

Width: 17.0"
Length: 18.75"
Fold: 1.25" x 1.25"

9.125"

17.0" W

.625" .625"

6.625"

1.25"H x 1.25"W

Data
In a lactation study of ten women, levels of orally dosed bupropion and its active metabolites were measured in expressed milk. The average daily infant exposure (assuming 100% milk utilization) to bupropion and its active metabolites was 2% of the maternal weight-adjusted dose. Postmarketing reports have described seizures in breastfed infants. The relationship of bupropion exposure and these seizures is unclear.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population have not been established. When considering the use of bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) in a child or adolescent, balance the potential risks with the clinical need. *See Boxed Warning and Warnings and Precautions 5.1.*

8.5 Geriatric Use

Of the approximately 6,000 patients who participated in clinical trials with bupropion hydrochloride sustained-release tablets (depression and smoking cessation studies), 275 were >65 years old and 47 were >75 years old. In addition, several hundred patients >65 years of age participated in clinical trials using the immediate-release formulation of bupropion hydrochloride (depression studies). No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects. Reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out.

Bupropion is extensively metabolized in the liver to active metabolites, which are further metabolized and excreted by the kidneys. The risk of adverse reactions may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, it may be necessary to consider this factor in dose selection; it may be useful to monitor renal function. *See Dosage and Administration 2.7, Use in Specific Populations 6.6, and Clinical Pharmacology 12.3.*

8.6 Renal Impairment

Consider a reduced dose and/or dosing frequency of bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) in patients with renal impairment (glomerular filtration rate: <30 mL/min). Bupropion and its metabolites are cleared renally and may accumulate in such patients to a greater extent than usual. Monitor closely for adverse reactions that could indicate high bupropion or metabolite exposure. *See Dosage and Administration 2.7 and Clinical Pharmacology 12.3.*

8.7 Hepatic Impairment

In patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score: 7 to 15), the maximum bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) dose is 150 mg every other day in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score: 5 to 6), consider reducing the dose and/or frequency of dosing. *See Dosage and Administration 2.6 and Clinical Pharmacology 12.3.*

9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

9.1 Controlled Substance

Bupropion is not a controlled substance.

9.2 Abuse

Abuse
Controlled clinical studies of bupropion HCl immediate-release conducted in normal volunteers, in subjects with a history of multiple drug abuse, and in depressed patients demonstrated an increase in motor activity and agitation/excitement.

In a population of individuals experienced with drugs of abuse, a single dose of 400 mg bupropion produced mild amphetamine-like activity as compared to placebo on the Morphine-Benzedrine Subscale of the Addiction Research Center Inventories (ARCI), and a score intermediate between placebo and amphetamine on the Likert Scale of the ARCI. These scales measure general feelings of euphoria and drug desirability. Findings in clinical trials, however, are not known to reliably predict the abuse potential of drugs. Nonetheless, evidence from single-dose studies does suggest that the recommended daily dosage of bupropion when administered in divided doses is not likely to be significantly reinforcing to amphetamine or CNS stimulant abusers. However, higher doses that could not be tested because of the risk of seizure might be modestly attractive to those who abuse CNS stimulant drugs.

Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) are intended for oral use only. The inhalation of crushed tablets or injection of dissolved bupropion has been reported. Seizures and/or cases of death have been reported when bupropion has been administered intranasally or by parenteral injection.

Animals

Studies in rodents and primates demonstrated that bupropion exhibits some pharmacologic actions common to psychostimulants. In rodents, it has been shown to increase locomotor activity, elicit a mild stereotyped behavioral response, and increase rates of responding in several schedule-controlled behavior paradigms. In primate models assessing the positive reinforcing effects of psychotropic drugs, bupropion was self-administered intravenously. In rats, bupropion produced amphetamine-like and cocaine-like discriminative stimulus effects in drug discrimination paradigms used to characterize the subjective effects of psychotropic drugs.

