

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

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

TUZISTRA XR (codiene polistirex and chlorpheniramine polistirex) extended-release oral suspension, CII Initial U.S. Approval: 1985

WARNING: ADDICTION, ABUSE, AND MISUSE; LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION; ACCIDENTAL INGESTION; ULTRA-RAPID METABOLISM OF CODEINE AND OTHER RISK FACTORS FOR LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION IN CHILDREN; MEDICATION ERRORS; INTERACTIONS WITH DRUGS AFFECTING CYTOCHROME P450 ISOENZYMES; CONCOMITANT USE WITH BENZODIAZEPINES OR OTHER CNS DEPRESSANTS; NEONATAL OPIOID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warnings.

- TUZISTRA XR exposes users to risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess patient's risk before prescribing and monitor closely for these behaviors and conditions. (5.1)
- Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur. Monitor closely, especially upon initiation or when used in patients at higher risk. (5.2)
- Accidental ingestion of TUZISTRA XR, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of codeine. (5.2)
- Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codiene; most cases followed tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being an ultra-rapid metabolizer of codeine due to a CYP2D6 polymorphism. (5.3) TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated in children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy. (4) Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine.
- Ensure accuracy when prescribing, dispensing, and administering TUZISTRA XR. Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. (2.1, 5.6)
- The effects of concomitant use or discontinuation of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with codiene are complex, requiring careful consideration of the effects on the parent drug, codiene, and the active metabolite, morphine. Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients who are taking a CYP3A4 inducer, CYP3A4 inhibitor, or 2D6 inhibitor. (5.8, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4)
- Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients taking benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol. (5.9, 7.5)
- TUZISTRA XR is not recommended for use in pregnant women. Prolonged use of TUZISTRA XR during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. If TUZISTRA XR is used for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available. (5.15, 8.1)

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Boxed Warning	6/2018
Indications and Usage (1)	6/2018
Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.3)	6/2018
Contraindications (4)	8/2017 and 6/2018
Warnings and Precautions (5.3)	8/2017
Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10, 5.12, 5.13, 5.14, 5.15, 5.16, 5.17)	6/2018

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

TUZISTRA XR is a combination of codiene, an opioid agonist, and chlorpheniramine, a histamine-1 (H₁) receptor antagonist, indicated for the temporary relief of cough and upper respiratory symptoms associated with allergy or the common cold in patients 18 years of age and older. (1)

Important Limitations of Use (1)

- Not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age.
- Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses, reserve TUZISTRA XR for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate

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Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse
TUZISTRA XR exposes patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Reserve TUZISTRA XR for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing TUZISTRA XR, prescribe TUZISTRA XR for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals, monitor all patients regularly for the development of addiction or abuse, and refill only after reevaluation of the need for continued treatment. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression
Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of TUZISTRA XR. Monitor for respiratory depression, especially during initiation of TUZISTRA XR therapy or when used in patients at higher risk. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]*

Accidental Ingestion
Accidental ingestion of even one dose of TUZISTRA XR, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of codeine. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]*

Ultra-Rapid Metabolism of Codeine and Other Risk Factors for Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression in Children
Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codiene. Most of the reported cases occurred following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being an ultra-rapid metabolizer of codeine due to a CYP2D6 polymorphism. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)]* TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated in children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy. *[see Contraindications (4)]* Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine.

Risk of Medication Errors
Ensure accuracy when prescribing, dispensing, and administering TUZISTRA XR. Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. Always use an accurate milliliter measuring device when measuring and administering TUZISTRA XR. *[see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]*

Interactions with Drugs Affecting Cytochrome P450 Isoenzymes
The effects of concomitant use or discontinuation of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with codiene are complex, requiring careful consideration of the effects on the parent drug, codiene, and the active metabolite, morphine. Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients who are taking a CYP3A4 inducer, CYP3A4 inhibitor, or 2D6 inhibitor. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.8), Drug Interactions (7.1, 7.2, 7.4)]*

Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or other CNS Depressants
Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients taking benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol. *[see Warning and Precautions (5.9), Drug Interactions (7.5)]*

