

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets
Samsca 15 mg tablets
Samsca 30 mg tablets

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets

Each tablet contains 7.5 mg tolvaptan.

Excipient with known effect

51 mg lactose (as monohydrate) per tablet

Samsca 15 mg tablets

Each tablet contains 15 mg tolvaptan.

Excipient with known effect

35 mg lactose (as monohydrate) per tablet

Samsca 30 mg tablets

Each tablet contains 30 mg tolvaptan.

Excipient with known effect

70 mg lactose (as monohydrate) per tablet

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Tablet

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets

Blue, rectangular, shallow-convex tablets with dimensions of $7.7 \times 4.35 \times 2.5$ mm, debossed with “OTSUKA” and “7.5” on one side.

Samsca 15 mg tablets

Blue, triangular, shallow-convex tablets with dimensions of $6.58 \times 6.2 \times 2.7$ mm, debossed with “OTSUKA” and “15” on one side.

Samsca 30 mg tablets

Blue, round, shallow-convex tablets with dimensions of $\varnothing 8 \times 3.0$ mm, debossed with “OTSUKA” and “30” on one side.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Samsca is indicated in adults for the treatment of hyponatremia secondary to the syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH).

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Due to the need for a dose titration phase with close monitoring of serum sodium and volume status (see section 4.4), treatment with Samsca has to be initiated in hospital.

Posology

Tolvaptan has to be initiated at a dose of 15 mg once daily. The dose may be increased to a maximum of 60 mg once daily as tolerated to achieve the desired level of serum sodium.

For patients at risk of overly rapid correction of sodium e.g., patients with oncological conditions, very low baseline serum sodium, taking diuretics, or taking sodium supplementation a dose of 7.5 mg should be considered (see section 4.4).

During titration, patients must be monitored for serum sodium and volume status (see section 4.4). In case of inadequate improvement in serum sodium levels, other treatment options have to be considered, either in place of or in addition to tolvaptan. Use of tolvaptan in combination with other options may increase the risk of overly rapid correction of serum sodium (see sections 4.4 and 4.5). For patients with an appropriate increase in serum sodium, the underlying disease and serum sodium levels must be monitored at regular intervals to evaluate further need of tolvaptan treatment. In the setting of hyponatremia, the treatment duration is determined by the underlying disease and its treatment. Tolvaptan treatment is expected to last until the underlying disease is adequately treated or until such time that hyponatremia is no longer a clinical issue. Samsca must not be taken with grapefruit juice (see section 4.5).

Special populations

Renal impairment

Tolvaptan is contraindicated in anuric patients (see section 4.3). Tolvaptan has not been studied in patients with severe renal failure. The efficacy and safety in this population is not well established. Based on the data available, no dose adjustment is required in those with mild to moderate renal impairment.

Hepatic impairment

No information is available in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh class C). In these patients dosing has to be managed cautiously and electrolytes and volume status must be monitored (see section 4.4). No dose adjustment is needed in patients with mild or moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh classes A and B).

Elderly

No dose adjustment is needed in elderly patients.

Paediatric population

The safety and efficacy of tolvaptan in children and adolescents under the age of 18 years have not yet been established. Samsca is not recommended in the paediatric age group.

Method of administration

Oral use.

Administration preferably in the morning, without regard to meals. Tablets must be swallowed without chewing with a glass of water.

4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1 or to benzazepine or benzazepine derivatives (see section 4.4)
- Anuria
- Volume depletion
- Hypovolemic hyponatremia
- Hypernatremia
- Patients who cannot perceive thirst

- Pregnancy (see section 4.6)
- Breast-feeding (see section 4.6)

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Urgent need to raise serum sodium acutely

Tolvaptan has not been studied in a setting of urgent need to raise serum sodium acutely. For such patients, alternative treatment has to be considered.

Access to water

Tolvaptan may cause adverse reactions related to water loss such as thirst, dry mouth and dehydration (see section 4.8). Therefore, patients must have access to water and be able to drink sufficient amounts of water. If fluid restricted patients are treated with tolvaptan, extra caution has to be exercised to ensure that patients do not become overly dehydrated.