10 OVERDOSES

10.1 Human Overdose Experience

Overdoses of up to 30 grams or more of bupropion have been reported. Seizure was reported in approximately one third of cases. Other serious reactions reported with overdoses of bupropion alone included hallucinations, loss of consciousness, methemoglobinemia, and coma. In some cases, overdoses were associated with cardiac failure, and cardiac arrest prior to death were reported in these patients.

Although most patients recovered without sequelae, deaths associated with overdoses of bupropion alone have been reported in patients ingesting large doses of the drug. Multiple uncontrolled seizures, bradycardia, cardiac failure, and cardiac arrest prior to death were reported in these patients.

10.2 Overdose Management

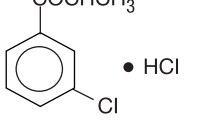
Consult a Certified Poison Control Center for up-to-date guidance and advice. Call 1-800-222-1222 or refer to www.aapcc.org.

There are no known antidotes for bupropion. In case of an overdose, provide supportive care, including close monitoring and monitoring. Consider the possibility of multiple drug overdose.

11 DESCRIPTION

Bupropion hydrochloride, an antidepressant of the aminoketone class, is chemically unrelated to tricyclic antidepressants, selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor, or other known antidepressant agents. Its structure closely resembles that of diethylpropion. It is related to phenylethylamines. It is designated as (+)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(1-(dimethylamino)ethyl)pyrrolidine. The molecular weight is 276.72. The chemical structure is shown below.

C₁₄H₁₉ClNO • HCl
Bupropion hydrochloride powder is white, soluble in 0.1N HCl, alcohol 96% and in water. It has a bitter taste. and produces the sensation of local anesthesia on the oral mucosa. The structural formula is:



Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets, USP (XL) are supplied for oral administration as 150 mg and 300 mg, white to pale yellow extended-release tablets. Each tablet contains the labeled amount of bupropion hydrochloride and the inactive ingredients: colloidal silicon dioxide, copovidone, hydrochloric acid, hypromellose, magnesium stearate, methacrylic acid copolymer dispersion, microcrystalline cellulose, polyethylene glycol, polyorbital 80, polyvinyl alcohol, silicon dioxide, talc, and triethyl citrate.

This product meets the requirements of USP Dissolution Test 4.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

The mechanism of action of bupropion is unknown, as is the case with other antidepressants. However, it is presumed that this action is mediated by noradrenergic and/or dopaminergic mechanisms. Bupropion is a relatively weak inhibitor of the neuronal uptake of norepinephrine and dopamine and does not inhibit monoamine oxidase or the re-uptake of serotonin.

12.2 Pharmacokinetics

Bupropion is a racemic mixture. The pharmacologic activity and pharmacokinetics of the individual enantiomers have not been studied.

Following chronic dosing, the mean steady-state plasma concentration of bupropion was reached within 8 days. The elimination half-life (t_{1/2}) of bupropion is 21 (±3) hours. In a study comparing 14-day dosing with bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) 300 mg once-daily to the immediate-release formulation of bupropion at 100 mg 3 times daily, equivalence was demonstrated for peak plasma concentration and area under the curve for bupropion and the three metabolites (hydroxybupropion, threohydrobupropion, and erythrohydrobupropion). Additionally, in a study comparing 14-day dosing with bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) 300 mg once-daily to the sustained-release formulation of bupropion at 150 mg 2 times daily, equivalence was demonstrated for peak plasma concentration and area under the curve for bupropion and the three metabolites.

Absorption

Following single oral administration of bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) to healthy volunteers, the median time to peak plasma concentrations for bupropion was approximately 5 hours. The presence of food did not affect the peak concentration or area under the curve of bupropion.

Distribution

In vitro tests show that bupropion is 84% bound to human plasma proteins at concentrations up to 200 mcg/mL. The extent of protein binding of the hydroxybupropion metabolite is similar to that for bupropion, whereas the extent of protein binding of the threohydrobupropion metabolite is about half that of bupropion.