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome
TUZISTRA XR is not recommended for use in pregnant women. *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)]* Prolonged use of TUZISTRA XR during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. If TUZISTRA XR is used for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.15)]*

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE	
TUZISTRA XR is indicated for the temporary relief of cough and upper respiratory symptoms associated with allergy or the common cold in patients 18 years of age and older.	
Important Limitations of Use (1)	
Not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age. <i>[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)]</i>	
Contraindicated in pediatric patients under 12 years of age. <i>[see Contraindications (4)]</i> <i>[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)]</i>	
Contraindicated in pediatric patients 12 to 18 years of age after tonsillectomy or adenoidectomy. <i>[see Contraindications (4)]</i> <i>[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)]</i>	
Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]</i> , reserve TUZISTRA XR for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate assessment of the etiology of the cough has been made.	

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION	
2.1 Important Dosage and Administration Instructions	
Administer TUZISTRA XR by the oral route only. TUZISTRA XR may be administered with or without food.	
Always use an accurate milliliter measuring device when administering TUZISTRA XR to ensure that the dose is measured and administered accurately. A household teaspoon is not an accurate measuring device and could lead to overdose. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]</i> For prescriptions where a measuring device is not provided, a pharmacist can provide an appropriate measuring device and can provide instructions for measuring the correct dose. Do not overfill. Rinse the measuring device with water after each use.	
Advise patients not to increase the dose or dosing frequency of TUZISTRA XR because serious adverse events such as respiratory depression may occur with overdose. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2), Overdose (10)]</i> The dosage of TUZISTRA XR should not be increased if cough fails to respond; an unresponsive cough should be reevaluated for possible underlying pathology. <i>[see Dosage and Administration (2.3), Warnings and Precautions (5.5)]</i>	

2.2 Recommended Dosage	
Adults 18 years of age and older: 10 mL every 12 hours as needed, not to exceed 2 doses (20 mL) in 24 hours.	
2.3 Monitoring, Maintenance, and Discontinuation of Therapy	
Prescribe TUZISTRA XR for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]</i>	
Monitor patients closely for respiratory depression, especially within the first 24-72 hours of initiating therapy. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]</i>	
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2.2 Recommended Dosage	
Adults 18 years of age and older: 10 mL every 12 hours as needed, not to exceed 2 doses (20 mL) in 24 hours.	
2.3 Monitoring, Maintenance, and Discontinuation of Therapy	
Prescribe TUZISTRA XR for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]</i>	
Monitor patients closely for respiratory depression, especially within the first 24-72 hours of initiating therapy. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]</i>	
Reevaluate patients with unresponsive cough in 5 days or sooner for possible underlying pathology, such as foreign body or lower respiratory tract disease. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.5)]</i> If a patient requires a refill, reevaluate the cause of the cough and	

2.2 Recommended Dosage	
Adults 18 years of age and older: 10 mL every 12 hours as needed, not to exceed 2 doses (20 mL) in 24 hours.	

Clinical Considerations

Infants exposed to TUZISTRA XR through breast milk should be monitored for excess sedation and respiratory depression. Withdrawal symptoms can occur in breastfed infants when maternal administration of an opioid is stopped, or when breastfeeding is stopped.

8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

Infertility

Chronic use of opioids, such as codeine, a component of TUZISTRA XR, may cause reduced fertility in females and males of reproductive potential. It is not known whether these effects on fertility are reversible. *[see Adverse Reactions (6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)].*

8.4 Pediatric Use

TUZISTRA XR is not indicated for use in patients younger than 18 years of age because the benefits of symptomatic treatment of cough associated with allergies or the common cold do not outweigh the risks for use of codeine in these patients. *[see Indications (1), Warnings and Precautions (5.4)].*

Use treatment when controlling respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codeine. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].* In most of the reported cases, these events followed tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being ultra-rapid metabolizers of codeine (i.e., multiple copies of the gene for cytochrome P450 isoenzyme 2D6 or high morphine concentrations). Children with sleep apnea may be particularly sensitive to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine.

