

▼ Sativex® Oromucosal Spray

(delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD))

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Sativex® Oromucosal Spray Prescribing Information (refer to full Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) before prescribing). **Presentation:** 1mL contains: 38-44mg and 35-42mg of two extracts from *Cannabis sativa* L., (*Cannabis* leaf and flower) corresponding to 27mg delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and 25mg cannabidiol (CBD). Each 100 microlitre spray contains: 2.7mg THC and 2.5mg CBD. **Indication(s):** as add-on treatment, for symptom improvement in patients with moderate to severe spasticity due to multiple sclerosis (MS) who have not responded adequately to other anti-spasticity medication and who demonstrate clinically significant improvement in spasticity related symptoms during an initial trial of therapy. **Posology and method of administration:** oromucosal use only. Treatment must be initiated and supervised by a physician with specialist expertise in MS. Direct spray at different sites on the oromucosal surface, changing site for each use of product. May take up to 2 weeks to find optimal dose, review response after 4 weeks of treatment. Re-evaluate long term treatment periodically. **Adults:** titration period necessary; number/timing of sprays will vary between patients. Number of sprays increased daily according to SmPC table, up to maximum of 12 sprays per day with minimum 15 minutes between sprays. **Children and adolescents:** not recommended. **Elderly:** no specific studies but CNS side effects may be more likely (see Warnings and precautions) **Significant hepatic or renal impairment:** no specific studies but effects of Sativex may be exaggerated or prolonged. Frequent clinical evaluation recommended. **Contra-indications:** hypersensitivity to cannabinoids or excipients. Breast feeding. Known/suspected history or family history of schizophrenia/other psychotic illness. History of severe personality disorder/other significant psychiatric disorder other than depression due to underlying condition. **Warnings and precautions:** not recommended in patients with serious cardiovascular disease. Caution in patients with history of epilepsy/recurrent seizures. THC and CBD are metabolised in the liver. Several THC metabolites may be psychoactive. Contains approx. 50% v/v ethanol. Risk of falls if spasticity/muscle strength no longer sufficient to maintain posture/gait. CNS side effects e.g. dizziness, somnolence could impact personal safety, e.g. hot food and drink preparation. Theoretical risk of additive effect with muscle-relaxing agents, not seen in clinical trials but warn patients risk of falls may increase. No effect seen on fertility but cannabinoids shown to affect spermatogenesis in animals. Female patients of child-bearing potential/male patients with a partner of child-bearing potential should use reliable contraception. Patients with a history of substance abuse may be more prone to abuse Sativex. Withdrawal symptoms following abrupt withdrawal of

long-term Sativex are likely to be limited to transient disturbances of sleep, emotion or appetite. No increase in daily dosage observed in long-term use; self-reported levels of 'intoxication' low; dependence on Sativex unlikely. **Interactions:** no clinically apparent drug-drug interactions seen. Co-administration with food results in mean increase in C_{max} , AUC and half-life (increase less than between-subject variability in these parameters). Concomitant ketoconazole increases C_{max} and AUC of THC (and primary metabolite) and CBD. Increase less than between-subject variability. Risk of additive sedation and muscle relaxing effects with hypnotics, sedatives and drugs with sedating effects. **Pregnancy and lactation:** do not use in pregnancy unless benefit outweighs potential risks. Do not use if breast feeding. Insufficient experience of effects on reproduction - use reliable contraception during therapy and for 3 months after discontinuation. **Effects on ability to drive and use machines:** do not drive, operate machinery or engage in any hazardous activity if experiencing significant CNS side effects; warn patients may cause loss of consciousness. **Side effects:** very common – dizziness, fatigue; common – anorexia, decreased or increased appetite, depression, disorientation, dissociation, euphoria, amnesia, balance disorder, disturbance in attention, dysarthria, dysgeusia, lethargy, memory impairment, somnolence, blurred vision, vertigo, constipation, diarrhoea, dry mouth, glossodynia, mouth ulceration, nausea, oral discomfort/pain, vomiting, application site pain, asthenia, feeling abnormal/drunken, malaise, fall; uncommon – hallucination, illusion, paranoia, suicidal ideation, delusional perception, syncope, palpitations, tachycardia, hypertension, pharyngitis, throat irritation, upper abdominal pain, oral mucosal disorders e.g. discolouration, exfoliation, stomatitis, tooth discolouration, application site irritation; unknown frequency – psychiatric symptoms e.g. anxiety and mood changes, transient psychotic reactions, possible leukoplakia (unconfirmed): inspect oral mucosa regularly in long term use. Prescribers should consult the SmPC for further information on side effects. **Overdose:** symptomatic and supportive treatment required. **Special precautions for storage:** refrigerate (2 to 8°C); once opened refrigeration is unnecessary but do not store above 25°C. **Legal Category:** POM **Package quantities and basic NHS costs:** 3 x 10mL £375.00. **MA holder:** GW Pharma Ltd, Porton Down Science Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0JQ **MA number(s):** PL 18024/0009 **Further information available from:** Bayer Schering Pharma, Bayer plc, Bayer House, Strawberry Hill, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1JA United Kingdom. Telephone: 01635 563000. **Date of preparation:** March 2010.

Sativex® is a registered trademark of GW Pharma Ltd.

Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at www.yellowcard.gov.uk. Adverse events should also be reported to GW Pharma Ltd. Tel: 01353 616636, Fax: 01353 616638



Bayer HealthCare