

Amended Package Insert

MULTICO TABLET

Each tablet contains:		%USRDA	USRDA
Vitamin A	5000 iu	100.0	5000 iu
Vitamin D	400 iu	100.0	400 iu
Vitamin E1	1.5 mg	100.0	1.5 mg
Vitamin B2	2.0 mg	117.6	1.7 mg
Vitamin B6	1.0 mg	50.0	2.0 mg
Vitamin C	37.5 mg	62.5	60.0 mg
Nicotinamide	20.0 mg	101.0	19.8 mg

Indications:
As a dietary supplement.

Contraindications:
It is contraindicated in patients who are sensitive to any of its components. It must not be taken in hypercalcaemia or hypercalcauria.

Side effects / Adverse reactions:
Vitamin A
Hypervitaminosis A is usually caused by the administration of excessive amounts of vitamin A over long periods. Manifestations: Fatigue, irritability, anorexia and loss of weight, vomiting and other gastro-intestinal disturbances, low grade fever, polyuria, hepatosplenomegaly, pruritus, loss of hair, cracking and bleeding lips and dry skin with desquamation, hyperkeratosis and yellow pigmentation. Anaemia, headache and visual disturbance have also been reported. Subcutaneous swelling, pains in bones and joints, tenderness over the long bones. In children, premature closure of the epiphyses of the long bones may result in arrested bone growth. Intracranial hypertension and papilloedema, mimicking brain tumours, have been reported, usually in children.

Vitamin D
Adverse effects are similar to those encountered with excessive vitamin D intake. The early and late signs and symptoms of Vitamin D intoxication associated with hypercalcaemia include:-

Early: weakness, headache, somnolence, nausea, vomiting, dry mouth, constipation, muscle pain, bone pain and metallic taste.

Late: Polyuria, polydipsia, anorexia, irritability, weight loss, nocturia conjunctivitis, pancreatitis, photophobia, rhinorrhea, pruritus, hyperthermia, decreased libido, albuminuria, hypercholesterolaemia, ectopic calcification, hypertension, cardiac arrhythmias and rarely overt psychosis.

Vitamin E
The vitamin B's are very well tolerated. Adverse effects are very rarely reported. However, allergic reactions to some of them have been occasionally reported.

Vitamin C
Ascorbic acid is usually well tolerated. However, allergic responses to it presenting as eczema, urticaria or asthma have been reported.

Large doses may cause diarrhoea and the formation of renal calcium oxalate calculi.

Precautions/Warnings:
This product is not intended for treatment of pernicious anaemia. Neurological involvement may develop or progress despite temporary remission of anaemia. This product is not intended for the treatment of severe specific deficiency. Toxicity manifestation of vitamin A depend on the age, dosage units and duration of administration.

Acute toxicity	: single dose (25,000 units/kg body weight).
Infants	: 350,000 units.
Adults	: over 2 million units.
Chronic toxicity	: (4,000 units/kg body weight for 6 to 15 months)
Infants 3 to 6 months	: 18,500 units per day for one to three months.
Adults	: 1 million units daily for three days or 50,000 units daily for longer than 18 months or 500,000 units daily for two months.

Ascorbic acid could be partly metabolised to oxalic acid. Average reported production rates were 1mg oxalate from 1g, 12 mg from 4g, and 69mg from 9g, but with wide individual variations. Some patients would have a high risk of renal calcification during treatment with high doses of ascorbic acid. Tolerance may be induced in patients taking high doses. When daily ascorbic acid intake significantly exceeded 250mg for prolonged periods, the rate of clearance from the body increased so that blood concentrations did not increase with larger doses. Dependence on larger than normal maintenance doses could occur and deficiency might occur if treatment was withdrawn. Ascorbic acid can cause chemical interference in laboratory tests for blood or urine

creatinine, glucose and uric acid. It is reported that mean plasma ethinyl-oestradiol concentrations were increased by 16.3 and 47.6% six and 24 hours respectively after ingestion of ascorbic acid. The overall effect of a large Vitamin C supplement in patients on contraceptives is the conversion of a low oestrogen oral contraceptive into a high-dose contraceptive. Ascorbic acid in large doses might obscure the diagnosis of gout or in some patients it might precipitate acute gouty arthritis.

Drug Interaction
Women receiving oral contraceptives have shown a significant increase in plasma vitamin A level. Excessive dosage of vitamin D induces hypercalcaemia and in some instances hypercalcauria. Hypercalcaemia in patients receiving digitalis may precipitate cardiac arrhythmias. Cholestyramine has been reported to reduce absorption of fat soluble vitamins: as such it may impair intestinal absorption of vitamin A and vitamin D. The administration of anti-convulsants has been shown to affect the vitamin D requirements in some patients. Pyridoxine may decrease the efficacy of levodopa in the treatment of parkinsonism. It should be used with caution for patients undergoing levodopa therapy. Ascorbic acid taken concomitantly with fluphenazine may necessitate an increase in dosage of fluphenazine.

Dosage:
Oral administration.
One tablet to be taken daily.

Symptoms and treatment for overdosage:
Symptoms of overdosage of vitamin A are similar to those of hypervitaminosis A mentioned under side effects/adverse reactions. The treatment of hypervitaminosis A consists of immediate withdrawal of the vitamin along with symptomatic and supportive treatment. Most signs and symptoms disappear within a week, but hyperostoses remain evident for several months after clinical recovery has occurred. Overdosage of vitamin D can cause hypercalcaemia, hypercalcauria and hyperphosphataemia. Treatment of hypercalcaemia and overdosage should be performed regularly until normocalcaemia ensues. Hypercalcaemia normally resolves in two to four weeks. Treatment of accidental/acute overdosage. The treatment of acute accidental overdosage should consist of general supportive measures. If drug ingestion is discovered within a relatively short time, induction of emesis or gastric lavage may be of benefit in preventing further absorption. If the drug has passed through the stomach, the administration of mineral oil may promote faecal elimination. Serial serum calcium determination, rate of urinary calcium excretion and an assessment of electrocardiographic abnormalities due to hypercalcaemia should be obtained. Discontinuation of supplemental calcium and low calcium diet are also indicated in accidental overdosage. Should persistent and marked hypercalcaemia occur, the use of drugs such as phosphates and corticosteroids as well as measures to induce an appropriate forced diuresis may be considered. The use of peritoneal dialysis against a calcium free dialysate may also be considered. Adverse effects arising from overdosage is remote, as these are water-soluble vitamins, they are not stored to any significant extent in the body. Any excess are readily excreted.

Pack size: A bottle of 30, 60 and 180 tablets.
Alu-alu strip pack: A box of 10 x 10, 50 x 10 and 100 x 10 tablets per strip

Pack size (export only): A bottle of 1000 tablets.

Shelf-life: 3 years.

Storage conditions: Store at temperature 25°C.

Description: Oval, red, sugar-coated tablet with no markings or embossment.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS DRUG CAN BE OBTAINED FROM YOUR FAMILY PHYSICIAN / LOCAL GENERAL PRACTITIONER / PHARMACIST.

Manufacturer:
Sunward Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.
No. 9, 11& 17, Jalan Kempas 4,
Taman Perindustrian Tampoi Indah,
81200 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.

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