Because of the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression and death:

- TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated for all children younger than 12 years of age. *[see Contraindications (4)].*
- TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated for post-operative management in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy. *[see Contraindications (4)].*
- Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine unless the benefits outweigh the risks. Risk factors include conditions associated with hypoventilation, such as postoperative status, obstructive sleep apnea, obesity, severe pulmonary disease, neuromuscular disease, and concomitant use of other medications that cause respiratory depression. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)].*

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies have not been conducted with TUZISTRA XR in geriatric populations.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients 65 years of age or older. Elderly patients may have increased sensitivity to codeine; greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function; or concomitant disease or other drug therapy. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.5)].*

Respiratory depression is the chief risk for elderly patients treated with opioids, including TUZISTRA XR. Respiratory depression has occurred after large initial doses of opioids were administered to patients who were not opioid-tolerant or when opioids were co-administered with other agents that depress respiration. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.5), (5.9)].* Codeine is known to be extensively excreted by the kidney, and thus, impaired renal function could lead to the risk of decreased clearance and thereby increased retention or systemic levels of chlorpheniramine. Therefore, TUZISTRA XR should be used with caution in patients with severe impairment of renal function, and patients should be monitored closely for signs of codeine toxicity (respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension) and chlorpheniramine toxicity.

8.6 Renal Impairment

The pharmacokinetics of TUZISTRA XR has not been characterized in patients with renal impairment. Codeine pharmacokinetics may be altered in patients with renal failure. Clearance may be decreased and the metabolites may accumulate to much higher plasma levels in patients with renal failure as compared to patients with normal renal function. Chlorpheniramine is cleared substantially by the kidney. As such, impaired renal function could lead to the risk of decreased clearance and thereby increased retention or systemic levels of chlorpheniramine. Therefore, TUZISTRA XR should be used with caution in patients with severe impairment of renal function, and patients should be monitored closely for signs of codeine toxicity (respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension) and chlorpheniramine toxicity.

8.7 Hepatic Impairment

No formal studies have been conducted in patients with hepatic impairment so the pharmacokinetics of TUZISTRA XR in this patient population are unknown. Chlorpheniramine is extensively metabolized by liver before elimination from the body. As such, impaired hepatic function could potentially lead to the risk of decreased metabolism and thereby increased systemic levels of chlorpheniramine. Therefore, TUZISTRA XR should be used with caution in patients with severe impairment of hepatic function, and patients should be monitored closely for signs of codeine toxicity (respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension) and chlorpheniramine toxicity.

9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

9.1 Controlled Substance

TUZISTRA XR contains codeine, a Schedule III controlled substance.

9.2 Abuse

Codeine

TUZISTRA XR contains codeine, a substance with a high potential for abuse similar to other opioids including morphine and codeine. TUZISTRA XR can be abused and is subject to misuse, addiction, and criminal diversion. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].*

All patients treated with opioids require careful monitoring for signs of abuse and addiction, since use of opioid analgesic and antitussive products carries the risk of addiction even under appropriate medical use.

Prescription drug abuse is the intentional non-therapeutic use of a prescription drug, even once, for its rewarding psychological or physiological effects.

Drug addiction is a cluster of behavioral, cognitive, and physiological phenomena that develop after repeated substance use and include a strong desire to take the drug, difficulties in controlling its use, persisting in its use despite harmful consequences, a high priority given to drug use that to other activities and obligations, increased tolerance, and sometimes a physical withdrawal.

“Drug-seeking” behavior is very common in persons with substance use disorders. Drug-seeking tactics include emergency calls or visits near the end of office hours, refusal to undergo appropriate examination, testing, or referral, repeated “loss” of prescriptions, tampering with prescriptions, and reluctance to provide prior medical records or contact information for other treating health care providers. “Doctor shopping” (visiting multiple prescribers to obtain additional prescriptions) is common among drug abusers and persons suffering from untreated addiction. Preoccupation with achieving adequate pain relief can be appropriate behavior in a patient with pain pain control.

