

- in renal impairment



Prescribing notes for







Consult data sheet before prescribing.

USE: Hypertension, angina prophylaxis.

PRESENTATION: Tablets for oral administration containing atenolol 100mg ('Tenormin'), 50mg ('Tenormin' LS) or 25mg ('Tenormin' 25).

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Hypertension: 'Tenormin' – one daily (some patients may respond adequately to 'Tenormin' low strength (LS)); 'Tenormin' LS – one daily; 'Tenormin' 25 - see renal failure.

Angina Prophylaxis: 'Tenormin' – one daily; 'Tenormin' LS – two daily in a single or divided dose.

Children: 'Tenormin', 'Tenormin' LS and 'Tenormin' 25 are not recommended for use in children.

Elderly Patients: Dosage requirements may be lower in elderly patients.

Renal Failure: For patients with a creatinine clearance of 15-35ml/min/1.73m² the oral dose should be 50mg daily. Patients with a creatinine clearance of <15ml/min/1.73m² should be given one 'Tenormin' 25 daily or one 'Tenormin' LS on alternate days.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: 2nd or 3rd degree heart block, cardiogenic shock.

PRECAUTIONS: Poor cardiac reserve – avoid in overt heart failure. Bradycardia, renal failure (see above),

anaesthesia, pregnancy. Caution in patients with reversible obstructive airways disease – do not use unless there are compelling clinical reasons to do so. Atenolol modifies the tachycardia of hypoglycaemia. Co-administration with verapamil or Class I antidysrhythmic agents. Withdrawal of clonidine. Withdrawal of beta-blocking drugs should be gradual in patients with ischaemic heart disease.

SIDE EFFECTS: Coldness of extremities, bradycardia and muscular fatigue may occur. Sleep disturbance rarely seen. Skin rashes and dry eyes have been reported with beta-blockers – consider discontinuance if they occur.

PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBERS AND BASIC NHS COSTS: 'Tenormin' (29/0122), 28 tablets (OP) £6.98. 'Tenormin' LS (29/0086), 28 tablets (OP) £5.49, 'Tenormin' 25 (29/0218), 28 tablets (OP) £4.31.

'Tenormin', 'Tenormin' LS and 'Tenormin' 25 are trademarks.

Further information is available from

Stuart Pharmaceuticals, King's Court, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AZ.

May '91/255

The College is pleased to offer a series of new and revised two day courses for general practitioners and practice managers as part of the RCGP's continuing initiative in the development of practice management.

COMPUTER APPRECIATION COURSE (18/19 October, 22/23 November 1991)

A two day course, aimed at making general practitioners and practice staff aware of the rapid developments currently taking place in micro-computing, and to relate these to the needs of the general practitioner. The course takes account of the implications of the White Paper and aims to give guidance to both general practitioners who have already installed a computer system in their practice and those who are about to do so. The implications of audit will also be addressed. This course complements the Managing General Practice in the 90's course. The principles, technology and language of computing are presented in lay terms, with particular emphasis on the problems that are likely to confront general practitioners. Hands on experience is provided and a general practitioner specialist system demonstrated by a representative of the supplying company. This course is PGEA approved for 2 days under Service Management. The fee is £200 for members and £250 for non-members.

TEACHING THE MEDICAL AUDIT TEACHERS (6/7/8 November 1991, 22/23/24 January, 29/30/1 April (May), 23/24/25 September and 21/22/23 October 1992)

A three day course in medical audit for those who teach it. The course is for 24 participants, all of whom will have some experience of medical audit and are likely to be involved in teaching about it. The course is designed to present the subject of medical audit and to examine three related topics: standard setting, the collection and analysis of data and the management of change within the practice while also considering how to present and teach these subjects to colleagues. Pre-course work will involve some preparation and selected reading. On the course, subjects will be taught didactically, analysed from the teaching viewpoint and worked with experientially using a range of exercises involving both small and large groups. The course will be staffed by three small-group leaders and some of the formal presentations will be by visiting lecturers. PGEA approval has been granted for 3 days under Service Management and zero-rated Section 63. The fee will be £300.

