

WHO-PQ RECOMMENDED SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

*This summary of product characteristics focuses on uses of the medicine covered by WHO's Prequalification Team - Medicines. The recommendations for use are based on WHO guidelines and on information from stringent regulatory authorities.**

The medicine may be authorised for additional or different uses by national medicines regulatory authorities.

*https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/75%20SRA%20clarification_Feb2017_newtempl.pdf

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

[TB231 trade name]†

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each film-coated tablet contains:

Rifampicin 300 mg

Isoniazid 150 mg

Excipient with known effect:

Each tablet also contains colour lake Ponceau 4R (Cochineal Red A). See section 4-4.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Brown to reddish brown coloured, circular, biconvex, film-coated tablet, having a break-line on one side and plain on the other side.

The break-line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

[TB231 trade name] is indicated in adults weighing at least 50 kg

- for the continuation treatment phase of tuberculosis caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
- for tuberculosis preventive treatment.

Consideration should be given to official treatment guidelines for tuberculosis such as those of WHO and other national and international guidelines.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

[TB231 trade name] is taken once daily.

The recommended dose for both treatment and preventive treatment in adults weighing at least 50 kg is

- Isoniazid: 5 mg/kg (4–6 mg/kg) daily
- Rifampicin: 10 mg/kg (8–12 mg/kg) daily

Weight	Dose
Under 50 kg	[TB231 trade name] is not suitable; use alternative product to give suitable doses of the active ingredients
50–74 kg	2 tablets administered as a single dose once daily
75 kg and over	3 tablets administered as a single dose once daily

Official guidelines such as those of WHO or other national or international guidelines should be consulted.

† Trade names are not prequalified by WHO. This is the national medicines regulatory agency's responsibility.

The duration of therapy is dependent on the therapeutic indication as well as the combination of drugs used together with isoniazid.

[TB231 trade name] should not be used for intermittent treatment regimens.

For situations where discontinuation of therapy with one of the active substances of this medicine, or dose reduction is necessary, separate preparations of rifampicin and/or isoniazid should be used.

Paediatric patients

[TB231 trade name] is not recommended for paediatric patients, since appropriate dose adjustments cannot be made.

For these patients other formulations are available.

Renal impairment:

No dose adjustment in patients with renal impairment is generally recommended. However, patients should be closely monitored for signs of isoniazid toxicity, especially peripheral neuropathy. A dose reduction to 2/3 of the normal daily dose may be considered in slow acetylators with severe renal failure (ClCr <25 ml/min) or in those with signs of isoniazid toxicity. If so, separate preparations of rifampicin and isoniazid should be administered (see section 4.4).

Hepatic impairment:

Limited data indicate that the pharmacokinetics of rifampicin and isoniazid are altered in patients with hepatic impairment. Therefore, patients with hepatic impairment should be closely observed for signs of toxicity. [TB231 trade name] must not be used in patients with severe liver disease (see section 4.3).

Missed doses

It is important that the patient takes the medicine regularly as prescribed. Missing doses can increase the risk of resistance to [TB231 trade name] and reduce its effectiveness.

In case a dose is missed, this dose should be taken as soon as possible. However, if the next regular dose is due within 6 hours, the missed dose should be omitted.

Method of administration

[TB231 trade name] is administered orally, and should be taken on an empty stomach (at least 1 hour prior to or 2 hours after a meal). Bioavailability may be impaired if [TB231 trade name] is taken with food to improve gastrointestinal tolerance.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients.

Acute liver disease, icterus or severe liver impairment.

Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] with voriconazole, any HIV protease inhibitor, elvitegravir/cobicistat or any direct acting antiviral for chronic Hepatitis C is contraindicated (see section 4.5).

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Liver toxicity: Rifampicin and isoniazid may cause hepatotoxicity (see section 4.8).

Whenever possible, the use of [TB231 trade name] should be avoided in patients with preexisting hepatic impairment (ALT > 3 x ULN) due to the risk of liver toxicity. Patients should be strongly advised to restrict intake of alcoholic beverages while being treated with [TB231 trade name]. Patient groups especially at risk for developing hepatitis include:

- age > 35 years,

- daily users of alcohol (see section 4.5),
- patients with active chronic liver disease
- intravenous drug users.

Furthermore, the following patients should be carefully monitored:

- patients with concurrent use of any chronically administered medication (see section 4.5),
- existence of peripheral neuropathy or conditions predisposing to neuropathy,
- pregnant patients
- HIV positive patients.

Patients should be instructed to immediately report signs or symptoms consistent with liver damage or other adverse effects. These include any of the following: unexplained anorexia, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, icterus, rash, persistent paraesthesiae of the hands and feet, persistent fatigue and/or weakness of greater than 3 days duration and/or abdominal tenderness, especially of the right upper quadrant. If these symptoms appear or if signs suggestive of hepatic damage are detected, [TB231 trade name] should be discontinued promptly, since continued use in these cases may cause a more severe form of liver damage.

In addition to monthly symptom reviews, hepatic enzymes (specifically AST and ALT) should be measured prior to starting therapy with [TB231 trade name] and periodically throughout treatment.