Dehydration

Volume status must be monitored in patients taking tolvaptan because treatment with tolvaptan may result in severe dehydration, which constitutes a risk factor for renal dysfunction. If dehydration becomes evident, take appropriate action which may include the need to interrupt or reduce the dose of tolvaptan and increase fluid intake.

Urinary outflow obstruction

Urinary output must be secured. Patients with partial obstruction of urinary outflow, for example patients with prostatic hypertrophy or impairment of micturition, have an increased risk of developing acute retention.

Fluid and electrolyte balance

Fluid and electrolyte status has to be monitored in all patients and particularly in those with renal and hepatic impairment. Administration of tolvaptan may cause too rapid increases in serum sodium (≥ 12 mmol/L per 24 hours, please see below); therefore, monitoring of serum sodium in all patients must start no later than 4 to 6 hours after treatment initiation. During the first 1 to 2 days and until the tolvaptan dose is stabilised serum sodium and volume status must be monitored at least every 6 hours.

Too rapid correction of serum sodium

Patients with very low baseline serum sodium concentrations may be at greater risk for too rapid correction of serum sodium.

Too rapid correction of hyponatremia (increase ≥ 12 mmol/L/24 hours) can cause osmotic demyelination resulting in dysarthria, mutism, dysphagia, lethargy, affective changes, spastic quadriparesis, seizures, coma or death. Therefore, after initiation of treatment, patients have to be closely monitored for serum sodium and volume status (see above).

In order to minimise the risk of too rapid correction of hyponatremia the increase of serum sodium should be less than 10 mmol/L/24 hours to 12 mmol/L/24 hours and less than 18 mmol/L/48 hours. Therefore, more precautionary limits apply during the early treatment phase.

If sodium correction exceeds 6 mmol/L during the first 6 hours of administration or 8 mmol/L during the first 6 to 12 hours, respectively, the possibility that serum sodium correction may be overly rapid should be considered. These patients should be monitored more frequently regarding their serum sodium and administration of hypotonic fluid is recommended. In case serum sodium increases ≥ 12 mmol/L within 24 hours or ≥ 18 mmol/L within 48 hours, tolvaptan treatment is to be interrupted or discontinued followed by administration of hypotonic fluid.

In patients at higher risk of demyelination syndromes, for example those with hypoxia, alcoholism or malnutrition, the appropriate rate of sodium correction may be lower than that in patients without risk factors; these patients should be very carefully managed.

Patients who received other treatment for hyponatremia or medicinal products which increase serum sodium concentration (see section 4.5) prior to initiation of treatment with Samsca must be managed very cautiously. These patients may be at higher risk for developing rapid correction of serum sodium during the first 1 to 2 days of treatment due to potential additive effects.

Co-administration of Samsca with other treatments for hyponatremia, and medicinal products that increase serum sodium concentration, is not recommended during initial treatment or for other patients with very low baseline serum sodium concentrations (see section 4.5).

Diabetes mellitus

Diabetic patients with an elevated glucose concentration (e.g., in excess of 300 mg/dL) may present with pseudo-hyponatremia. This condition should be excluded prior and during treatment with tolvaptan. Tolvaptan may cause hyperglycemia (see section 4.8). Therefore, diabetic patients treated with tolvaptan should be managed cautiously. In particular this applies to patients with inadequately controlled type II diabetes.

Idiosyncratic hepatic toxicity

Liver injury induced by tolvaptan was observed in clinical trials investigating a different indication (autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease [ADPKD]) with long-term use of tolvaptan at higher doses than for the approved indication (see section 4.8).

In post-marketing experience with tolvaptan in ADPKD, acute liver failure requiring liver transplantation has been reported (see section 4.8).

