Voyageur VisionHD Prescribing Information – Canada

Voyageur VisionHD™ (BARIUM SULFATE) FOR ORAL SUSPENSION, 98% w/w

Note to practitioners: In Canada, the Voyageur VisionHD barium sulfate for oral suspension is regulated by the Natural and Non-prescription Health Products Directorate of Health Canada. For the convenience of practitioners familiar with contrast agents that are regulated as drugs, this information is provided in the typical Prescribing Information format.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use VisionHD safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for VisionHD.

VisionHD (barium sulfate) for oral suspension

Health Canada Natural Product Number: 80108077

----------RECENT MAJOR CHANGES----------

First Version Issued 05/2024

----------INDICATIONS AND USAGE----------

VisionHD, a radiographic contrast agent, is indicated for use in double-contrast radiographic examinations of the esophagus, stomach and duodenum. For use as a radiological contrast medium for upper and lower gastrointestinal procedures by conventional X-Ray and computed tomography (CT) to visualize the gastrointestinal (GI) tract in patients 12 years and older. (1)

----------DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION-------

- Recommended reconstituted oral dose for adults and pediatric patients 12 years and older is between 65 mL to 135 mL (155 to 321 grams of barium sulfate, respectively) (2.1)
- Must reconstitute supplied powder with water prior to use. See Full Prescribing Information for reconstitution instructions (2.2)

-------DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS-------

For oral suspension: 334 grams of barium sulfate (98% w/w) in a single-dose bottle for reconstitution (3)

----------CONTRAINDICATIONS----------

- Known or suspected perforation of the GI tract (4)
- Conditions associated to high risk of aspiration (4)
- Conditions associated to high risk of GI perforation (4)
- Known hypersensitivity to barium sulfate or any of the excipients of VisionHD (4)

----------WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS-------

- Emergency equipment and trained personnel should be immediately available for treatment of a serious hypersensitivity reaction (5.1)
- Intra-abdominal leakage: Caution is recommended in patient conditions like GI fistula, ulcer, inflammatory bowel disease, appendicitis or diverticulitis, severe stenosis or obstructing lesions of the GI tract (5.2)
- Patients should maintain adequate hydration in days following a barium sulfate procedure to avoid obstruction or impaction caused by baroliths (5.3)
- Aspiration: Caution is recommended in patients with history of food aspiration and in patients with known swallowing disorders (5.4)
- VisionHD is not intended for pediatric use from birth through 11 years of age (8.4)

----------ADVERSE REACTIONS----------

Common adverse reactions include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal cramping (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Voyageur Pharmaceuticals Ltd. at 1-877-398-6866 or Health Canada at 1-888-234-2345 or https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/natural-health-products.html

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION.

Revised: 05/2024

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1. INDICATIONS AND USAGE

VisionHD, a radiographic contrast agent, is indicated for use in double-contrast radiographic examinations of the esophagus, stomach and duodenum. For use as a radiological contrast medium for upper and lower gastrointestinal procedures by conventional X-Ray and computed tomography (CT) to visualize the gastrointestinal (GI) tract in patients 12 years and older.

2. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Recommended Dosage

The recommended dose of reconstituted VisionHD for adults and pediatric patients 12 years and older is between 65 and 135 mL given orally (155 to 321 grams of barium sulfate, respectively). Volumes closer to 65 mL are recommended for the examination of the esophagus and volumes up to 135 mL are recommended for examination of the entire upper GI tract.

2.2 Instructions for Reconstitution

The VisionHD powder must be reconstituted prior to administration by a healthcare provider according to the following instructions:

- Accurately measure 65 mL of water and add this water to the bottle containing the supplied VisionHD powder
- Replace cap securely on bottle and shake vigorously for 30 seconds
- Wait 5 minutes and re-shake bottle thoroughly. Reconstitution yields approximately 140 mL of VisionHD for oral suspension containing 2.38 grams of barium sulfate per mL

2.3 Administration Instructions

- Administer the reconstituted VisionHD for oral suspension immediately upon reconstitution
- Discard any unused suspension
- Advise patients to hydrate following the barium sulfate procedure

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

For oral suspension: 334 grams of barium sulfate supplied as a fine, white to lightly colored powder (98 % w/w) in a single-dose HDPE plastic bottle for reconstitution. The suspension is 238% w/v when reconstituted and should be homogeneous and white to lightly colored.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

VisionHD is contraindicated in patients:

- Known or suspected perforation of the GI tract
- Known obstruction of the GI tract
- At high risk of GI perforation such as those with a recent prior GI perforation, acute GI hemorrhage or ischemia, toxic megacolon, severe ileus, post GI surgery or biopsy, acute GI injury or burn, or recent radiotherapy to the pelvis
- At high risk of aspiration such as those with prior aspiration, tracheo-esophageal fistula, or obtundation
- With known severe hypersensitivity to barium sulfate or any of the VisionHD excipients

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Hypersensitivity Reactions

Barium sulfate preparations contain a number of excipients, including natural and artificial flavors and may induce serious hypersensitivity reactions. The manifestations include hypotension, bronchospasm and other respiratory impairments, dermal reactions including rashes, urticaria, and itching. A history of bronchial asthma, atopy, or a previous reaction to a contrast agent may increase the risk for hypersensitivity reactions. Emergency equipment and trained personnel should be immediately available for treatment of a hypersensitivity reaction.