DATA HANDLING FOR MEDICAL AUDIT (4/5 December 1991)

Two days training in the technical skills involved in collecting and digesting medical audit information. The course is suitable both for interested general practitioners and their staff and for those working with Medical Audit Advisory Groups. A practical approach will be taken throughout. The course will study how to plan surveys, design questionnaires, select suitable ways of analysing the information and will review how to present the results. It will include some basic computer techniques — data entry and analysis, graphical presentation, etc. The intention is to develop practical skills to help medical auditors make valid observations about current clinical practice and to enable them to perceive, measure and demonstrate the improving quality of their patients' care. PGEA approval has been granted for 2 days under Service Management. The fee is £250 for members and £275 for non-members. This course will be offered again in 1992 (further details will be advised).

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT COURSE (14/15 January, 18/19 March and 20/21 May 1992)

This course aims to give general practitioners and practice managers an appreciation of the processes and skills required to improve organisational performance through the effective recruitment and selection of staff; the development of staff through performance appraisal; addressing disciplinary issues; and the explicit and implicit terms of the contract of employment. This course will be of principal benefit to those who have no previous management experience. The fee is £200 for members and £250 for non-members. PGEA approval has been granted for 2 days under Service Management.

MANAGING GENERAL PRACTICE IN THE 90s (14/15 February, 19/20 June, 4/5 September 1992)

This course is designed to be of principal benefit to those general practitioners and practice managers who have previous management course experience or hold the AHCPA intermediate management diploma. Through a combination of lectures, whole group and small group discussions and exercises, this new two day course will look at the policy, strategy and operational needs of practice management, and in particular will concentrate on the needs of managing for quality through performance review and audit. Approval has been granted under the Postgraduate Education Allowance for 2 days under Service Management. The fee is £200 for members and £250 for non-members.

Further details and application forms for all these course are available from the Corporate Development Unit, RCGP, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU. Tel: 071-823 9703. Fax: 071-225 3047.



Royal College of General Practitioners

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Classified Advertisements are welcomed and should be sent to: Nickie Roberts, Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London SW7 1PU. Telephone: 071-581 3232. Fax: 071-225 3047. Copy must be received three weeks before the 1st of the month of issue to ensure inclusion. Every effort will be made to include advertisements received after this date but publication cannot be guaranteed and the advertisement may have to be held over to the following issue. The charge for space in this section is £10.00 per single column centimetre, plus £10.00 if a box number is required, plus VAT at 15%. Fellows, Members and Associates of the Royal College of General Practitioners may claim a 10% reduction. Replies to box number should be sent to the above address, with the box number on the envelope. The inclusion of an advertisement in this *Journal* does not imply any recommendation and the Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. All recruitment advertisements in this section are open to both men and women.

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SPEAKERS:

Professor J O Warner, Dr P Burney, Dr D E Stableforth, Professor Slutsky and Dr Molfino (Toronto), Professor R J Davies, Professor A B Kay, Professor P Barnes, Professor L Reid (Boston), Dr N Barnes, Dr D Lane.

Fee £25.00

Application forms from Dr C Rajagopal, Organiser, Department of Paediatrics, St Mary's Hospital, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG.

RCGP

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Indications: Topical therapy of osteoarthritis of superficial joints and acute musculoskeletal disorders. Dosage: For external use only. Occlusive dressings should not be used. Apply one gram of the Gel and rub into the affected site three to four times daily leaving no residual material on the skin. Therapy should be reviewed after 4 weeks. Contra-indications, Precautions: Contra-indicated in patients who have previously shown a hypersensitivity to the Gel or piroxicam in any of its forms, aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents. If local irritation develops, discontinue Feldene Gel. Keep away from the eyes and mucosa. Do not apply to sites affected by open skin lesions, dermatoses or infection. Use in children: Not recommended. Use in pregnancy and lactation: The safety of Feldene Gel during pregnancy and lactation has not been established. Side-Effects: Mild or moderate local reactions at the application site. Mild but transient skin discolouration and staining of clothing have been noted when the Gel is not rubbed in completely. Package Quantities and Basic NHS Cost: 60g tube – \$7.77 (PL 0057/0284). Further information on request. References: 1. Dickson DJ. Curr Ther Res 1991; 49[2]: 199-207.



Pfizer Limited, Sandwich, Kent.