Metabolism

Bupropion is extensively metabolized in humans. Three metabolites are active: hydroxybupropion, which is formed via hydroxylation of the first chiral center of bupropion, and the amino-alcohol isomers threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion, which are formed via reduction of the carbonyl group. *In vitro* findings suggest that CYP2B6 is the principal isoenzyme involved in the formation of hydroxybupropion, while cytochrome P450 enzymes are not involved in the formation of threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion. However, the elimination half-lives of erythrohydrobupropion and threohydrobupropion are longer, approximately 33 (±10) and 37 (±13) hours, and steady-state AUCs were 1.4 and 7 times that of bupropion, respectively.

Bupropion and its metabolites exhibit linear kinetics following chronic administration of 300 mg/day to 450 mg/day.

Elimination

Following oral administration of 200 mg of ¹⁴C-bupropion in humans, 87% and 10% of the radioactive dose were recovered in the urine and feces, respectively. Only 0.5% of the oral dose was excreted as unchanged bupropion.

Population Subgroups

Factors or conditions altering metabolic capacity (e.g., liver disease, congestive heart failure [CHF], age, concomitant medications, etc.) or elimination (e.g., renal impairment) may influence the degree and extent of accumulation of the active metabolites of bupropion. The elimination of the major metabolites of bupropion may be affected by reduced renal or hepatic function, because they are moderately polar compounds and are likely to undergo further metabolism or conjugation in the liver prior to urinary excretion.

Renal Impairment

There is limited information on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion in patients with renal impairment. An inter-trial comparison between normal subjects and subjects with end-stage renal failure demonstrated that the parent drug C₁₄ and AUC were comparable in the 2 groups, whereas the hydroxybupropion and threohydrobupropion metabolites had a 2.3- and 2.6-fold increase, respectively, in AUC for subjects with end-stage renal failure. A second study, comparing normal subjects and subjects with moderate-to-severe renal impairment (GFR 30.3 ± 10.8 mL/min) showed that after a single 150 mg dose of sustained-release bupropion, exposure to bupropion was

approximately 2-fold higher in subjects with impaired renal function, while levels of the hydroxybupropion and threohydrobupropion (combined) metabolites were similar in the 2 groups. Bupropion is extensively metabolized in the liver to active metabolites, which are further metabolized and subsequently excreted by the kidneys. The elimination of the major metabolites of bupropion may be reduced by impaired renal function. Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment, and a reduced frequency and/or dose should be considered. *See Dosage and Administration 2.7 and Use in Specific Populations 6.6.*

Hepatic Impairment

The effect of hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion was characterized in 2 single-dose trials, one in subjects with alcoholic liver disease and one in subjects with mild to severe cirrhosis. The first trial demonstrated that the half-life of hydroxybupropion was significantly longer in 8 subjects with alcoholic liver disease than in 8 healthy volunteers (32-14 hours versus 21-5 hours, respectively). Although not statistically significant, the AUCs for bupropion and hydroxybupropion were more variable and tended to be greater (by 53% to 57%) in patients with alcoholic liver disease. The differences in half-life for bupropion and the other metabolites in the 2 groups were minimal.

The second trial demonstrated no statistically significant differences in the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its active metabolites in 8 subjects with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis compared to 8 healthy volunteers. However, more variability was observed in some of the pharmacokinetic parameters for bupropion (AUC, C₁₄, and t_{1/2}) and its active metabolites (t_{1/2}) in subjects with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis. In addition, in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis, the mean C₁₄ and AUC were substantially increased (mean difference by approximately 70% and 3-fold, respectively) and more variable when compared to values in healthy volunteers; the mean bupropion half-life was also longer (23 hours) in subjects with severe hepatic cirrhosis vs. 19 hours in healthy subjects. For the metabolite hydroxybupropion, the mean C₁₄ was approximately 69% lower. For the combined amino-alcohol isomers threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion, the mean C₁₄ was approximately 31% lower. The mean AUC increased by about 11x-fold for hydroxybupropion and about 21x-fold for threohydrobupropion. The median t_{1/2} was observed 19 hours later for hydroxybupropion and 31 hours later for threohydrobupropion. The mean half-lives for hydroxybupropion and threohydrobupropion were increased 5- and 2-fold, respectively, in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis compared to healthy volunteers. *See Dosage and Administration 2.6 and Use in Specific Populations 6.7.*

