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Epstein-Barr virus infections. There have been anecdotal reports 1-4 of some improvement in patients with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection given ganciclovir, although no antiviral therapy is entirely satisfactory (p.854).

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 MacGinley R, et al. Epstein-Barr virus encephalitis in a renal
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- 4. Adams LA, et al. Ganciclovir and the treatment of Epstein-Barr virus hepatitis. J Gastroenterol Hepatol 2006; 21: 1758-60.

Herpesvirus infections. Ganciclovir 0.15% gel is licensed in a number of countries for the treatment of superficial ocular infections with herpes simplex. In patients with herpes simplex keratitis it has been reported to be as effective as aciclovir 3% ointment,1 the drug most commonly used in this infection (see Ocular Herpes Simplex Infections, p.854).

1. Hoh HB, et al. Randomised trial of ganciclovir and acyclovir in the treatment of herpes simplex dendritic keratitis: a multicentre study. *Br J Ophthalmol* 1996; **80:** 140–3.

Preparations

USP 31: Ganciclovir for Injection; Ganciclovir Oral Suspension.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3) Arg.: Cigandor; Cymevene; Cytovene†; Gasmilen; Grinevel; Virgan; Austral.: Cymevene; Vitrasert†; Austria: Cymevene; Belg.: Cymevene; Virgan; Braz.: Cymevene; Gancivir†; Ganvirax; Canad.: Cytovene; Chile: Cymevene; Cz.: Cymevene; Virgan; Denm.: Cymevene; Fin.: Cymevene; Fr.: Cymevan; Virgan; Ger.: Cymeven; Gr.: Cymevene; Hong Kong: Cymevene; Hung: Cymevene; Indon.: Cymevene; Inl.: Cymevene; Israel: Cymevene; Ital.: Citovirax; Cymevene; Mex.: Cymevene; Nerw.: Cymevene; Norw.: Cymevene; Norw.: Cymevene; Virgan; Pol.: Cymevene; Virgan; Pol.: Cymevene; Virgan; S.Afr.: Cymevene; Singapore: Cymevene; Spain: Cymevene; Virasert; Swed.: Cymevene; Switz.: Cymevene; Thai.: Cymevene; Turk.: Cymevene; UK: Cymevene; Virgan†; USA: Cytovene; Vitrasert; Venez.: Cymevene.

Ibacitabine (MNN)

Ibacitabina; Ibacitabinum; Iododesoxycytidine. 2'-Deoxy-5-iodocytidine

Ибацитабин

 $C_9H_{12}IN_3O_4 = 353.1.$

CAS — 611-53-0. ATC — D06BB08. ATC Vet — QD06BB08.

$$H_2N$$
 N O OH OH

Profile

Ibacitabine is an antiviral used topically as a 1% gel in the treatment of herpes labialis (p.854).

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Idoxuridine (BAN, USAN, rINN)

Allergan 211; GF-1115; Idoksuridiini; Idoksuridinas; Idoxuridin; Idoxuridina; Idoxuridinum; IDU; 5-IDUR; 5-IUDR; NSC-39661; SKF-14287. 2'-Deoxy-5-iodouridine.

Идоксуридин

 $C_9H_{11}IN_2O_5 = 354.1.$ CAS — 54-42-2.

ATC - D06BB01; 105AB02; S01AD01

ATC Vet — QD06BB01; QJ05AB02; QS01AD01.

Pharmacopoeias. In Chin., Eur. (see p.vii), Int., Jpn, and US. **Ph. Eur. 6.2** (Idoxuridine). A white or almost white crystalline powder. M.p. about 180°, with decomposition. Slightly soluble in water and in alcohol: dissolves in dilute solutions of alkali hydroxides. A 0.1% solution in water has a pH of 5.5 to 6.5. Protect from light.

USP 31 (Idoxuridine). A white, practically odourless, crystalline powder. Slightly soluble in water and in alcohol; practically insoluble in chloroform and in ether. Store in airtight containers. Protect from light.

Stability. Iodine vapour is liberated on heating idoxuridine. It has been reported that some decomposition products such as iodouracil are more toxic than idoxuridine and reduce its antiviral

Adverse Effects

Hypersensitivity reactions such as irritation, pain, and pruritus may occur occasionally when idoxuridine is applied to the eyes. Other adverse effects include stinging, conjunctivitis, oedema and inflammation of the eye or eyelids, photophobia, pruritus, and rarely, occlusion of the lachrymal duct. Prolonged or excessive use may damage the cornea.

Idoxuridine applied to the skin may produce irritation, stinging, and hypersensitivity reactions. Taste disturbance may also occur. Excessive application of topical idoxuridine to the skin may cause skin maceration.