Increased liver function tests are common during therapy with [TB231 trade name]. A cholestatic pattern is usually caused by rifampicin, whereas elevated transaminases may be caused by rifampicin or isoniazid. These effects on liver function tests are usually mild to moderate, and will most commonly normalise spontaneously within three months, even with continued therapy.

If abnormalities of liver function exceed three to five times the upper limit of normal, discontinuation of [TB231 trade name] should be strongly considered.

Rechallenge with component drugs after intercurrent hepatotoxicity, if deemed appropriate, should not be performed until symptoms and laboratory abnormalities have subsided. In case of rechallenge, [TB231 trade name] should not be used, as the component drugs should be given one by one and at gradually increasing doses, or alternative agents should be used.

Hypersensitivity: Rifampicin may cause a hypersensitivity syndrome including ‘flu-like’ symptoms and/or organ manifestation. The risk is higher in intermittent therapy or if treatment is resumed after discontinuation. If severe, acute signs of rifampicin hypersensitivity do appear (e.g. thrombocytopenia, purpura, haemolytic anaemia, dyspnoea, shock or acute renal failure). Then, [TB231 trade name] should immediately be discontinued. Such patients should not be rechallenged with rifampicin. If rifampicin therapy is temporarily discontinued, rifampicin should be restarted carefully at a reduced dose, and with close monitoring. In this situation, [TB231 trade name] should not be used.

Cross-sensitivity: Patients hypersensitive to ethionamide, pyrazinamide, niacin (nicotinic acid), or other chemically related medications may also be hypersensitive to isoniazid.

Peripheral neuropathy: This is the most common toxic effect of isoniazid (see section 4.8). The frequency depends on the dose and on predisposing conditions such as malnutrition, alcoholism or diabetes. Concomitant pyridoxine administration largely reduces the risk of developing neuropathy. Therefore, pyridoxine should be co-administered routinely with [TB231 trade name] at doses of 10 mg per day to prevent and at doses of 50-75 mg daily to treat peripheral neuropathy.

Epilepsy and psychotic disorders: [TB231 trade name] should be used with caution in patients with pre-existing seizure disorders or a history of psychosis.

Haematological toxicity: Since rifampicin treatment has been associated with haemolytic anaemia, leucopenia and thrombocytopenia, full blood count should be monitored regularly throughout therapy with [TB231 trade name]. In case of severe haematological disturbances [TB231 trade name] must be discontinued.

Renal impairment: Patients with renal impairment, particularly those who are slow acetylators (see sections 4.2 and 5.2) may be at increased risk for isoniazid adverse effects such as peripheral neuropathy, and should be monitored accordingly. As in other patients, adequate supplementation with pyridoxine (see above) should be given to avoid neurotoxicity.

Nephrotoxicity: [TB231 trade name] should be discontinued in case of clinical signs of nephrotoxicity.

Diabetes Mellitus: Patients with diabetes should be carefully monitored, since blood glucose control may be affected by isoniazid.

Drug interactions: Rifampicin is a strong inducer of hepatic drug metabolism. Therefore [TB231 trade name] may reduce exposure and efficacy of many therapeutic drugs, including antiretroviral agents, antiepileptic drugs, immunosuppressants and coumarin derivatives (see section 4.5).

Contraception: Oral contraceptives do not provide adequate protection against conception when co-administered with [TB231 trade name]. This probably also pertains to other forms of hormonal contraceptives (e.g. patches, transdermal implants). Barrier or other non-hormonal methods of contraception should be used.

Treatment with corticosteroids: [TB231 trade name] may reduce the efficacy of corticosteroids in Addison's disease and induce an Addisonian crisis (see section 4.5).

Porphyria: [TB231 trade name] should be used with caution in patients with porphyria, since the enzyme induction by rifampicin may cause symptoms.

Discolouration of body fluids: [TB231 trade name] may cause a reddish-orange discolouration of body fluids such as urine, sputum and tears. This is due to rifampicin, and does not require medical attention.

Laboratory monitoring: Full blood count and liver function should be monitored prior to and at regular intervals during treatment with [TB231 trade name].

Excipients

[TB231 trade name] contains colour lake Ponceau 4R (Cochineal Red A). Ponceau 4R may cause allergic reactions.

It is important to consider the contribution of excipients from all the medicines that the patient is taking.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Rifampicin is a very potent inducer of the hepatic and intestinal cytochrome P-450 enzyme system, as well as of glucuronidation and the P-glycoprotein transport system. Administration of rifampicin with drugs that undergo biotransformation through these metabolic pathways is likely to accelerate elimination of coadministered drugs. These effects approach their maximum after about 10 days of treatment, and gradually return to normal within 2 or more weeks after discontinuation. This must be taken into account when cotreating with other drugs. To maintain optimum therapeutic blood levels, dosages of drugs metabolized by these enzymes may require adjustment when starting or stopping the concomitant administration of [TB231 trade name].

In vitro, isoniazid acts as an inhibitor of CYP2C19 and CYP3A4. Thus it may increase exposure to drugs mainly eliminated through either of these pathways. However, when co-treating with rifampicin, as when using [TB231 trade name], these effects are likely to be outweighed by the hepatic enzyme induction due to rifampicin. Insofar as it has been investigated, the net effect of rifampicin and isoniazid on drug clearance will be an increase due to rifampicin rather than a decrease due to isoniazid.

