# Ursofalk

ursodeoxycholic acid

The simple approach to gallstone dissolution

\* effective 1,2,3

\* lack of side effects1,4,5

\* cost-effective

\* simple regimen

#### References:

- 1. Roda, E et al. Hepatology 1982; 2; no6: 804-810.
- Bachrach, WH, Hofmann, AF. Digestive Diseases and Sciences 1982; 27: no8: 737-761.



Presentation White opaque hard gelatin capsules containing 250 mg ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) Uses Dissolution of radiolucent gallstones measuring up to 15 mm diameter, as assessed on X-ray films, in patients whose gall bladders opacify on oral cholecystography. Ursofalk lowers biling cholesterol secretion, reduces cholesterol saturation in bile, and facilitates transfer of cholesterol from gallstones to bile. Dosage and Administration The following dosage regime is recommended to provide a daily dosage of 8-12 mg UDCA/kg:

	Dose of Ursofalk	
Body Weight	Capsules daily	mg/kg/day
(kg)	(in 2 doses)	
50-62	2	8.1-10
63-85	3	8.8-11.9

If doses are unequal the larger dose should be taken in late evening to counteract the rise in biliary cholesterol saturation which occurs in the early hours of the morning. The late evening dose may usefully be taken with food to help maintain bile flow overnight. The time required for dissolution of gallstones is likely to range from 6 to 24 months depending on stone size and composition. Follow up cholecystograms or ultrasound investigations may be useful at 6 month intervals until the gallstones have disappeared. Treatment should be continued until 2 successive cholecystograms and/or ultrasound investigations 4-12 weeks apart have failed to demonstrate gallstones. This is because these techniques do not permit reliable visualisation of stones less than 2 mm diameter. The likelihood of recurrence of gallstones after dissolution by bile acid treatment has been estimated as up to 50% at 5 years. The efficacy of Ursofalk in treating radio-opaque or partially radio-opaque gallstones has not yet been tested but these are generally thought to be less soluble than radioliucent

stones. Non-cholesterol stones may not be dissolved by bile acids. These account for 10–15% of radiolucent stones. Obese patients may require a higher dose of Ursofalk for gallstone dissolution, for example up to 15 mg/kg daily. Contra-indications, Warnings etc. Like other bile acids, Ursofalk is absorbed from the intestine, passed to the liver, conjugated and excreted into the bile. Little information is available on the effects and tolerance of Ursofalk in the presence of hepatic damage or inflammatory bowel disease. The following drugs bind bile acids in vitro and may therefore interfere with absorption of Ursofalk – cholestyramine, charcoal, colestipol and certain antacids e.g., aluminium hydroxide. As with all but essential drugs the use of Ursofalk in early pregnancy is contra-indicated, (Inthe rabbit, but not in the rat, embryotoxicity has been observed). A product of this class has been found to be carcinogenic in animals. The relevance of these findings to the clinical use of UDCA has not been established. Overdosage Doses of up to 4 g UDCA/day have been used therapeutically. The compound is almost entirely excreted in the stool as UDCA or bacterial metabolities. Serious toxicity from a gross overdose is not to be expected although some looseness of the bowells may occur. Pharmaceutical Precautions Store in a cool dry place. Legal Category POM. Package Quantity Ursofalk 250 mg capsules in packs of 60. Further Information Many patients report a reduction in severity and frequency of bilary colic during bile acid reatment.

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Gastrozepin is a selective antimuscarinic agent which provides balanced control of gastric secretion without markedly affecting other peripheral receptor sites. This gastro-selective action means that, in practice, Gastrozepin is a well-tolerated drug which heals peptic ulcers.

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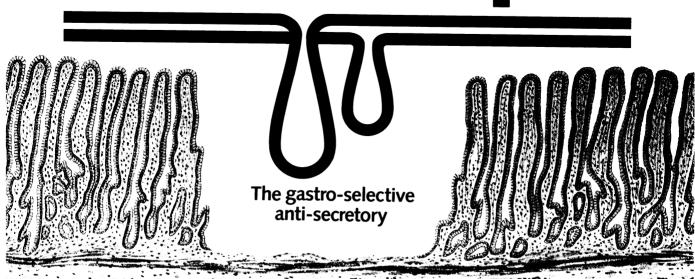
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- rely on mucosal protection alone
- profoundly affect intragastric pH

#### Gastrozepin DOES . . .

- relieve daytime pain
- relieve night-time pain
- reduce antacid intake
- heal peptic ulcers with one 50 mg tablet b.d.