Abuse and addiction are separate and distinct from physical dependence and tolerance. Health care providers should be aware that addiction may not be accompanied by concurrent tolerance and symptoms of physical dependence in all addicts. In addition, abuse of opioids can occur in the absence of true addiction.

TUZISTRA XR, like other opioids, can be diverted for non-medical use into illicit channels of distribution. Careful record-keeping of prescribing information, including quantity, frequency, and renewal requests, as required by state and federal law, is strongly advised.

Proper assessment of the patient, proper prescribing practices, periodic re-evaluation of therapy, and proper dispensing and storage are appropriate measures that help to limit abuse of opioid drugs.

Risks Specific to Abuse of TUZISTRA XR

TUZISTRA XR is for oral use only. Abuse of TUZISTRA XR poses a risk of overdose and death. The risk is increased with concurrent use of TUZISTRA XR with alcohol and other central nervous system depressants. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].*

Parenteral drug abuse is commonly associated with transmission of infectious diseases such as hepatitis and HIV.

9.3 Dependence

Psychological dependence, physical dependence, and tolerance may develop upon repeated administration of opioids; therefore, TUZISTRA XR should be prescribed and administered for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals and patients should be reevaluated prior to refill. *[see Dosage and Administration (2.3), Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].*

Physical dependence, the condition in which continued administration of the drug is required to prevent the appearance of withdrawal symptoms, occurs in clinically significant proportions only after several weeks of continued oral opioid use, although some mild degree of physical dependence may develop after a few days of opioid therapy.

If TUZISTRA XR is abruptly discontinued in a physically-dependent patient, a withdrawal syndrome may occur. Withdrawal also may be precipitated through the administration of drugs with opioid antagonist activity (e.g., naloxone, nalmefene), mixed agonist/antagonist analgesics (e.g., pentazocine, butorphanol, nalbuphine), or partial agonists (e.g., buprenorphine). Some or all of the following can characterize this syndrome: restlessness, lacrimation, rhinorrhea, yawning, perspiration, chills, myalgia, and mydriasis. Other signs and symptoms also may develop, including irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, insomnia, nausea, anorexia, vomiting, diarrhea, or increased blood pressure, respiratory rate, or heart rate.

Infants born to mothers physically dependent on opioids will also be physically dependent and may exhibit respiratory difficulties and withdrawal signs. *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)].*

10 OVERDOSAGE

Clinical Presentation

Codeine

Acute overdose with codeine is characterized by respiratory depression (a decrease in respiratory rate and/or tidal volume, Cheyne-Stokes respiration, cyanosis), extreme somnolence progressing to stupor or coma, skeletal muscle flaccidity, cold and clammy skin, constricted pupils, and, in some cases, pulmonary edema, bradycardia, and/or complete airway obstruction, atypical snoring, hypotension, circulatory collapse, cardiac arrest, and death.

Codeine may cause myosis, even in total darkness. Pinpoint pupils are a sign of opioid overdose but are not pathognomonic (e.g., pontine lesions of hemorrhagic or ischemic origins may produce similar findings). Marked mydriasis rather than miosis may be seen with hypoxia in overdose situations. *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)].*

Chlorpheniramine

Signs and symptoms of chlorpheniramine overdose may vary from central nervous system depression to stimulation. Central toxic effects are characterized by agitation, anxiety, delirium, disorientation, hallucinations, hyperactivity, sedation, and seizures. Severe overdose may produce coma, medullary paralysis, and death. Peripheral toxicity includes hypertension, tachycardia, dysrhythmias, vasodilation, hyperpyrexia, mydriasis, urinary retention, and diminished gastrointestinal motility. Atropine-like signs and symptoms (dry mouth, fixed dilated pupils, flushing, tachycardia, hallucinations, gastrointestinal symptoms, convulsions, urinary retention, cardiac arrhythmias and coma) may be observed.

Impaired secretion from sweat glands following toxic doses of drugs with anticholinergic side effects may predispose to hyperthermia. Toxic psychosis, a possible class effect from overdose of sedating antihistamines, has been reported.