Left Ventricular Dysfunction

During chronic dosing with bupropion in 14 depressed patients with left ventricular dysfunction (history of CHF or an enlarged heart on x-ray), there was no apparent effect on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion or its metabolites, compared to healthy volunteers.

Age

The effects of age on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its metabolites have been fully characterized, but an exploration of absolute bioavailability concentrations from several depression efficacy studies indicated patients dosed in a range of 300 mg/day to 750 mg/day on a 3 times daily schedule, revealed no relationship between age (18 to 83 years) and plasma concentration of bupropion. A single-dose pharmacokinetic study demonstrated that the disposition and plasma and its metabolites in elderly subjects was similar to that in younger subjects. These data suggest that there is no proportionate change in bupropion concentration; however, another single- and multiple-dose pharmacokinetic study suggested that the elderly are at increased risk for accumulation of bupropion and its metabolites. *See Use in Specific Populations 6.5.*

Gender

A single-dose study involving 12 healthy male and 12 healthy female volunteers revealed no sex-related differences between pharmacokinetic parameters. In addition, pooled analysis of bupropion pharmacokinetic data from 90 healthy male and 90 healthy female volunteers revealed no sex-related differences in the peak plasma concentrations of bupropion. The mean systemic exposure (AUC) was approximately 13% higher in male volunteers compared to female volunteers.

Smokers

The effects of cigarette smoking on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion hydrochloride were studied in 34 healthy male and female volunteers; 17 were chronic cigarette smokers and 17 were nonsmokers. Following oral administration of a single 150 mg dose of bupropion, there was no statistically significant difference in C₁₄, half-life, t_{1/2}, AUC, or clearance of bupropion or its active metabolites between smokers and nonsmokers.

Drug Interactions

Effects of Other Drugs to Affect Bupropion Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets (XL)

In vitro studies indicate that bupropion is primarily metabolized by hydroxybupropion by CYP2B6. Therefore, the potential exists for drug interactions between bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) and drugs that are inhibitors or inducers of CYP2B6. In addition, *in vitro* studies suggest that paroxetine, sertraline, norfluoxetine, fluvoxamine, and nefazodone inhibit the hydroxylation of bupropion.

Inhibitors of CYP2B6

Ticlopidine and *Olopatadine*: In a study in healthy male volunteers, clopidogrel 75 mg once daily or ticlopidine 250 mg twice daily increased exposures (C₁₄ and AUC) of bupropion by 40% and 60%, for olopatadine, by 38% and 85% for bupropion, respectively. The exposures of hydroxybupropion were decreased.

Prasugrel: In healthy subjects, prasugrel increased bupropion C₁₄ and AUC values by 14% and 18%, respectively, and decreased C₁₄ and AUC values of hydroxybupropion by 32% and 24%, respectively.

Omeprazole: Following oral administration of bupropion 300 mg with and without cimetidine 800 mg in 24 healthy male volunteers, the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and hydroxybupropion were unaffected. However, there was a 15% decrease in the AUC and C₁₄, respectively, of the combined moieties of threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion.

Clotapram: Clotapram did not affect the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its three metabolites.