In these clinical trials, clinically significant increases (greater than $3 \times$ Upper Limit of Normal [ULN]) in serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT), along with clinically significant increases (greater than $2 \times$ ULN) in serum total bilirubin were observed in 3 patients treated with tolvaptan. In addition, an increased incidence of significant elevations of ALT was observed in patients treated with tolvaptan [4.4 % (42/958)] compared to those receiving placebo [1.0 % (5/484)]. Elevation ($> 3 \times$ ULN) of serum aspartate aminotransferase (AST) was observed in 3.1 % (30/958) of patients on tolvaptan and 0.8 % (4/484) patients on placebo. Most of the liver enzyme abnormalities were observed during the first 18 months of treatment. The elevations gradually improved after discontinuation of tolvaptan. These findings may suggest that tolvaptan has the potential to cause irreversible and potentially fatal liver injury.

In a post-authorisation safety study of tolvaptan in hyponatremia secondary to SIADH, several cases of hepatic disorders and elevated transaminases were observed (see section 4.8).

Liver function tests must be promptly performed in patients taking tolvaptan who report symptoms that may indicate liver injury, including fatigue, anorexia, right upper abdominal discomfort, dark urine or jaundice. If liver injury is suspected, tolvaptan must be promptly discontinued, appropriate treatment has to be instituted, and investigations have to be performed to determine the probable cause. Tolvaptan must not be re-initiated in patients unless the cause for the observed liver injury is definitively established to be unrelated to treatment with tolvaptan.

Anaphylaxis

In post-marketing experience, anaphylaxis (including anaphylactic shock and generalised rash) has been reported very rarely following administration of tolvaptan. Patients have to be carefully monitored during treatment. Patients with known hypersensitivity reactions to benzazepine or benzazepine derivatives (e.g., benazepril, conivaptan, fenoldopam mesylate or mirtazapine) may be at risk for hypersensitivity reaction to tolvaptan (see section 4.3 Contraindications).

If an anaphylactic reaction or other serious allergic reactions occur, administration of tolvaptan must be discontinued immediately and appropriate therapy initiated. Since hypersensitivity is a contraindication (see section 4.3) treatment must never be restarted after an anaphylactic reaction or other serious allergic reactions.

Lactose

Samsca contains lactose as an excipient. Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, total lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicinal product.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Co-administration with other treatments for hyponatremia and medicinal products that increase serum sodium concentration

There is no experience from controlled clinical trials with concomitant use of Samsca and other treatments for hyponatremia such as hypertonic sodium chloride solution, oral sodium formulations, and medicinal products that increase serum sodium concentration. Medicinal products with high sodium content such as effervescent analgesic preparations and certain sodium containing treatments for dyspepsia may also increase serum sodium concentration. Concomitant use of Samsca with other treatments for hyponatremia or other medicinal products that increase serum sodium concentration may result in a higher risk for developing rapid correction of serum sodium (see section 4.4) and is therefore not recommended during initial treatment or for other patients with very low baseline serum sodium concentrations where rapid correction may represent a risk for osmotic demyelination (see section 4.4).

Effect of other medicinal products on the pharmacokinetics of tolvaptan

CYP3A4 inhibitors

Tolvaptan plasma concentrations have been increased by up to 5.4-fold area under time-concentration curve (AUC) after the administration of strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. Caution should be exercised in co-administering CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole, macrolide antibiotics, diltiazem) with tolvaptan. Co-administration of grapefruit juice and tolvaptan resulted in a 1.8-fold increase in exposure to tolvaptan. Patients taking tolvaptan should avoid ingesting grapefruit juice.

CYP3A4 inducers

Tolvaptan plasma concentrations have been decreased by up to 87 % (AUC) after the administration of CYP3A4 inducers. Caution has to be exercised in co-administering CYP3A4 inducers (e.g., rifampicin, barbiturates, and St. John's wort) with tolvaptan.

Effect of tolvaptan on the pharmacokinetics of other products

CYP3A4 substrates

In healthy subjects, tolvaptan, a CYP3A4 substrate, had no effect on the plasma concentrations of some other CYP3A4 substrates (e.g., warfarin or amiodarone). Tolvaptan increased plasma levels of lovastatin by 1.3-fold to 1.5-fold. Even though this increase has no clinical relevance, it indicates tolvaptan can potentially increase exposure to CYP3A4 substrates.