Treatment of Overdose

Treatment of overdose is driven by the overall clinical presentation, and consists of discontinuation of TUZISTRA XR together with institution of appropriate therapy. Give primary attention to the reestablishment of adequate respiratory exchange through provision of a patent and protected airway and the institution of assisted or controlled ventilation. Employ other supportive measures (including oxygen and vasopressors) in the management of circulatory shock and pulmonary edema as indicated. Cardiac arrest or arrhythmias will require advanced life-support techniques. Gastric emptying may be useful in removing unabsorbed drug. The opioid antagonists, naloxone and nalmefene, are specific antidotes for respiratory depression resulting from opioid overdose. For clinically significant respiratory or circulatory depression secondary to codeine overdose, administer an opioid antagonist. An antagonist should not be administered in the absence of clinically significant respiratory depression. Because the duration of opioid reversal is expected to be less than the duration of action of codeine in TUZISTRA XR, carefully monitor the patient until spontaneous respiration is reliably reestablished. TUZISTRA XR will continue to release codeine and add to the codeine load for 12 hours or longer following ingestion, necessitating prolonged monitoring. If the response to an opioid antagonist is suboptimal or only brief in nature, additional antagonist administration as directed by the product’s prescribing information.

Hemodialysis is not routinely used to enhance the elimination of codeine or chlorpheniramine from the body.

Urinary excretion of chlorpheniramine is increased when the pH of the urine is acidic; however, acid diuresis is NOT recommended to enhance elimination in overdose, as the risks of acidemia and acute tubular necrosis in patients with rhabdomyolysis far outweigh any potential benefits.

11 DESCRIPTION

TUZISTRA XR (codeine polistirex and chlorpheniramine polistirex) extended-release suspension contains codeine, an opioid agonist; and chlorpheniramine, a histamine-1 (H₁) receptor antagonist.

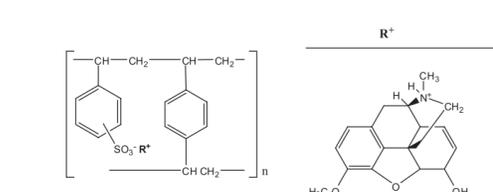
Each 5 mL of TUZISTRA XR contains 14.7 mg of codeine and 2.6 mg of chlorpheniramine bound to sulfonated styrene-divinylbenzene copolymer (polistirex) for oral administration.

TUZISTRA XR extended-release suspension is a pink to reddish pink, cherry-flavored liquid suspension.

TUZISTRA XR also contains the following inactive ingredients: cherry flavor, citric acid, D&C Red No. 30, ethyl maltol, glycerin, methylparaben, polysorbate 80, polyvinyl acetate, povidone, propyl gallate, propylparaben, purified water, sodium citrate, sodium polysulfone sulfonate, starch, sucrose, triacetin, xanthan gum.

Codeine

Codeine is (5*S*,6*R*)-7-*R*-dimethyl-4,5-epoxy-3-methoxy-1-*R*-methylmorphinan-6-*ol*. The molecular weight is 299.36. Its molecular formula is C₁₈H₂₁NO₂. Codeine polistirex is a complex of codeine with sulfonated styrene-divinylbenzene copolymer. It has the following chemical structure:



Chlorpheniramine

Chlorpheniramine is γ -(4-chlorophenyl)-N, N-dimethyl-2-pyrindinopropanamine, has the following molecular formula, C₁₇H₁₉ClN₂, and a molecular weight of 274.80. Chlorpheniramine polistirex is a complex of chlorpheniramine with sulfonated styrene-divinylbenzene copolymer. It has the following chemical structure:



Chlorpheniramine

Chlorpheniramine is a propylamine derivative antihistamine (H₁-receptor antagonist) of the alkylamine class that also possesses anticholinergic and sedative activity. It prevents released histamine from dilating capillaries and causing edema of the respiratory mucosa.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Codeine is an opioid agonist relatively selective for the mu-opioid receptor, but with a much weaker affinity than morphine. The analgesic and antitussive properties of codeine have been speculated to come from its conversion to morphine. The precise mechanism of action of codeine and other opiates is not known; however, codeine is believed to act centrally on the cough center.

In excessive doses, codeine will depress respiration.