5.2 Intra-abdominal Barium Leakage

The use of VisionHD is contraindicated in patients at high risk of perforation of the GI tract *[see Contraindications (4)]*. Administration of VisionHD may result in leakage of barium from the GI tract in the presence of conditions such as carcinomas, GI fistula, inflammatory bowel disease, gastric or duodenal ulcer, appendicitis, or diverticulitis, and in patients with a severe stenosis at any level of the GI tract, especially if it is distal to the stomach. The barium leakage has been associated with peritonitis and granuloma formation.

5.3 Delayed Gastrointestinal Transit and Obstruction

Orally administered barium sulfate may accumulate proximal to a constricting lesion of the colon, causing obstruction or impaction with development of baroliths (inspissated barium associated with feces) and may lead to abdominal pain, appendicitis, bowel obstruction, or rarely perforation. Patients with the following conditions are at higher risk for developing obstruction or baroliths: severe stenosis at any level of the GI tract, impaired GI motility, electrolyte imbalance, dehydration, on a low residue diet, taking medications that delay GI motility, constipation, pediatric patients with cystic fibrosis or Hirschsprung disease, and the elderly *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4, 8.5)]*. To reduce the risk of delayed GI transit and obstruction, patients should maintain adequate hydration during and in the days following a barium sulfate procedure. Consider the administration of laxatives.

5.4 Aspiration Pneumonitis

The use of VisionHD is contraindicated in patients at high risk of aspiration *[see Contraindications (4)]*. Oral administration of barium is associated with aspiration pneumonitis, especially in patients with a history of food aspiration or with compromised swallowing mechanism. Vomiting following oral administration of barium sulfate may lead to aspiration pneumonitis. In patients at risk for aspiration, begin the procedure with a small ingested volume of VisionHD. Discontinue administration of VisionHD immediately if aspiration is suspected.

5.5 Systemic Embolization

Barium sulfate products may occasionally intravasate into the venous drainage of the large bowel and enter the circulation as a “barium embolus” leading to potentially fatal complications which include systemic and pulmonary embolism, disseminated intravascular coagulation, septicemia and prolonged severe hypotension. Although this complication is exceedingly uncommon after oral administration of a barium sulfate suspension, monitor patients for potential intravasation when administering barium sulfate.

5.6 Risk with Hereditary Fructose Intolerance

VisionHD contains sorbitol which may cause severe reactions if ingested by patients with hereditary fructose intolerance, such as: vomiting, hypoglycemia, jaundice, hemorrhage, hepatomegaly, hyperuricemia, and kidney failure. Before administration of VisionHD assess patients for a history of hereditary fructose intolerance and avoid use in these patients.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been identified from spontaneous reporting or clinical studies of barium sulfate administered orally. Because the reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or to establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal cramping
- Serious adverse reactions and fatalities include aspiration pneumonitis, barium sulfate impaction, intestinal perforation with consequent peritonitis and granuloma formation, vasovagal and syncopal episodes

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

VisionHD is not absorbed systemically following oral administration, and maternal use is not expected to result in fetal exposure to the drug.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

VisionHD is not absorbed systemically by the mother following oral administration, and breastfeeding is not expected to result in exposure of the infant to VisionHD.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Double-contrast radiographic examinations of the esophagus, stomach and duodenum may be used in pediatric patients 12 years and older.

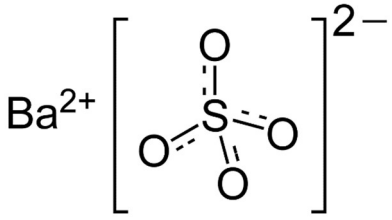
VisionHD is contraindicated in pediatric patients with tracheo-esophageal fistula [*see Contraindications (4)]*. Pediatric patients with a history of asthma or food allergies may be at increased risk for development of hypersensitivity reactions *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*. Pediatric patients with cystic fibrosis or Hirschsprung disease should be monitored for bowel obstruction after use [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)]*.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies of VisionHD did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

11 DESCRIPTION

VisionHD barium sulfate) is a radiographic contrast agent that is supplied as a fine, white to lightly colored powder for suspension (98 % w/w) for oral administration. The active ingredient barium sulfate is designated chemically as BaSO4 with a molecular weight of 233.43 g/mol, a density of 4.5 g/cm3, and the following chemical structure:



VisionHD contains excipients including: acacia, carrageenan, citric acid, ethyl maltol, polysorbate 80, saccharin sodium, simethicone, sodium citrate, and sorbitol. VisionHD also contains artificial vanilla flavoring.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Due to its high atomic number, barium (the active ingredient in VisionHD) is opaque to x-rays and therefore acts as a positive contrast agent for radiographic studies.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Under physiological conditions, barium sulfate passes through the GI tract in an unchanged form and is absorbed only in pharmacologically insignificant amounts.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

No animal studies have been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of barium sulfate or potential effects on fertility.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

16.1 How Supplied

VisionHD (barium sulfate) for suspension, is supplied as a fine, white to lightly colored powder (98 % w/w) in a single-dose HDPE plastic bottle containing 334 grams of barium sulfate.

Provided as: 12 bottles per pack

16.2 Storage and Handling

Store at controlled room temperature. Protect from freezing.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

After administration advise patients to:

- Maintain adequate hydration
- Seek medical attention for worsening of constipation or slow gastrointestinal passage
- Seek medical attention for any delayed onset of hypersensitivity: rash, urticaria, or respiratory difficulty

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