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Prescribing Information: Presentation: White tablets each containing 50 mg of prenzepane dishydrochloride scored on one face with "G" on one side of the score and "50" on the other the observes is impressed with the symbol **§** Uses: Gastrozepans indicated in the treatment of gastro and diodenal ulices. Dosage: 50 mg at bedtime and in the morning before meals in severe cases the total daily does may be increased to 150 mg in divided dose. Continuous therapy may be recommended for up to three months. Contra-indications, Warnings etc. Interaction with sympathorimites and monoamme oxidase inhibitors and Gastrozepin is an theoretical possibility. Gastrozepin is not recommended during pregnancy although in animal

experiments no teratogenic effects were noted. Breast milk concentration after therapeutic doses is unlikely to affect the infant. Side effects occasionally transitory dry mouth and accommodation officulty may occur. Teatment of overdosage entirely symptomatic. There is no specific antidote. Basic NHS price: 50 mg tablets. 60 £20 50. Product Licence No.: 50 mg tablets, PLOGAT 0,760.

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reactions to menthol which are rare, and include erythematous skin rash, headache, bradycardia, muscle tremoi and ataxia Product Licence: PL 0424/0009. Basic NHS Cost: £1058 per 100. UK and Foreign Patents pending. Colpermin is a trade mark of Tillotts Laboratones. Further information is available from Tillotts Laboratories. Henlow Trading Estate.

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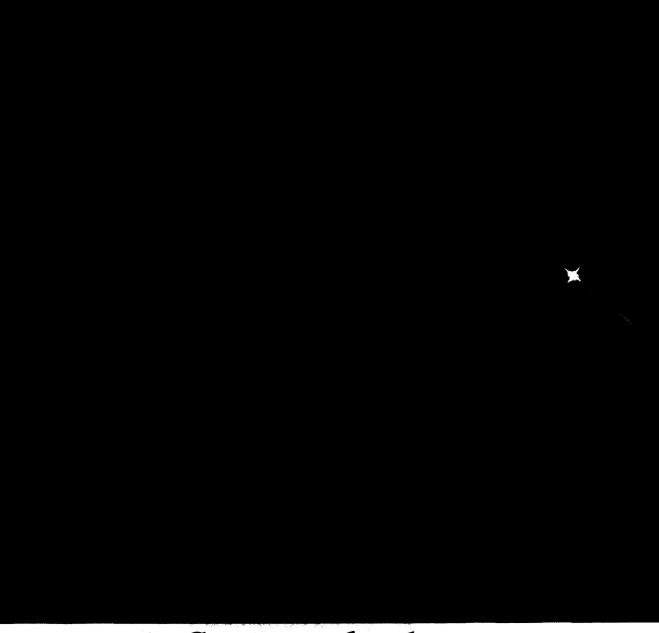
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Nielsen, O.H., Scand, J. Gastroenterol, 1982, 17, 389



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Contra-Indications Sensitivity to salicylates and sulphonamides Infants under 2 years Enema. Sensitivity to parabens. Adverse Reactions Side effects common to salicylates or signonnamides my occur Most commonly these are nausea loss of appetite and raised temperature which may be relieved on reduction of dose use of SN tablets enema or suppositions II serious reactions occur the drug should be discontinued. Pare Adverse Reactions Haematological haemolytic names agranulocytosis aplistic namema.

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#### REFERENCES:

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7. Morgan AC, McAdam WAF, Passoo C:
Comparison between cimetidine and Caved-5 in
the treatment of gastric ulceration, and the treatment of gastric ulceration, and subsequent maintenance therapy. Gut 23:545-551, 1982.

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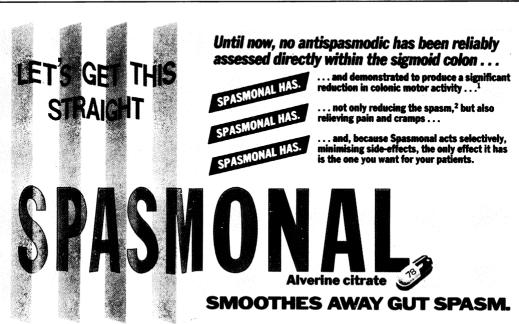
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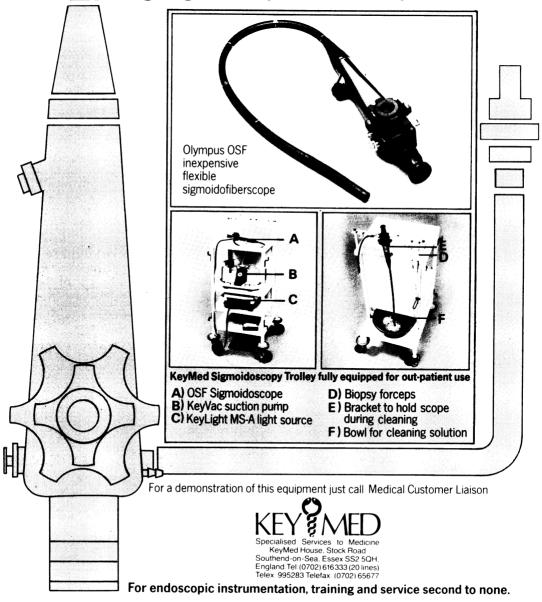
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