Transporter substrates

P-glycoprotein substrates

In-vitro studies indicate that tolvaptan is a substrate and competitive inhibitor of P-glycoprotein (P-gp). Steady state digoxin concentrations were increased (1.3-fold in maximum observed plasma concentration [C_{max}] and 1.2-fold in area under the plasma concentration-time curve over the dosing interval [AUC_{τ}]) when co-administered with multiple once daily 60 mg doses of tolvaptan. Patients receiving digoxin or other narrow therapeutic index P-gp substrates (e.g., dabigatran etexilate) must therefore be managed cautiously and evaluated for excessive effects when treated with tolvaptan.

BCRP and OCT1

Co-administration of tolvaptan (90 mg) with rosuvastatin (5 mg), a BCRP substrate, increased rosuvastatin C_{max} and AUC_t of 54 % and 69 %, respectively. If BCRP substrates (e.g., sulfasalazine) are co-administered with tolvaptan, patients must be managed cautiously and evaluated for excessive effects of these medicinal products.

If OCT1 substrates (e.g., metformin) are co-administered with tolvaptan, patients must be managed cautiously and evaluated for excessive effects of these medicinal products.

Diuretics

While there does not appear to be a synergistic or additive effect of concomitant use of tolvaptan with loop and thiazide diuretics, each class of agent has the potential to lead to severe dehydration, which constitutes a risk factor for renal dysfunction. If dehydration or renal dysfunction becomes evident, take appropriate action which may include the need to interrupt or reduce doses of tolvaptan and/or diuretics, increase fluid intake, evaluate and address other potential causes of renal dysfunction or dehydration.

Co-administration with vasopressin analogues

In addition to its renal aquaretic effect, tolvaptan is capable of blocking vascular vasopressin V2-receptors involved in the release of coagulation factors (e.g., von Willebrand factor) from endothelial cells. Therefore, the effect of vasopressin analogues such as desmopressin may be attenuated in patients using such analogues to prevent or control bleeding when co-administered with tolvaptan.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

There are no or limited amount of data from the use of tolvaptan in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown. Samsca is contraindicated during pregnancy (see section 4.3). Women of childbearing potential have to use effective contraception during tolvaptan treatment.

Breast-feeding

It is unknown whether tolvaptan is excreted in human milk. Available pharmacodynamic/toxicological data in animals have shown excretion of tolvaptan in breast milk (for details see 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown. Samsca is contraindicated during breast-feeding (see section 4.3).

Fertility

Studies in animals showed effects on fertility (see section 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Samsca has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive or use machines. However, when driving or using machines it should be taken into account that occasionally dizziness, asthenia or syncope may occur.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Summary of the safety profile

The adverse reaction profile of tolvaptan in SIADH is based on a clinical trials database of 3,294 tolvaptan-treated patients and is consistent with the pharmacology of the active substance. The pharmaco-dynamically predictable and most commonly reported adverse reactions are thirst, dry mouth and pollakiuria occurring in approximately 18 %, 9 % and 6 % of patients.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

The frequencies of the adverse reactions from clinical trials correspond with very common ($\geq 1/10$), common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$), uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$), rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$), very rare ($< 1/10,000$) and not known (cannot be estimated from the available data). Within each frequency grouping, adverse reactions are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

The frequency of adverse reactions reported during post-marketing use cannot be determined as they are derived from spontaneous reports. Consequently, the frequency of these adverse reactions is qualified as "not known".

System Organ Class	Frequency			
	Very common	Common	Uncommon	Not known
Immune system disorders				Anaphylactic shock, Generalised rash
Metabolism and nutrition disorders		Polydipsia, Dehydration, Hyperkalemia, Hyperglycemia, Hypoglycemia ¹ , Hypernatremia ¹ , Hyperuricemia ¹ , Decreased appetite		
Nervous system disorders		Syncope ¹ , Headache ¹ , Dizziness ¹	Dysgeusia	
Vascular disorders		Orthostatic hypotension		
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea	Constipation, Diarrhoea ¹ , Dry mouth		
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders		Ecchymosis, Pruritus	Pruritic rash ¹	
Renal and urinary disorders		Pollakiuria, Polyuria	Renal impairment	
General disorders and administration site conditions	Thirst	Asthenia, Pyrexia, Malaise ¹		
Hepatobiliary disorders				Hepatic disorders ²

