed in blisters constituted from a PVC and aluminium foil in packs containing 28 tablets.

The appearance of the products is identical to that of the cross-reference products.

The proposed shelf life of the product is 36 months (3 years) with the recommended storage condition 'Store in the original package'.

The proposed packaging, shelf life and storage conditions are consistent with the details registered for the reference product.

Legal status

Prescription only medicine (POM).

Manufacturers

The proposed manufacturing site(s) are consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference products and evidence of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) compliance has been provided.

Qualitative and quantitative compositions

The composition of the proposed products are consistent with the details registered for the cross-reference products.

Manufacturing process & control of critical steps

The proposed manufacturing processes and process controls are consistent with the details registered for the reference products and the maximum batch size is stated.

Finished product release/shelf life specifications

The finished product specifications at release and shelf-life are in line with the details registered for the cross-reference products.

TSE Compliance

With the exception of lactose monohydrate, no excipients of animal or human origin are used in the final products. The supplier of lactose monohydrate has confirmed that it is sourced from healthy animals under the same conditions as milk for human consumption.

Confirmation has been given that the magnesium stearate used in the tablets is of vegetable origin.

These products do not contain or consist of genetically modified organisms (GMO).

V. NON-CLINICAL ASPECTS

As these applications are submitted under Regulation 56 of The Human Medicines Regulation 2012, as amended, (as informed consent applications) no new non-clinical data have been supplied and none are required.

VI. CLINICAL ASPECTS

As these applications are submitted under Regulation 56 of The Human Medicines Regulation 2012, as amended, (as informed consent applications) no new clinical data have been supplied and none are required.

VII. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP)

The applicant has submitted an RMP, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 182 of The Human Medicines Regulation 2012, as amended. The applicant proposes only routine pharmacovigilance and routine risk minimisation measures for all safety concerns. This is acceptable.

VIII. USER CONSULTATION

A full colour mock-up of the Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) has been provided with the application, in accordance with legal requirements.

The PIL has been evaluated via a user consultation with target patient groups, in accordance with legal requirements, on the basis of a bridging report making reference to:

- Citalopram 10 mg, 20 mg and 40 mg Tablets (PL 21880/0060 – 0062; Medreich PLC) for key safety messages
- Co-codamol 15/500mg Tablets (PL 21880/0161; Medreich PLC) for layout and dimensions of the leaflet.

The bridging report submitted by the applicant is acceptable.

IX. OVERALL CONCLUSION, BENEFIT/RISK AND RECOMMENDATION

The quality of the products is acceptable, and no new non-clinical or clinical safety concerns have been identified. The applicant's products are identical to the cross-reference products.

The benefit/risk balance is, therefore, considered to be the same as for the cross-reference products and positive.

The Summaries of Product Characteristics (SmPCs), Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) and labelling are satisfactory, in line with current guidelines and consistent with the cross-reference products.

In accordance with legal requirements, the current approved UK versions of the SmPCs and PILs for these products are available on the MHRA website.

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Steps taken after the initial procedure with an influence on the Public Assessment Report (non-safety variations of clinical significance).

Please note that only non-safety variations of clinical significance are recorded below and in the annexes to this PAR. The assessment of safety variations where significant changes are made are recorded on the MHRA website or European Medicines Agency (EMA) website. Minor changes to the marketing authorisation are recorded in the current SmPC and/or PIL available on the MHRA website.

Application type	Scope	Product information affected	Date of grant	Outcome	Assessment report attached Y/N