Concurrent use of isoniazid with other hepatotoxic or neurotoxic medications may increase the hepatotoxicity and neurotoxicity of isoniazid, and should be avoided.

Mainly due to rifampicin, [TB231 trade name] may interact with a very large number of other drugs, primarily by reducing the exposure to coadministered agents, reducing their efficacy and increasing the risk of therapeutic failure. For many important therapeutic agents, no interaction data with rifampicin are available. However, clinically significant reductions in drug exposure may occur. Whenever co-prescribing any drug together with [TB231 trade name], the possibility of a drug-drug interaction should be considered. The following list of drug interactions with [TB231 trade name] is not exhaustive, but is a selection of interactions of putative importance. The scope of the table is largely based on the WHO Essential Medicines List.

Use of isoniazid should be carefully monitored with patients with current chronic liver disease. Severe and sometimes fatal hepatitis associated with isoniazid therapy may occur and may develop even after many months of treatment.

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
INFECTION <i>Antiretrovirals</i>		
<i>Nucleoside analogues</i> Zidovudine / rifampicin	Zidovudine AUC ↓ 47%	The clinical significance of the lowered zidovudine exposure is unknown. Dose modifications of zidovudine in this situation have not been formally evaluated.
Stavudine Didanosine Lamivudine Emtricitabine	No interaction expected	No dose adjustment required.
Tenofovir alafenamide/ emtricitabine/ rifampicin	Interaction not studied. Co-administration of rifampicin, a P-gp inducer, may decrease tenofovir alafenamide plasma concentrations, which may result in loss of therapeutic effect and development of resistance.	Coadministration is not recommended.
Tenofovir disoproxil / rifampicin	Tenofovir AUC ↓ 13%	No dose adjustment required.
Abacavir / rifampicin	Empirical data are lacking, but rifampicin may decrease abacavir exposure through induction of glucuronidation.	Efficacy of abacavir should be closely monitored in co-treatment.
<i>Non-nucleoside analogues</i> Efavirenz / rifampicin	Efavirenz AUC ↓ 26%	When co-treating with [TB231 trade name], it may be considered to increase the efavirenz dose to 800 mg q.d.
Nevirapine / rifampicin	nevirapine: AUC ↓ 58%	Since neither appropriate doses of nevirapine, when given concomitantly with rifampicin, nor the safety of this combination have been established, concomitant use

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
		of [TB231 trade name] and nevirapine is not recommended.
Etravirine / rifampicin	Rifampicin is likely to significantly reduce exposure to etravirine.	Co-treatment of [TB231 trade name] and etravirine should be avoided.
<i>Protease inhibitors</i> Fosamprenavir / rifampicin Saquinavir Indinavir Ritonavir Lopinavir Atazanavir Tipranavir Darunavir Boceprevir	Protease inhibitor exposure will be reduced to subtherapeutic level due to interaction with rifampicin. Attempts to dose adjust by increased doses, or an increase in ritonavir-boosting, have been ineffective or ill-tolerated with a high rate of hepatotoxicity.	[TB231 trade name] must not be co-administered with HIV or HCV protease inhibitors (see section 4.3).
<i>Others</i>		
Raltegravir / rifampicin	Raltegravir AUC ↓ 40%	Co-treatment should be avoided. If deemed necessary, consider an increase of the raltegravir dose to 600 mg b.i.d.
Dolutegravir / rifampicin	Dolutegravir AUC ↓ 54%	A dose adjustment of dolutegravir to 50 mg twice daily is recommended when coadministered with [TB231 trade name] in the absence of integrase class resistance. In the presence of integrase class resistance this combination should be avoided.
Elvitegravir/cobicistat/rifampicin	Co-administration has not been studied. Rifampicin is a potent inducer of CYP450 metabolism and may cause significant decrease in the plasma concentration of elvitegravir and cobicistat resulting in loss of therapeutic effect.	Coadministration is contraindicated.
Maraviroc / rifampicin	Maraviroc AUC ↓ 63%	Co-treatment should be avoided. If deemed necessary, the maraviroc dose should be increased to 600 mg b.i.d.
<i>Antivirals Hepatitis C-infection</i>		
Daclatasvir Elbasvir/Grazoprevir Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir	<u>Rifampicin</u> : Co-administration has not been studied but is	Coadministration of [TB231 trade name] with these antivirals is contraindicated (for further details)