System Organ Class	Frequency			
	Very common	Common	Uncommon	Not known
				Acute hepatic failure ³
Investigations		Blood urine present ¹ , Alanine aminotransferase increased (see section 4.4) ¹ , Aspartate aminotransferase increased (see section 4.4) ¹ , Blood creatinine increased	Bilirubin increased (see section 4.4) ¹	Elevated transaminases ²
Surgical and medical procedures	Rapid correction of hyponatremia, sometimes leading to neurological symptoms			

¹ observed in clinical trials investigating other indications

² from post-authorisation safety study in hyponatremia secondary to SIADH

³ observed in post-marketing with tolvaptan in ADPKD. Liver transplantation was necessary.

Description of selected adverse reactions

Rapid correction of hyponatremia

In a post-authorisation safety study of tolvaptan in hyponatremia secondary to SIADH, including a high proportion of patients with tumours (especially Small Cell Lung Cancer), patients with low baseline serum sodium as well as patients with concomitant use of diuretics and/or sodium chloride solution the incidence of rapid correction of hyponatremia was found to be higher than in clinical trials.

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 via HPRA Pharmacovigilance Website: www.hpra.ie.

4.9 Overdose

Single doses up to 480 mg and multiple doses up to 300 mg per day for 5 days have been well tolerated in clinical trials in healthy volunteers. There is no specific antidote for tolvaptan intoxication. The signs and symptoms of an acute overdose can be anticipated to be those of excessive pharmacologic effect: a rise in serum sodium concentration, polyuria, thirst and dehydration/hypovolemia (profuse and prolonged aquaresis).

In patients with suspected tolvaptan overdose, assessment of vital signs, electrolyte concentrations, ECG and fluid status is recommended. Appropriate replacement of water and/or electrolytes must continue until aquaresis abates. Dialysis may not be effective in removing tolvaptan because of its high binding affinity for human plasma protein (> 98 %).

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Diuretics, vasopressin antagonists, ATC code: C03XA01

Mechanism of action

Tolvaptan is a selective vasopressin V2-receptor antagonist that specifically blocks the binding of arginine vasopressin (AVP) at the V2-receptor of the distal portions of the nephron. Tolvaptan affinity for the human V2-receptor is 1.8-times that of native AVP.

In healthy adult subjects, oral administration of 7.5 mg to 120 mg doses of tolvaptan produced an increase in urine excretion rate within 2 hours of dosing. Following single oral doses of 7.5 mg to 60 mg, 24-hour urine volume increased dose dependently with daily volumes ranging from 3 to 9 litres. For all doses, urine excretion rates returned to baseline levels after 24 hours. For single doses 60 mg to 480 mg, a mean of about 7 litres was excreted during 0 to 12 hours, independent of dose. Markedly higher doses of tolvaptan produce more sustained responses without affecting the magnitude of excretion, as active concentrations of tolvaptan are present for longer periods of time.

Clinical efficacy and safety

Hyponatremia

In 2 pivotal, double-blind, placebo-controlled, clinical trials, a total of 424 patients with euvolemic or hypervolemic hyponatremia (serum sodium < 135 mEq/L) due to a variety of underlying causes (heart failure [HF], liver cirrhosis, SIADH and others) were treated for 30 days with tolvaptan (n = 216) or placebo (n = 208) at an initial dose of 15 mg/day. The dose could be increased to 30 mg/day and 60 mg/day depending on response using a 3-day titration scheme. The mean serum sodium concentration at trial entry was 129 mEq/L (range 114 mEq/L to 136 mEq/L).

The primary endpoint for these trials was the average daily AUC for change in serum sodium from baseline to Day 4 and baseline to Day 30. Tolvaptan was superior to placebo ($p < 0.0001$) for both periods in both studies. This effect was seen in all patients, the severe (serum sodium: < 130 mEq/L) and mild (serum sodium: 130 mEq/L to < 135 mEq/L) subsets and for all disease aetiology subsets (e.g., HF, cirrhosis, SIADH/other). At 7 days after discontinuing treatment, sodium values decreased to levels of placebo treated patients.