Inducers of CYP2B6

Rifampin and *Carbamazepine*: In a healthy volunteer study, rifampin 100 mg twice daily reduced the AUC and C₁₄ of bupropion by 22% and 21%, respectively. The exposure of the hydroxybupropion metabolite was decreased by 23%, the threohydrobupropion decreased by 36%, and the erythrohydrobupropion decreased by 48%. In a second healthy volunteer study, rifampin 600 mg twice daily reduced the AUC and C₁₄ of bupropion by 65% and 65%, respectively. The exposure of the hydroxybupropion metabolite was decreased by 78%, the threohydrobupropion decreased by 50%, and the erythrohydrobupropion decreased by 68%.

In another healthy volunteer study, lopinavir 400 mg/ritonavir 100 mg twice daily decreased bupropion AUC and C₁₄ by 57%. The AUC and C₁₄ of hydroxybupropion metabolite were decreased by 50% and 31%, respectively.

Efavirenz: In a study of healthy volunteers, efavirenz 600 mg once daily for 2 weeks reduced the AUC and C₁₄ of bupropion by approximately 55% and 34%, respectively. The AUC of hydroxybupropion was unchanged, whereas C₁₄ of hydroxybupropion was increased by 50%.

Carbamazepine, Phenytoin, and Phenylenolone: While not systematically studied, these drugs may induce the metabolism of bupropion.

Potential for Bupropion Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets (XL) to Affect Other Drugs
It should be noted that bupropion is an active metabolite of nortriptyline in humans. In a study of 8 healthy male volunteers, following a 14-day administration of bupropion 100 mg three times per day, there was no evidence of induction of its own metabolism. Nevertheless, there may be the potential for clinically important alterations of blood levels of co-administered drugs.

Drugs Metabolized by CYP2D6

In vitro, bupropion and hydroxybupropion are CYP2D6 inhibitors. In a clinical study of 15 male subjects (ages 19 to 35 years) who were extensive metabolizers of CYP2D6, bupropion given as 150 mg twice daily followed by a single dose of 50 mg desipramine increased the C₁₄, AUC, and t_{1/2} of desipramine by an average of approximately 2-, 5-, and 2-fold, respectively. The effect was present for at least 7 days after the last dose of bupropion. Concomitant use of bupropion with other drugs metabolized by CYP2D6 has not been formally studied.

Clotapram: Although clotapram is not primarily metabolized by CYP2D6, in one study bupropion increased the C₁₄ and AUC of clotapram by 50% and 40%, respectively.

Lamotrigine: Multiple oral doses of bupropion did not have statistically significant effects on the single-dose pharmacokinetics of lamotrigine in 12 healthy volunteers.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Lifetime carcinogenicity studies were performed in rats and mice at doses up to 300 mg/kg/day and 150 mg/kg/day hydroxybupropion, respectively. These doses are approximately 7 and 2 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD), respectively, on a mg/m² basis. In the rat study there was an increase in nodular proliferative lesions of the liver at doses of 100 mg/kg/day to 300 mg/kg/day of bupropion hydrochloride (approximately 2 to 7 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis); lower doses were not tested. The question of whether or not such lesions may be precursors of hepatocarcinoma in the male rat is not clear. In the mouse study, liver lesions were not seen in the mouse study, and no increase in malignant tumors of the liver and other organs was seen in either study.

Bupropion produced a positive response (2 to 3 times control mutation rate) in 2 of 4 strains in one Ames bacterial mutagenicity assay, but was negative in another. Bupropion produced an increase in chromosomal aberrations in 1 of 3 *in vivo* rat bone marrow cytogenetic studies.