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
<p>Ledipasvir/Sofosbuvir Ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir (with or without dasabuvir) Simeprevir Sofosbuvir (with or without velpatasvir with or without voxilaprevir)/</p> <p>Rifampicin Isoniazid</p>	<p>expected to decrease concentrations of these HCV-antivirals due to induction of CYP3A4 by rifampicin and hence to reduce their therapeutic effect.</p> <p><u>Isoniazid:</u> Co-administration has not been studied. Patients with current chronic liver disease should be carefully monitored. Severe and sometimes fatal hepatitis associated with isoniazid therapy may develop even after many months of treatment.</p>	<p>see Summary of product characteristics of the drugs for therapy of HCV).</p>
<i>Antifungals</i>		
Ketoconazole / rifampicin	Ketoconazole AUC ↓ 80%	Co-administration should be avoided. If deemed necessary, a dose increase of ketoconazole may be required.
Fluconazole / rifampicin	Fluconazol AUC ↓ 23%	Monitor therapeutic effect. An increased dose of fluconazole may be required.
Itraconazole / rifampicin	Itraconazole AUC ↓ >64-88%	Co-administration should be avoided.
Voriconazole / rifampicin	Voriconazole AUC ↓ 96%	Co-administration is contraindicated. If necessary, rifabutin should be substituted for rifampicin.
<i>Antibacterials/Antituberculotics</i>		
Clarithromycin / rifampicin	Clarithromycin mean serum concentration ↓ 85%. 14-OH clarithromycin levels unchanged.	Co-administration should be avoided.
Chloramphenicol / rifampicin	Case reports indicate >60-80% reduction of chloramphenicol exposure.	Co-administration should be avoided.
Ciprofloxacin / rifampicin	No significant interaction	No dose adjustment required.
Doxycyclin / rifampicin	Doxycyclin AUC ↓ 50-60%	If co-treatment is considered necessary, the dose of doxycyclin should be doubled.
Metronidazole / rifampicin	Metronidazole AUC i.v. ↓ 33%	The clinical relevance of the interaction is unknown. No dose adjustment is routinely

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
		recommended. Efficacy should be monitored.
Sulfamethoxazole / rifampicin	Sulfamethoxazole AUC ↓ 23%	Interaction probably not clinically significant. Efficacy of sulfamethoxazole should be monitored.
Trimethoprim / rifampicin	Trimethoprim AUC ↓ 47%	A dose increase of trimethoprim may be required. Efficacy should be monitored.
Ethionamide / rifampicin		Rifampicin and ethionamide should not be co-administered, due to an increased risk of hepatotoxicity.
<i>Antimalarials</i>		
Chloroquine / rifampicin		Empirical data are not available. Since chloroquine undergoes polymorphic hepatic metabolism, lower levels are likely during rifampicin co-therapy. Co-administration should be avoided.
Atovaquone / rifampicin	Atovaquone AUC ↓ 50% Rifampicin AUC ↑ 30%	Co-administration should be avoided.
Mefloquine / rifampicin	Mefloquine AUC ↓ 68%	Co-administration should be avoided.
Amodiaquine / rifampicin	Empirical data are not available. Since amodiaquine undergoes hepatic metabolism, it is likely that clearance is increased when co-treating with rifampicin.	Co-administration should be avoided.
Quinine / rifampicin	Quinine AUC ↓ ≈ 80%. This has been associated with significantly higher recrudescence rates.	Co-administration should be avoided. If co-administration is deemed necessary, an increased dose of quinine should be considered.
Lumefantrine / rifampicin	Lumefantrine AUC ↓ 68%	Co-administration should be avoided.
Artemisinin and its derivatives / rifampicin	Artemether AUC ↓ 89% Dihydroartemisinin AUC ↓ 85%	Co-administration should be avoided.

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
ANALGESICS, ANTIPYRETICS, NON- STEROIDAL ANTI- INFLAMMATORY DRUGS		
Morphine / rifampicin	Morphine AUC p.o ↓ 30%, loss of analgesic effect.	Co-treatment should be avoided. If deemed necessary, efficacy should be monitored and the dose may need to be increased.
Codeine / rifampicin	Plasma levels of morphine, the active moiety of codeine, are likely to be substantially reduced.	Efficacy should be monitored and codeine dose increased if necessary.
Methadone / rifampicin	Methadone AUC ↓ 33-66%	Patients should be monitored for possible withdrawal effects, and methadone dose increased as appropriate (up to 2-3 fold).
Acetaminophen (paracetamol) / rifampicin / isoniazid	Rifampicin may increase the glucuronidation of paracetamol and decrease the efficacy. There may be an increased risk of hepatotoxicity on co-administration, but data are inconclusive. Concurrent use with isoniazid may increase hepatotoxicity.	Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] and acetaminophen (paracetamol) should be avoided.
ANTICONVULSANTS		
Carbamazepine / rifampicin / isoniazid	Rifampicin is expected to decrease the serum concentration of carbamazepine whereas isoniazid may increase them. Neurological side effects and the risk of hepatotoxicity increase when co-treating with carbamazepine.	Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] and carbamazepine should be avoided.
Phenobarbital / rifampicin / isoniazid	Phenobarbital and rifampicin are both strong hepatic enzyme inducers, and each drug may lower the plasma concentrations of the other. Also, co-treatment with phenobarbital and isoniazid may increase the risk of hepatotoxicity.	Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] and phenobarbital should be undertaken with caution, including monitoring of clinical effects and, if possible, plasma drug concentrations.