Following 3 days of treatment, the pooled analysis of the two trials revealed 5-fold more tolvaptan than placebo patients achieved normalisation of serum sodium concentrations (49 % vs. 11 %). This effect continued as on Day 30, when more tolvaptan than placebo patients still had normal concentrations (60 % vs. 27 %). These responses were seen in patients independent of the underlying disease. The results of self-assessed health status using the SF-12 Health Survey for the mental scores showed statistically significant and clinically relevant improvements for tolvaptan treatment compared to placebo.

Data on the long-term safety and efficacy of tolvaptan were assessed for up to 106 weeks in a clinical trial in patients (any aetiology) who had previously completed one of the pivotal hyponatremia trials. A total of 111 patients started tolvaptan treatment in an open-label, extension trial, regardless of their previous randomisation. Improvements in serum sodium levels were observed as early as the first day after dosing and continued for on-treatment assessments up to Week 106. When treatment was discontinued, serum sodium concentrations decreased to approximately baseline values, despite the reinstatement of standard care therapy.

In a pilot, randomised (1:1:1), double-blind trial in 30 patients with hyponatremia secondary to SIADH, the pharmacodynamics of tolvaptan following single doses of 3.75 mg, 7.5 mg and 15 mg were assessed. Results were highly variable with large overlap between dose groups; changes were not significantly correlated with tolvaptan exposure. Mean maximal changes in serum sodium were highest following the 15 mg dose (7.9 mmol/L) but median maximal changes were highest for the

7.5 mg dose (6.0 mmol/L). Individual maximal increases in serum sodium were negatively correlated with fluid balance; mean change in fluid balance showed a dose dependent decrease. Mean change from baseline in cumulative urine volume and urine excretion rates was 2-fold higher for the 15 mg dose compared to the 7.5 mg and 3.75 mg doses, which showed similar responses.

Heart failure

EVEREST (Efficacy of Vasopressin Antagonism in Heart Failure Outcome Study with Tolvaptan) was a long-term outcome, double-blind, controlled clinical trial in patients hospitalised with worsening HF and signs and symptoms of volume overload. In the long-term outcome trial, a total of 2,072 patients received 30 mg tolvaptan with standard of care (SC) and 2,061 received placebo with SC. The primary objective of the study was to compare the effects of tolvaptan + SC with placebo + SC on the time to all-cause mortality and on the time to first occurrence of cardiovascular (CV) mortality or hospitalisation for HF. Tolvaptan treatment had no statistically significant favourable or unfavourable effects on overall survival or the combined endpoint of CV mortality or HF hospitalisation, and did not provide convincing evidence for clinically relevant benefit.

The European Medicines Agency has deferred the obligation to submit the results of studies with Samsca in one or more subsets of the paediatric population in treatment of dilutional hyponatremia (see section 4.2 for information on paediatric use).

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

After oral administration, tolvaptan is rapidly absorbed with peak plasma concentrations occurring about 2 hours after dosing. The absolute bioavailability of tolvaptan is about 56 %. Co-administration of a 60 mg dose with a high-fat meal increases peak concentrations 1.4-fold with no change in AUC and no change in urine output. Following single oral doses of ≥ 300 mg, peak plasma concentrations appear to plateau, possibly due to saturation of absorption.

Distribution

Tolvaptan binds reversibly (98 %) to plasma proteins.

Biotransformation

Tolvaptan is extensively metabolised by the liver. Less than 1 % of intact active substance is excreted unchanged in the urine.

In-vitro studies indicate that tolvaptan or its oxobutyric metabolite may have the potential to inhibit OATP1B1, OAT3, BCRP and OCT1 transporters. Administration of rosuvastatin (OATP1B1 substrate) or furosemide (OAT3 substrate) to healthy subjects with elevated oxobutyric acid metabolite (inhibitor of OATP1B1 and OAT3) plasma concentrations did not meaningfully alter the pharmacokinetics of rosuvastatin or furosemide. See also section 4.5.

Elimination

The terminal elimination half-life is about 8 hours and steady-state concentrations of tolvaptan are obtained after the first dose.