Chlorpheniramine

Chlorpheniramine is a propylamine derivative antihistamine (H₁-receptor antagonist) of the alkylamine class that also possesses anticholinergic and sedative activity. It prevents released histamine from dilating capillaries and causing edema of the respiratory mucosa.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Codeine

Effects on the Central Nervous System

Codeine produces respiratory depression by direct action on brain stem respiratory centers. The respiratory depression involves a reduction in the responsiveness of the brain stem respiratory centers to both increases in carbon dioxide tension and to electrical stimulation.

Codeine causes miosis, even in total darkness. Pinpoint pupils are a sign of opioid overdose but are not pathognomonic (e.g., pontine lesions of hemorrhagic or ischemic origins may produce similar findings). Marked mydriasis rather than miosis may be seen due to hypoxia in overdose situations.

Effects on the Gastrointestinal Tract and Other Smooth Muscle

Codeine causes a reduction in motility associated with an increase in smooth muscle tone in the antrum of the stomach and duodenum. Digestion of food in the small intestine is delayed and propulsive contractions are decreased. Propulsive peristaltic waves in the colon are decreased, while tone may be increased to the point of spasm resulting in constipation. Other opioid-induced effects may include a reduction in biliary and pancreatic secretions, spasm of sphincter of Oddi, and transient elevations in serum amylase.

Effects on the Cardiovascular System

Codeine produces peripheral vasodilation which may result in orthostatic hypotension or syncope. Manifestations of histamine release and/or peripheral vasodilation may include pruritus, flushing, red eyes and sweating and/or orthostatic hypotension.

Effects on the Endocrine System

Opioids inhibit the secretion of adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH), cortisol, and luteinizing hormone (LH) in humans. *[see Adverse Reactions (6)].* They also stimulate prolactin, growth hormone (GH) secretion, and pancreatic secretion of insulin and glucagon.

Chronic use of opioids may influence the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis, leading to androgen deficiency that may manifest as low libido, impotence, erectile dysfunction, amenorrhea, or infertility. The causal role of opioids in the clinical syndrome of hypogonadism is unknown because the various medical, physical, lifestyle, and psychological stressors that may influence gonadal hormone levels have not been adequately controlled for in studies conducted to date. *[see Adverse Reactions (6)].*

Effects on the Immune System

Opioids have been shown to have a variety of effects on components of the immune system in *in vitro* and animal models. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown. Overall, the effects of opioids appear to be modestly immunosuppressive.

Concentration-Adverse Reaction Relationships

There is a relationship between increased codeine plasma concentration and increasing frequency of dose-related opioid adverse reactions such as nausea, vomiting, CNS effects, and respiratory depression. In opioid-tolerant patients, the relation may be altered by the development of tolerance to opioid-related adverse reactions.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

Pharmacokinetic (PK) parameters (Mean \pm SD) for TUZISTRA XR (codeine polistirex and chlorpheniramine polistirex) extended-release oral suspension in fasting, healthy volunteers are shown in the table below.

PK Parameter	Single-dose		Multiple-dose (BID for 7 days)	
	Codeine Mean (\pm SD)	Chlorpheniramine Mean (\pm SD)	Codeine Mean (\pm SD)	Chlorpheniramine Mean (\pm SD)
T _{max} (h) (Range)	2.19 (1-4.05)	6.52 (5-9)	1.86 (0.5-3)	5.77 (2.5-9.5)
C _{max} (ng/mL)	51.4 (\pm 13.8)	7.84 (\pm 1.84)	64.6 (\pm 21.9)	38.7 (\pm 15.2)
AUC ₀₋₁₂ (ng·h/mL) for single-dose OR AUC ₀₋₁₂ (ng·h/mL) for multiple-dose	348.5 (\pm 94)	304.3 (\pm 104)	384.8 (\pm 128)	392.4 (\pm 147)
Half-life (h)	5 (\pm 1.07)	21.45 (\pm 5.87)	Not determined	Not determined

Food Effect

The presence of a high-fat, high calorie meal did not significantly impact TUZISTRA XR pharmacokinetics.