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
Phenytoin / rifampicin isoniazid	Phenytoin AUC i.v. ↓ 42% Co-treatment with phenytoin and isoniazid may result in an increased risk of hepatotoxicity.	Co-treatment with phenytoin and [TB231 trade name] should be avoided.
Valproic acid / rifampicin	Interaction studies are lacking. Since valproic acid is eliminated through hepatic metabolism, including glucuronidation, reduced plasma levels of valproic acid are likely with concomitant use.	Co-treatment should be avoided. If deemed necessary, efficacy and, if possible, also plasma concentrations of valproic acid, should be carefully monitored.
Lamotrigine / rifampicin	Lamotrigine AUC ↓ 45%	Co-treatment should be avoided. If deemed necessary, lamotrigine dose should be increased as appropriate.
IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVES		
Cyclosporine / rifampicin	Several studies and case reports have shown substantially increased cyclosporine clearance when co-administered with rifampicin.	Co-administration should be avoided. If deemed necessary, plasma concentrations of cyclosporine should be monitored and doses adapted accordingly (3-5 fold increases in cyclosporine dose have been required).
Tacrolimus / rifampicin Sirolimus Everolimus	Tacrolimus AUC i.v. ↓ 35%; AUC p.o ↓ 6870% Sirolimus AUC ↓ 82% Everolimus AUC ↓ 63%	Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] and mTOR inhibitors should be avoided. If deemed necessary, plasma drug concentrations should be monitored, and the dose increased as appropriate.
CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINES		
Warfarin / rifampicin /isoniazid	Warfarin AUC ↓ 85% Isoniazid may inhibit hepatic metabolism of warfarin.	Monitor closely and adjust warfarin dose as needed and reduce dose after withdrawing rifampicin treatment.
Atenolol / rifampicin	Atenolol AUC ↓ 19%	No dose adjustment required.
Verapamil / rifampicin	S-verapamil p.o CL/F ↑ 32-fold. With i.v. S-verapamil, CL ↑ 1.3-fold	[TB231 trade name] and verapamil per-orally should not be co-administered. If i.v. verapamil is given, the therapeutic effect should be carefully monitored; dose adjustment may be required.
Digoxin / rifampicin	AUC p.o ↓ 30%	When co-administering [TB231 trade name] with digoxin, the efficacy and plasma concentration of digoxin should be monitored. A dose increase may be required.
Lidocaine. / rifampicin	Lidocaine CL i.v. ↑ 15%	No dose adjustment required

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
Amlodipine / rifampicin	Amlodipine, like other calcium channel blockers, is metabolised by CYP3A; lower exposure is expected when co-treating with rifampicin.	Efficacy should be monitored.
Enalapril / rifampicin	No interaction expected	No dose adjustment required.
Simvastatin / rifampicin	Simvastatin AUC ↓ 87% Simvastatin acid AUC ↓ 93%	Co-administration is not recommended.
Atorvastatin / rifampicin	Atorvastatin AUC ↓ 80%	Co-administration is not recommended
GASTROINTESTINAL MEDICINES		
Ranitidine / rifampicin	Ranitidine AUC ↓ 52%	Efficacy should be monitored, and ranitidine dose increased if necessary.
Antacids / isoniazid / rifampicin	Antacids may reduce the bioavailability of rifampicin by up to one third. Aluminium hydroxide impairs the absorption of isoniazid.	The clinical importance is unknown. Acid-suppressing drugs or antacids that do not contain aluminium hydroxide should be used, if co-treatment with [TB231 trade name] is necessary.
PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC MEDICINES		
Diazepam / rifampicin / isoniazid Midazolam Triazolam Alprazolam Nitrazepam	Diazepam AUC ↓ >70% Midazolam AUC ↓ 98% Triazolam AUC ↓ 95% Alprazolam AUC ↓ 88% Reduced nitrazepam through concentrations, increased clearance.	Co-treatment is not recommended. Benzodiazepine withdrawal may occur in dependent individuals.
Zolpidem / rifampicin Zopiclone /rifampicin	Zolpidem AUC ↓73% Zopiclone AUC ↓82%	Co-administration should be avoided.
Chlorpromazine / rifampicin / isoniazid	Rifampicin may reduce chlorpromazine exposure. Also, concomitant use of chlorpromazine with isoniazid may impair the metabolism of isoniazid.	Co-administration should be avoided. If considered necessary, patients should be carefully monitored for isoniazid toxicity.
Haloperidol / rifampicin Clozapine	Haloperidol clearance is substantially increased by rifampicin, theoretical considerations imply that same applies to clozapine.	If co-treatment of [TB231 trade name] with haloperidol or clozapine is deemed necessary, monitor clinical efficacy. A dose increase may be required.
Amitriptyline / rifampicin Nortriptyline	Case reports (supported by theoretical considerations) suggest that rifampicin	Co-treatment should be avoided. If necessary, monitor for clinical

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
	considerably increases clearance of tricyclic antidepressants.	response, side effects, and, if possible, plasma concentrations.
HORMONES; OTHER ENDOCRINE MEDICINES AND CONTRACEPTIVES		
Prednisolone / rifampicin And other systemically administered corticosteroids	Prednisolone AUC ↓ 66% Also for other corticosteroids, exposure is likely to be substantially decreased when co-treating with rifampicin.	Co-administration of [TB231 trade name] with corticosteroids should be avoided. If deemed necessary, the clinical status of the patient should be carefully monitored, and corticosteroid doses adjusted as needed.
Glibenclamide / rifampicin Glimepiride Repaglinide	Glibenclamide AUC ↓ 39% Glimepiride AUC ↓ 34% Repaglinide AUC ↓ 57%	Blood glucose levels should be closely monitored. A dose increase of diabetes medication may be required.
Insulin	No interaction expected.	No dose adjustment required.
Levothyroxine / rifampicin	Case reports indicate that rifampicin may decrease the effect of levothyroxine.	TSH levels should be monitored.
Ethinylestradiol / rifampicin	Ethinylestradiol AUC ↓ 66%	Co-administration with [TB231 trade name] may be associated with decreased contraceptive efficacy. Barrier- or other non-hormonal methods of contraception should be used.
Norethindrone / rifampicin	Norethindrone AUC ↓ 51%	Co-administration with [TB231 trade name] may be associated with decreased contraceptive efficacy. Barrier- or other non-hormonal methods of contraception should be used.
OTHERS		
Praziquantel / rifampicin	Praziquantel AUC ↓ 80-99%	Co-treatment with [TB231 trade name] should be avoided.
Disulfiram / isoniazid	Concurrent use of disulfiram together with isoniazid may result in increased incidence of adverse effects on the central nervous system.	Dose reduction or discontinuation of disulfiram may be necessary during therapy with [TB231 trade name].