A fertility study in rats at doses up to 300 mg/kg/day revealed no evidence of impaired fertility.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Major Depressive Disorder

The efficacy of bupropion in the treatment of major depressive disorder was established with the immediate-release formulation of bupropion hydrochloride in two 4-week, placebo-controlled trials in adult inpatients with MDD and in one 6-week, placebo-controlled trial in outpatients with MDD. In the first study, bupropion dose range was 300 mg to 600 mg per day administered in 3 divided doses; 78% of patients were treated with doses of 300 mg to 450 mg per day. The trial demonstrated the efficacy of bupropion as measured by the Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HAM-D) total score, the HAM-D subscale item 1, and the Clinical Global Impressions-Severity Scale (CGI-S). The second study included 2 fixed doses of bupropion (300 mg and 450 mg per day) and placebo. This trial demonstrated the efficacy of bupropion for only the 450 mg dose. The efficacy response was significant for the HAM-D total score and HAM-D subscale item 1, but not for HAM-D item 1. In the third study, outpatients were treated with bupropion 300 mg per day. This study demonstrated the efficacy of bupropion as measured by the HAM-D total score, the HAM-D item 1, the Montgomery-Asberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS), the CGI-S score, and the CGI-Improvement Scale (CGI-I) score.

A longer-term, placebo-controlled, randomized withdrawal trial demonstrated the efficacy of bupropion HCl sustained-release in the maintenance treatment of MDD. The trial included adult outpatients meeting DSM-IV criteria for MDD, recent-to-episode, who had responded during an 8-week open-label trial of bupropion 300 mg per day. Responders were randomized to continuation of bupropion 300 mg per day or placebo for up to 14 weeks of observation for relapse. Response during the open-label phase was defined as a CGI-Improvement Scale score of 1 (very much improved) or 2 (much improved) for each of the final 3 weeks. Relapse during the double-blind phase was defined as the investigator's judgment that drug treatment was needed for worsening depressive symptoms. Patients in the bupropion group experienced significantly lower relapse rates over the subsequent 44 weeks compared to those in the placebo group.

Although there are no independent trials demonstrating the efficacy of bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) in the acute treatment of MDD, studies have demonstrated similar bioavailability between the immediate-, sustained-, and extended-release formulations of bupropion HCl under steady-state conditions (i.e., the 14-week, 10- and 14-week bupropion and its metabolites are similar among the 3 formulations).

14.2 Seasonal Affective Disorder

The efficacy of bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) in the prevention of seasonal major depressive episodes associated with SAD was established in 3 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials in adult outpatients with a history of MDD with an autumn-winter seasonal pattern (as defined by DSM-IV criteria). Bupropion treatment was initiated prior to the onset of symptoms in the autumn (September to November). Treatment was discontinued following a 2-week taper that began during the first week of spring (fourth week of March), resulting in a treatment duration of approximately 4 to 6 months for the majority of patients. Patients were randomized to treatment with bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) or placebo. The initial bupropion dose was 150 mg once daily for 1 week, followed by up-titration to 300 mg once daily. Patients who were deemed by the investigator to be unable or unable to tolerate 300 mg once daily were allowed to remain on a 2 to 3 mg/kg/dose reduced to 150 mg once daily. The mean bupropion doses in the 3 trials ranged from 257 mg per day to 280 mg per day. Approximately 59% of patients continued in the study for 3 to 6 months; 25% continued for <3 months; 15% continued for >6 months.

To enter the trials, patients must have had a 17-item Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI) score of >4. The primary efficacy measure was the Structured Clinical Interview for the Hamilton Depression Rating Scale, Seasonal Affective Disorders (SIGH-SAD), which is identical to the HAM-D24. The SIGH-SAD consists of the HAM-D17 plus 7 items specifically assessing seasonal affective disorder symptoms, including seasonal weight gain, increased specific, increased eating of carbohydrate craving, hypersomnia, and fatigability. The primary efficacy endpoint was the score of a seasonal major depressive episode. The criteria for defining an episode included: 1) the investigator's judgment that a major depressive episode had occurred; 2) the presence of at least 2 seasonal symptoms; or 2) a SIGH-SAD score of >20 on 2 consecutive weeks. The primary analysis was a comparison of depression-free rates between the bupropion and placebo groups.