Distribution

Codeine has been reported to have an apparent volume of distribution of approximately 3 to 6 L/kg, indicating extensive distribution of the drug into tissues. Codeine has low plasma protein binding with about 7 to 25% of codeine bound to plasma proteins. Codeine passes the blood brain barrier and the placental barrier. Small amounts of codeine and its metabolite, morphine, are transferred to human breast milk.

Chlorpheniramine is widely distributed throughout the tissues of the body, including the central nervous system. It reportedly has an apparent volume of distribution of approximately 3.2 L/kg in adults and children and is about 70% bound to plasma proteins. Chlorpheniramine and its metabolites likely cross the placental barrier and are excreted into human breast milk.

Elimination

Metabolism

Codeine is metabolized by conjugation with glucuronic acid to codeine-6-glucuronide (about 70 to 80%), by O-demethylation to morphine (about 5 to 10%), and by N-demethylation to norcodeine (about 10%). UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (UGT) 2B7 and 2B4 are the major enzymes mediating glucuronidation of codeine to O6G. Cytochrome P450 2D6 is the major enzyme responsible for conversion of codeine to morphine and P450 3A4 is the major enzyme mediating conversion of codeine to norcodeine. Morphine and norcodeine are further metabolized by conjugation with glucuronic acid. The glucuronide metabolites of morphine are morphine-3-glucuronide (M3G) and morphine-6-glucuronide (M6G). Morphine and its M6 glucuronide conjugate are pharmacologically active. Whether O6G has pharmacological activity is unknown. Norcodeine and M3 glucuronide conjugate of morphine are generally not considered to be pharmacologically active.

Chlorpheniramine is rapidly and extensively metabolized via demethylation in the liver, forming mono- and di-methyl derivatives. Oxidative metabolism of chlorpheniramine is catalyzed by cytochrome P-450 2D6.

Excretion

Approximately 90% of the total dose of codeine is excreted through the kidneys, of which approximately 10% is unchanged codeine. The mean plasma half-life of codeine measured in a single-dose study with TUZISTRA XR was approximately 5 hours. Chlorpheniramine and its metabolites are primarily excreted through the kidneys, with large individual variation. Urinary excretion depends on urine pH and flow rate. The mean plasma half-life of chlorpheniramine measured in a single-dose study with TUZISTRA XR was approximately 21 hours.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis and Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, and fertility studies have not been conducted with TUZISTRA XR; however, published information is available for the individual active ingredients.

Codeine

Carcinogenicity studies were conducted with codeine. Two-year studies in F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice were conducted to assess the carcinogenic potential of codeine. No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female rats at clinical dietary doses up to 70 and 80 mg/kg/day (approximately equivalent to 10 and 15 times, the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively). No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female mice at clinical dietary doses up to 400 mg/kg/day (approximately equivalent to 35 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis).

Codeine was not mutagenic in the *in vitro* bacterial reverse mutation assay or clastogenic in the *in vitro* Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell chromosomal aberration assay.

Fertility studies with codeine have not been conducted.

Chlorpheniramine

Carcinogenicity studies were conducted with chlorpheniramine maleate. Two-year studies in F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice were conducted to assess the carcinogenic potential of chlorpheniramine. No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female rats at clinical dietary doses up to 30 and 60 mg/kg/day for 5 days/week (approximately equivalent to 25 and 50 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively). No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female mice at chlorpheniramine oral doses up to 50 and 200 mg/kg/day for 5 days/week (approximately equivalent to 20 and 85 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively).

Chlorpheniramine maleate was not mutagenic in the *in vitro* bacterial reverse mutation assay or the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma forward mutation assay. Chlorpheniramine maleate was clastogenic in the *in vitro* Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell chromosomal aberration assay.

Chlorpheniramine maleate had no effects on fertility in rats and rabbits at oral doses approximately 35 and 45 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

TUZISTRA XR is supplied as a pink to reddish pink, cherry-flavored liquid oral suspension containing codeine polistirex, providing 14.7 mg of codeine (equivalent to 20 mg codeine phosphate), and chlorpheniramine polistirex, providing 2.6 mg chlorpheniramine (equivalent to 4 mg chlorpheniramine maleate) per 5 mL. It is available in bottles of 16 fluid oz. (473 mL) NDC 69654-480-01.