Drugs by Therapeutic Area	Interaction	Recommendations concerning co-administration
Theophylline / Isoniazid / Rifampicin	Isoniazid may increase the serum concentration of theophylline and rifampicin may increase it. The effects of combination are unknown.	Theophylline dose adjustment may be needed.
Enflurane / Isoniazid	Isoniazid may increase the formation of the potentially nephrotoxic inorganic fluoride metabolite of enflurane.	Coadministration of [TB231 trade name] with enflurane should be avoided.

Interactions with food and drink:

Alcohol: concurrent daily use of alcohol may result in an increased incidence of isoniazid induced hepatotoxicity. Patients should be monitored closely for signs of hepatotoxicity and should be strongly advised to restrict intake of alcoholic beverages (see section 4.4).

Cheese and fish (histamine- or tyramine-rich food): concurrent ingestion with isoniazid may lead to inhibition of mono-/diamine oxidases by isoniazid, interfering with the metabolism of histamine and tyramine. Clinically, this may result in redness or itching of the skin, hot feeling, rapid or pounding heartbeat, sweating, chills or clammy feeling, headache, or lightheadedness.

Interactions with laboratory tests:

Isoniazid may cause a false positive response to copper sulfate glucose tests; enzymatic glucose tests are not affected.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and breastfeeding

Pregnancy:

At very high doses in animals rifampicin has been shown to have teratogenic effects. There are no well controlled studies with rifampicin in pregnant women. Although rifampicin has been reported to cross the placental barrier and appear in cord blood, the effect of rifampicin, alone or in combination with other antituberculosis drugs, on the human foetus is not known. Therefore, [TB231 trade name] should be used in pregnant women or in women of child bearing potential only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the foetus. When [TB231 trade name] is administered during the last few weeks of pregnancy it may cause post-natal haemorrhages in the mother and infant for which treatment with Vitamin K1 may be indicated.

Lactation

Rifampicin and isoniazid are excreted into the breast milk of lactating mothers. However, concentrations in breast milk are so low, that breast-feeding cannot be relied upon for adequate tuberculosis prophylaxis or therapy for nursing infants. No adverse effects in the baby have been reported.

Fertility

There are no data on the effects [TB231 trade name] on human male or female fertility. Studies in rats with isoniazid have shown slight reductions in fertility. Animal studies indicate no effects of rifampicin on fertility (see section 5.3).

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. Nevertheless, the clinical status of the patient and the adverse reaction profile of [TB231 trade name], especially the potential neurotoxicity of isoniazid, should be borne in mind when considering the patient's ability to drive or operate machinery.

4.8 Undesirable effects

The most important adverse reactions of rifampicin are hepatotoxicity, particularly cholestatic reactions, and skin reactions. Rifampicin may cause subclinical, unconjugated hyperbilirubinaemia or jaundice without hepatocellular damage, but occasionally causes hepatocellular injury. It can also potentiate the hepatotoxicity of the other anti-tuberculosis medications.

The most important adverse reactions of isoniazid are peripheral and central neurotoxic effects, and hepatotoxicity. Severe and sometimes fatal hepatitis due to isoniazid therapy has been reported. The majority of cases have occurred within the first three months of therapy, but hepatotoxicity may also develop after a longer duration of treatment.

Adverse events considered at least possibly related to treatment are listed below by body system, organ class and frequency. They are not based on adequately sized randomized controlled trials, but on published literature data, generated mostly during post-approval use. Therefore, often no frequency data can be given. Frequencies are defined as very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$, $< 1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$, $< 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10,000$, $< 1/1000$), very rare ($\leq 1/10,000$), 'not known'.

Nervous system disorders

Very common: Peripheral neuropathy, usually preceded by paraesthesias of the feet and hands. The frequency depends on the dose and on predisposing conditions such as malnutrition, alcoholism or diabetes. It has been reported in 3.5 to 17% of patients treated with isoniazid. Concomitant pyridoxine administration largely reduces this risk (see section 4.4),

Uncommon: headache, lethargia, ataxia, difficulties concentrating, dizziness, seizures, toxic encephalopathy,

Not known: tremor, vertigo, insomnia, hyperreflexia.

Psychiatric disorders

Uncommon: memory impairment, toxic psychosis,

Not known: confusion, disorientation, hallucination.