In these 3 trials, the percentage of patients who were depression-free (did not have an episode of MDD) at the end of treatment was significantly higher in the bupropion group than in the placebo group: 81.4% vs. 69.7%, 87.2% vs. 78.7%, and 84.0% vs. 69.0% in Trials 1, 2, and 3, respectively. For the 3 trials combined, the depression-free rate was 84.3% versus 72.0%, in the bupropion and placebo group, respectively.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) 150 mg, are white to pale yellow, round, biconvex, film

coated tablets, debossed with '144' on one side and plain on other side in bottles of 30(NDC 7771-144-30), 90 (NDC 7771-144-90) and 500 (NDC 7771-144-50).

Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) 300 mg, are white to pale yellow, modified capsule-shaped, biconvex, film coated tablets, debossed with '145' on one side and plain on other side in bottles of 30 (NDC 7771-145-30), 90 (NDC 7771-145-90) and 500 (NDC 7771-145-05).

Store at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15°C to 30°C (59°F to 86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

Bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) may have an odor.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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

17.1 Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors

Instruct patients, their families, and/or their caregivers to be alert to the emergence of anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, slurriness, psychomotor retardation, hypomania, mania, other unusual changes in behavior, worsening of depression, and suicidal ideation, especially early during antidepressant treatment and when the dose is adjusted up or down. Advise families and caregivers of patients to observe for the emergence of such symptoms on a regular basis, since changes may be subtle. Such symptoms should be reported to the patient's prescriber or health professional, especially if they are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. Symptoms such as these may be associated with an increased risk for suicidal thinking and behavior and indicate a need for very close monitoring and possible changes in the medication.

Neuropsychiatric Adverse Events and Suicide Risk in Smoking Cessation Treatment

Although bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) are not indicated for smoking cessation treatment, it contains the same active ingredient as ZYBAN[®] which is approved for this use. Inform patients that some patients who experience chronic glaucoma (because of angle-closure glaucoma, when diagnosed, can be treated definitively with iridotomy. Open-angle glaucoma is not a risk factor for angle-closure glaucoma. Patients may wish to be examined to determine whether they are susceptible to angle-closure, and have a prophylactic procedure (e.g., iridectomy), if they are susceptible. *See Warnings and Precautions 5.7.*

Severe Allergic Reactions

Advise patients on the symptoms of hypersensitivity and to discontinue bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) if they have a severe allergic reaction.

Seizure

Instruct patients to discontinue and not restart bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) if they experience a seizure while on treatment. Advise patients that the excessive use or the abrupt discontinuation of some patients that contain bupropion hydrochloride (such as WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained-release formulation, bupropion) may increase the risk of seizure. Advise patients to minimize or avoid the use of alcohol.

Angle-Closure Glaucoma

Patients should be advised that taking bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) can cause mild pupillary dilation, which in susceptible individuals, can lead to an episode of angle-closure glaucoma. Pre-existing glaucoma is almost always open-angle glaucoma because angle-closure glaucoma, when diagnosed, can be treated definitively with iridotomy. Open-angle glaucoma is not a risk factor for angle-closure glaucoma. Patients may wish to be examined to determine whether they are susceptible to angle-closure, and have a prophylactic procedure (e.g., iridectomy), if they are susceptible. *See Warnings and Precautions 5.7.*

Bupropion-Containing Products

Educate patients that bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) contains the same active ingredient (bupropion) found in ZYBAN, which is used as an aid to smoking cessation treatment, and that bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) should not be used in combination with ZYBAN or any other medication that contain bupropion hydrochloride (such as WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained-release formulation, WELLBUTRIN, the immediate-release formulation, and APLENZIN[®], a bupropion hydrochloride formulation). In addition, there are a number of generic bupropion HCl products for the immediate, sustained, and extended-release formulations.

Potential for Cognitive and Motor Impairment

Advise patients that anti-Cholinergic drug bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) may impair their ability to perform tasks requiring judgment or motor and cognitive skills. Advise patients that until they are reasonably certain that bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets (XL) do not adversely affect their performance, they should refrain from driving an automobile or operating complex, hazardous machinery. Bupropion hydrochlor