Idoxuridine is a potential carcinogen and teratogen.

Carcinogenicity. Squamous carcinoma has been reported in association with topical idoxuridine treatment.1

Koppang HS, Aas E. Squamous carcinoma induced by topical idoxuridine therapy? Br J Dermatol 1983; 108: 501–3.

Idoxuridine should be used with caution in conditions where there is deep ulceration involving the stromal layers of the cornea, as delayed healing has resulted in corneal perforation. Prolonged topical use should be avoided.

The potential teratogenicity of idoxuridine should be taken into account when treating pregnant patients or patients likely to become pregnant. Corticosteroids should be applied with caution in patients also receiving idoxuridine as they may accelerate the spread of viral infection.

Preparations containing boric acid should not be applied to the eye in patients also receiving ocular preparations of idoxuridine as irritation ensues.

Antiviral Action

After intracellular phosphorylation to the triphosphate, idoxuridine is incorporated into viral DNA instead of thymidine so inhibiting replication of sensitive viral strains. Idoxuridine is also incorporated into mammalian DNA. Idoxuridine is active against herpes simplex and varicella zoster viruses. It has also been shown to inhibit vaccinia virus, CMV, and adenovirus.

Pharmacokinetics

Penetration of idoxuridine into the cornea and skin is reported to be poor. Idoxuridine is rapidly metabolised in the body to iodouracil, uracil, and iodide, which are excreted in the urine.

Uses and Administration

Idoxuridine is a pyrimidine nucleoside structurally related to thymidine. It is used topically in the treatment of herpes simplex keratitis and cutaneous infections with herpes simplex (p.854) and herpes zoster (see Varicella-zoster Infections, p.855), but has generally been superseded by other antivirals.

In the treatment of herpes simplex keratitis, idoxuridine is applied as a 0.1% ophthalmic solution or a 0.5% eve ointment.

Idoxuridine 5% in dimethyl sulfoxide (to aid absorption) may be painted onto the lesions of cutaneous herpes simplex and herpes zoster four times daily for 4 days.

Preparations

BP 2008: Idoxuridine Eye Drops; **USP 31:** Idoxuridine Ophthalmic Ointment; Idoxuridine Ophthalmic Solu-

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Arg.: Idulea: Austral.: Herplex-D†; Stoxil; Belg.: Virexen†; Braz.: Herpesne; Canad.: Herplex; Ger.: Virunguent; Zostrum; Hung.: Oftan IDU†; India: Ridinox; Indon.: Isotic Ixodine; Inl.: Zostrum†; Israel: Virusan†; Ital.: Iducher: Idustatin; Malaysia: Virunguent†; Mex.: Idina†; Neth.: Virexen†; Virunguent†; Rus.: Oftan DU(Oфтан ИДУ); Singapore: Virunguent; Virunguent†; Rus.: Oftan DU(Oфтан ИДУ); Singapore: Virunguent; Spain: Virexen; Switz.: Iderpes†; Virunguent; UK: Herpid; Venez.: Herpidum†.

Multi-ingredient: Arg.: Itro†; Austral.: Virasolve; Ger.: Virunguent P†; Hong Kong: Virasolve†

Imiquimod (BAN, USAN, rINN)

Imikimod; Imikimodi; Imiquimodum; R-837; S-26308. 4-Amino-I-isobutyl-IH-imidazo[4,5-c]quinoline.

Имихимод

 $C_{14}H_{16}N_4 = 240.3.$ CAS — 99011-02-6.

ATC - D06BB10. ATC Vet - OD06BB10

Adverse Effects

Adverse effects after topical application of imiquimod include local skin erosion, erythema, excoriation, flaking, and oedema. There have been reports of localised hypopigmentation and hyperpigmentation. Skin reactions away from the site of application have been reported. Systemic effects after topical application include headache, flu-like symptoms, and myalgia.

Hypotension has occurred after repeated ingestion.

Hypersensitivity. Angioedema, initially of both the hands and feet and later the tongue, occurred in a 61-year-old man 3 weeks after starting treatment with a 5% imiquimod cream for squamous cell carcinoma in situ (Bowen's disease).

Barton JC. Angioedema associated with imiquimod. J Am Acad Dermatol 2004; 51: 477–8.

Uses and Administration

Imiquimod is an immune response modifier used topically in the treatment of external genital and perianal warts (p.1584), superficial basal cell carcinomas, and actinic keratoses (see below). For the treatment of genital and perianal warts, it is applied as a

The symbol † denotes a preparation no longer actively marketed