Store at 20°C to 25°C (68°F to 77°F); excursions permitted from 15°C to 30°C (59°F to 86°F). (See USP Controlled Room Temperature.)

Shake well. Dispense in a light, light-resistant container, as defined in the USP with a child-resistant closure.

Ensure that patients have an oral dosing dispenser that measures the appropriate volume in milliliters. Counsel patients on how to utilize an oral dosing dispenser and correctly measure the oral suspension as prescribed.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide).

Addition Abuse, and Misuse

Inform patients that the use of TUZISTRA XR, even when taken as recommended, can result in addiction, abuse and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)].* Instruct patients not to share TUZISTRA XR with others and to take steps to protect TUZISTRA XR from theft or misuse.

Important Dosing and Administration Instructions

Instruct patients how to measure and take the correct dose of TUZISTRA XR. Advise patients to measure TUZISTRA XR with an accurate milliliter measuring device. Patients should be informed that a household teaspoon is not an accurate measuring device and could lead to overdose. Advise patients to ask their pharmacist to recommend an appropriate measuring device and for instructions for measuring the correct dose. *[see Dosage and Administration (2.1) and Warnings and Precautions (5.6)].*

Advise patients not to increase the dose or dosing frequency of TUZISTRA XR because serious adverse events such as respiratory depression may occur with overdose. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2), Overdosage (10)].*

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Inform patients of the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression, including information that the risk is greatest when starting TUZISTRA XR and that it can occur even at recommended dosages. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].* Advise patients how to recognize respiratory depression and to seek medical attention if breathing difficulties develop.

Accidental Ingestion

Inform patients that accidental ingestion, especially by children, may result in respiratory depression or death. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].* Instruct patients to take steps to protect TUZISTRA XR securely and to properly dispose of unused TUZISTRA XR in accordance with the local state guidelines and/or regulations.

Ultra-Rapid Metabolism of Codeine and Other Risk Factors for Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression in Children

Advise caregivers that TUZISTRA XR is not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age and is contraindicated in all children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy.

Activities Requiring Mental Alertness

Advise patients to avoid engaging in hazardous tasks that require mental alertness and motor coordination such as operating machinery or driving a motor vehicle as TUZISTRA XR may produce marked drowsiness. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.7)].*

Interactions with Benzodiazepines and Other Central Nervous System Depressants, Including Alcohol

Inform patients and caregivers that potentially fatal additive effects may occur if TUZISTRA XR is used with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants, including alcohol. Advise patients to avoid concomitant use of TUZISTRA XR with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants and to not use alcohol while taking TUZISTRA XR. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.9), Drug Interactions (7.5)].*

Constipation

Advise patients of the potential for severe constipation. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.10), Adverse Reactions (6)].*

Contraindications

TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated for all children younger than 12 years of age. TUZISTRA XR is contraindicated for post-operative management in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy.

Avoid the use of TUZISTRA XR in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine unless the benefits outweigh the risks. Risk factors include conditions associated with hypoventilation, such as postoperative status, obstructive sleep apnea, obesity, severe pulmonary disease, neuromuscular disease, and concomitant use of other medications that cause respiratory depression.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients 65 years of age or older. Elderly patients may have increased sensitivity to codeine; greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function; or concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

Use treatment when controlling respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codeine.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients with hepatic impairment so the pharmacokinetics of TUZISTRA XR in this patient population are unknown.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients with renal impairment. Codeine pharmacokinetics may be altered in patients with renal failure.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients with severe impairment of renal function, and patients should be monitored closely for signs of codeine toxicity (respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension) and chlorpheniramine toxicity.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients with severe impairment of hepatic function, and patients should be monitored closely for signs of codeine toxicity (respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension) and chlorpheniramine toxicity.

Use caution when considering the use of TUZISTRA XR in patients with severe impairment of renal function,