Radio-labelled tolvaptan experiments showed that 40 % of the radioactivity was recovered in the urine and 59 % was recovered in the faeces where unchanged tolvaptan accounted for 32 % of radioactivity. Tolvaptan is only a minor component in plasma (3 %).

Linearity

Tolvaptan has linear pharmacokinetics for doses of 7.5 mg to 60 mg.

Pharmacokinetics in special patient groups

Age

Clearance of tolvaptan is not significantly affected by age.

Hepatic impairment

The effect of mildly or moderately impaired hepatic function (Child-Pugh classes A and B) on the pharmacokinetics of tolvaptan was investigated in 87 patients with liver disease of various origins. No clinically significant changes have been seen in clearance for doses ranging from 5 mg to 60 mg. Very limited information is available in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh class C).

In a population pharmacokinetic analysis in patients with hepatic oedema, AUC of tolvaptan in severely (Child-Pugh class C) and mildly or moderately (Child-Pugh classes A and B) hepatic impaired patients were 3.1-times and 2.3-times higher than that in healthy subjects.

Renal impairment

In an analysis on population pharmacokinetics for patients with heart failure, tolvaptan concentrations of patients with mildly (creatinine clearance [C_{cr}] 50 mL/min to 80 mL/min) or moderately (C_{cr} 20 mL/min to 50 mL/min) impaired renal function were not significantly different to tolvaptan concentrations in patients with normal renal function (C_{cr} 80 mL/min to 150 mL/min). The efficacy and safety of tolvaptan in those with a creatinine clearance < 10 mL/min has not been evaluated and is therefore unknown.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

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

Teratogenicity was noted in rabbits given 1,000 mg/kg/day (3.9-times the exposure in humans at the 60 mg dose, based on AUC). No teratogenic effects were seen in rabbits at 300 mg/kg/day (up to 1.9-times the exposure in humans at the 60 mg dose, based on AUC). In a peri-and post-natal study in rats, delayed ossification and reduced pup bodyweight were seen at the high dose of 1,000 mg/kg/day. Two fertility studies in rats showed effects on the parental generation (decreased food consumption and body weight gain, salivation), but tolvaptan did not affect reproductive performance in males and there were no effects on the foetuses. In females, abnormal oestrus cycles were seen in both studies. The no observed adverse effects level (NOAEL) for effects on reproduction in females (100 mg/kg/day) was about 6.7-times the exposure in humans at the 60 mg dose, based on AUC.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Maize starch
Hydroxypropylcellulose
Lactose monohydrate
Magnesium stearate
Microcrystalline cellulose
Indigo carmine aluminium lake (E 132)

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable

6.3 Shelf life

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets

5 years

Samsca 15 mg tablets and Samsca 30 mg tablets

4 years

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in the original package in order to protect from light and moisture.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets

10 tablets in PP/Alu blisters

30 tablets in PP/Alu blisters

10 × 1 tablet in PVC/Alu perforated unit dose blisters

30 × 1 tablet in PVC/Alu perforated unit dose blisters

Samsca 15 mg and Samsca 30 mg tablets

10 × 1 tablet in PVC/Alu perforated unit dose blisters

30 × 1 tablet in PVC/Alu perforated unit dose blisters

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

No special requirements.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Otsuka Pharmaceutical Netherlands B.V.

Herikerbergweg 292

1101 CT, Amsterdam

Netherlands

8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

Samsca 7.5 mg tablets

EU/1/09/539/005 (10 tablets)

EU/1/09/539/006 (30 tablets)

EU/1/09/539/007 (10 × 1 tablet)

EU/1/09/539/008 (30 × 1 tablet)

Samsca 15 mg tablets

EU/1/09/539/001 (10 × 1 tablet)

EU/1/09/539/002 (30 × 1 tablet)

Samsca 30 mg tablets

EU/1/09/539/003 (10 × 1 tablet)

EU/1/09/539/004 (30 × 1 tablet)

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 03 August 2009
Date of latest renewal: 19 June 2014

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

13 February 2025

Detailed information on this medicinal product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency <http://www.ema.europa.eu>.