Gastrointestinal disorders

Common: Diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea, anorexia, vomiting,

Rare: Erosive gastritis, pseudomembranous colitis,

Not known: dry mouth, flatulence, constipation.

Hepatobiliary disorders:

Very common: Transient increases of serum transaminases,

Uncommon: Increases of serum bilirubin and alkaline phosphatases, hepatitis.

Renal and urinary disorders

Rare: acute renal failure, interstitial nephritis,

Not known: urinary retention.

Metabolic and nutrition disorders

Very rare: aggravated porphyria,

Not known: hyperglycaemia, metabolic acidosis, pellagra, decreased appetite.

General disorders

Very common: Flushing,

Common: Reddish discolouration of body fluids and –secretions, such as urine, sputum, tears, saliva and sweat,

Not known: allergic reactions with skin manifestations, pruritus, fever, leucopenia, anaphylaxis, allergic pneumonitis, neutropenia, eosinophilia, vasculitis, lymphadenopathy, rheumatic syndrome, lupus-like syndrome, hypotension, shock.

Blood and lymphatic systems disorders

Not known: anaemia (haemolytic, sideroblastic, or aplastic), thrombocytopenia, leucopenia, neutropenia with eosinophilia, agranulocytosis.

Musculoskeletal disorders

Not known: Arthralgia, myalgia.

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:

Common: Erythema, exanthema, pruritus with or without rash, urticaria.

Rare: photosensitivity reaction, exfoliative dermatitis, pemphigoid reactions, purpura.

Not known: Lyell's Syndrome, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, sweat discoloration.

Eye disorders:

Common: Ocular redness, permanent discolouration of soft contact lenses,

Rare: Exudative conjunctivitis,

Not known: Optic atrophy or neuritis, tear discoloration.

Reproductive system and breast disorders

Common: Disturbances of the menstrual cycle.

Not known: Gynaecomastia

Vascular disorders:

Not known: Shock, flushing, vasculitis

Investigations:

Common: Blood bilirubin increased, aspartate aminotransferase increased, alanine aminotransferase increased

Not known: Blood pressure decreased, blood creatinine increased, hepatic enzyme increased

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to the marketing authorisation holder, or, if available, via the national reporting system.

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms:

Anorexia, nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal disturbances, fever, headache, dizziness, slurred speech, hallucinations and/or visual disturbances have occurred within 30 minutes to 3 hours after ingestion of isoniazid. With marked isoniazid overdoses (≥ 80 mg/kg body weight) respiratory distress and CNS depression, progressing rapidly from stupor to profound coma, along with severe intractable seizures are to be expected. Typical laboratory findings are severe metabolic acidosis, acetonuria, and hyperglycaemia.

When overdosed, rifampicin may cause a reddish-orange discolouration of the skin ('red man syndrome'). Further symptoms include facial oedema, pruritus, nausea, vomiting and abdominal tenderness. In adults, a total dose of 14 g has caused cardiopulmonary arrest.

Treatment:

Emesis, gastric lavage and activated charcoal may be of value if instituted within a few hours of ingestion. Subsequently, pyridoxine (intravenous bolus on a gram per gram basis, equal to the isoniazid dose, if latter

dose is unknown an initial dose of 5 g in adults or 80 mg/kg in children should be considered), intravenous diazepam (in case of seizures not responding to pyridoxine) and haemodialysis may be of value. There is no specific antidote. Treatment is symptomatic and supportive with special attention to monitoring/support of ventilation and correction of metabolic acidosis.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antimycobacterials, combinations of drugs for treatment of tuberculosis
ATC Code: J04AM02.

Mechanism of action

In vitro, rifampicin is bactericidal against a wide range of organisms, including *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The mode of action is by inhibition of DNA-dependent RNA polymerase, inhibiting transcription. In tuberculosis, rifampicin is bactericidal for both intracellular and extracellular microorganisms. Microbial resistance may occur, and is a result of alterations in the target enzyme (RNA polymerase).

Isoniazid is highly active against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. It is bactericidal *in vitro* and *in vivo* against actively dividing tubercle bacilli. Its primary action is to inhibit the synthesis of long chain mycolic acids, which are unique constituents of the mycobacterial cell wall. Resistance to isoniazid occurs rapidly if it is used alone in the treatment of clinical disease due to mycobacteria.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

The absorption characteristics of [TB231 trade name] have been determined after administration of two (2) tablets in healthy volunteers in the fasted state as follows:

Pharmacokinetic variable	Arithmetic mean \pm standard deviation	
	Isoniazid	Rifampicin
Maximum concentration (C_{max})	10.0 \pm 3.2 μ g/mL	13.7 \pm 3.7 μ g/mL
Area under the curve ($AUC_{0-\infty}$), a measure of the extent of absorption	37.0 \pm 12.5 ng.h/mL	96.4 \pm 23.3 μ g.h/mL
Time to attain maximum concentration (t_{max})	0.48 \pm 0.33 h	2.18 \pm 0.84 h

Isoniazid

Absorption:

After oral administration isoniazid is rapidly absorbed with a bioavailability of $\geq 80\%$, and peak serum concentrations reached after 1-2 hours. The rate and extent of absorption are reduced when isoniazid is administered with food. Isoniazid undergoes appreciable presystemic (first pass) metabolism in the wall of small intestine and liver.

Distribution

Isoniazid is distributed in the body with an apparent volume of distribution volume of 0.57 to 0.76 l/kg. Protein binding is very low (0-10%).

Metabolism:

Isoniazid undergoes extensive metabolism that takes place in the mucosal cells of the small intestine and in the liver. Firstly, isoniazid is inactivated through acetylation. Subsequently, acetyl-isoniazid is further hydrolysed. Isoniazid acetylation is dependent on the genetically determined metabolic rate of the individual patients, who are termed fast or slow acetylators (this is due to a genetic polymorphism in the metabolising enzyme N-acetyl transferase). Different ethnic groups contain differing proportions of acetylator phenotypes. Acetylator status is the main determinant of isoniazid exposure at a given dose. At recommended doses, exposure in fast acetylators is about half that seen in slow acetylators.

Excretion:

Up to 95% of the ingested isoniazid is excreted in the urine within 24 hours, primarily as inactive metabolites. Less than 10% of the dose is excreted in the faeces. The main excretion products in the urine are N-acetylisoniazid and isonicotinic acid.

Pharmacokinetics in renal impairment:

The documentation of the pharmacokinetics of isoniazid and its metabolites in patients with renal impairment is incomplete. However, the half-life of isoniazid is prolonged and exposure is increased, in slow acetylators. The exposure to the (inactive) metabolites of isoniazid is likely to be increased in both fast and slow acetylators.

Rifampicin

Absorption:

Rifampicin is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract. Its bioavailability is 90-95% in adults, but may be lower in children. Concomitant intake of food delays absorption and reduces the peak concentration, but does not decrease bioavailability.

Distribution

Rifampicin is 60-90% bound to plasma proteins and has a volume of distribution of approximately 0.9 l/kg. CSF concentrations are in the same order of magnitude as the unbound concentrations in plasma. Rifampicin readily crosses the placenta.

Metabolism:

Rifampicin is metabolized by hydrolysis and desacetylation into several metabolites, including the active metabolite desacetyl-rifampicin. Rifampicin induces its own metabolism; after repeat doses bioavailability is reduced to approximately 70% and apparent clearance is increased.

Excretion:

The half-life of rifampicin after a single dose is approximately three hours. After repeat doses this is reduced to approximately 1-2 hours. Rifampicin and its metabolites are mainly excreted in bile, and rifampicin undergoes enterohepatic recirculation. Approximately 25% of a dose is excreted in the urine.

Special populations:

The half-life of rifampicin has been reported to be prolonged in patients with liver impairment or biliary obstruction.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Rifampicin

After oral administration of 100 mg/kg bodyweight (bw) rifampicin for 6 months in rats no toxic effects were observed. After chronic administration of 200 mg/kg bw swelling and hydropic degeneration of the liver were observed.

In monkeys, vomiting, anorexia and weight loss were observed at chronic doses of 105 mg/kg bw/day.

Because of only limited evidence available for the carcinogenicity of rifampicin in mice and the absence of epidemiological studies, no evaluation of the carcinogenicity of rifampicin to humans can be made.

The available studies on mutagenicity indicate an absence of a mutagenic effect.

Rifampicin concentrations in cord blood reach 12-33% of maternal blood concentrations.

Teratogenic effects were noted in rodents treated with high doses. 100 to 150 mg/kg bw daily in rodents have been reported to cause cleft palate and spina bifida.

In rats neither fertility nor peri- or postnatal development was impaired.

Malformation and death in infants born to mothers exposed to rifampicin, were reported at the same frequency as in the general population.

Isoniazid

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans at recommended doses based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity and carcinogenic potential.

Treatment of pregnant rats with isoniazid resulted in reduced litter sizes and decreased postnatal growth, development, and cognitive ability in the offspring. Spermatogenesis impairment was observed in treated rats.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Core tablet:

Calcium stearate

Croscarmellose sodium

Crospovidone

Microcrystalline cellulose

Povidone

Shellac (bleached)

Sodium lauryl sulfate

Film coat:

Colour lake Ponceau 4R (Cochineal Red A)

Diethyl phthalate

Hypromellose

Propylene glycol

Purified talc

Titanium dioxide

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

Shelf life for the bottle and the blister: 24 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Bulk bottle pack:

Store below 30°C in a dry place. Protect from light.

Discard 45 days after first opening.

Blister Pack:

Store below 25°C in a dry place. Protect from light.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Bottle pack

Tablets are packed in a PET/Alu/LDPE triple laminated sachet which is packed in a round, tagger sealed opaque milky white HDPE container with HDPE closure.

Pack size: 500 or 1000 tablets

Blister packs

The primary packs are blister cards of 10 tablets (comprised of aluminium foil and amber-coloured PVC/PVDC foil). Such 10 blister cards are kept packed in a carton along with the patient information leaflet.

Pack size: 10 x 10 tablets

The primary packs are blister cards of 28 tablets (comprised of aluminium foil and amber-coloured PVC/PVDC foil). Such 3 or 24 blister cards are kept packed in a carton along with the patient information leaflet.

Pack size: 3 x 28 tablets or 24 x 28 tablets

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

No special requirements.

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. SUPPLIER

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10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

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Detailed information on this medicine is available on the World Health Organization (WHO) website:
<https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/medicines>