

**For the use of a Registered Medical Practitioner or Hospital or a Laboratory only**

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**Vortioxetine**

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**WARNING: SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS**

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

- Increased risk of suicidal thinking and behavior in children, adolescents, and young adults taking antidepressants.
- Monitor for worsening and emergence of suicidal thoughts and behaviors.
- VORTIOXETINE has not been evaluated for use in pediatric patients.

**1. Generic Name**

Vortioxetine Tablets

**2. Qualitative and quantitative Composition:**

**Vortioxetine Tablets 5 mg**

Each film coated tablet contains:

Vortioxetine Hydrobromide equivalent to Vortioxetine .....5 mg

Excipients .....q.s.

Colours: Titanium Dioxide IP, Yellow Oxide of Iron and Red oxide of Iron

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate , Titanium Dioxide, Yellow Oxide of Iron and Red oxide of Iron .

**Vortioxetine Tablets 10 mg**

Each film coated tablet contains:

Vortioxetine Hydrobromide equivalent to Vortioxetine ..... 10 mg

Excipients .....q.s.

Colours: Titanium Dioxide IP and Yellow Oxide of Iron

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose , Talc, Magnesium Stearate , Titanium Dioxide and yellow oxide of iron.

**Vortioxetine Tablets 20 mg**

Each film coated tablet contains:

Vortioxetine Hydrobromide equivalent to Vortioxetine ..... 20 mg

Excipients .....q.s.

Colours: Titanium Dioxide IP and Red oxide of Iron

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate , Titanium Dioxide and Red Oxide of iron .

**3. Dosage form and strength**

**Dosage form:** Tablets

**Strength:** Vortioxetine 5, 10, 20 mg

## **4. Clinical particulars**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indication**

It is indicated for the treatment of major depressive disorder in adults.

### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

#### **Posology**

Vortioxetine tablet must be taken as directed by the physician.

The starting and recommended dose of vortioxetine is 10 mg vortioxetine once daily in adults less than 65 years of age.

Depending on individual patient response, the dose may be increased to a maximum of 20 mg vortioxetine once daily or decreased to a minimum of 5 mg vortioxetine once daily.

After the depressive symptoms resolve, treatment for at least 6 months is recommended for consolidation of the antidepressive response.

#### **Treatment discontinuation**

Patients treated with vortioxetine can abruptly stop taking the medicinal product without the need for a gradual reduction in dose.

#### **Special populations**

##### *Elderly patients*

The lowest effective dose of 5 mg vortioxetine once daily should always be used as the starting dose in patients  $\geq 65$  years of age. Caution is advised when treating patients  $\geq 65$  years of age with doses higher than 10 mg vortioxetine once daily for which data are limited.

##### *Cytochrome P450 inhibitors*

Depending on individual patient response, a lower dose of vortioxetine may be considered if a strong CYP2D6 inhibitor (e.g. bupropion, quinidine, fluoxetine, paroxetine) is added to vortioxetine treatment.

##### *Cytochrome P450 inducers*

Depending on individual patient response, a dose adjustment of vortioxetine may be considered if a broad cytochrome P450 inducer (e.g., rifampicin, carbamazepine, phenytoin) is added to vortioxetine treatment.

##### *Paediatric population*

The safety and efficacy of vortioxetine in children aged 7 to 11 years have not been established. No data are available. Vortioxetine should not be used in adolescents aged 12 to 17 years with major depressive disorder (MDD) because efficacy has not been demonstrated.

##### *Renal or hepatic impairment*

No dose adjustment is needed based on renal or hepatic function

#### **Method of administration**

Vortioxetine tablet should be administered orally.

The film-coated tablets can be taken with or without food.

### 4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients
- Concomitant use with nonselective monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or selective MAO-A inhibitors.

### 4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

#### Use in paediatric population

Vortioxetine is not recommended for the treatment of depression in children aged 7 to 11 years since the safety and efficacy of vortioxetine have not been established in this age group. Vortioxetine should not be used in adolescents aged 12 to 17 years with major depressive disorder (MDD) because efficacy has not been demonstrated. In general, the adverse reaction profile of vortioxetine in adolescents was similar to that seen for adults except for higher incidences reported in adolescents than in adults for abdominal pain-related events and suicidal ideation. In clinical studies in children and adolescents treated with antidepressants, suicide-related behaviour (suicide attempt and suicidal thoughts) and hostility (predominantly aggression, oppositional behaviour, anger) were more frequently observed than in those treated with placebo.

#### Suicide/suicidal thoughts or clinical worsening

Depression is associated with an increased risk of suicidal thoughts, self-harm and suicide (suicide-related events). This risk persists until significant remission occurs. As improvement may not occur during the first few weeks or more of treatment, patients should be closely monitored until such improvement occurs. It is general clinical experience that the risk of suicide may increase in the early stages of recovery.

Patients with a history of suicide-related events or those exhibiting a significant degree of suicidal ideation prior to commencement of treatment are known to be at greater risk of suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts, and should receive careful monitoring during treatment. A meta-analysis of placebo-controlled clinical studies of antidepressants in adult patients with psychiatric disorders showed an increased risk of suicidal behaviour with antidepressants compared to placebo, in patients less than 25 years old.

Close supervision of patients and in particular those at high risk should accompany treatment especially in early treatment and following dose changes. Patients (and caregivers of patients) should be alerted to the need to monitor for any clinical worsening, suicidal behaviour or thoughts and unusual changes in behaviour and to seek medical advice immediately if these symptoms present.

#### Seizures

Seizures are a potential risk with antidepressants. Therefore, vortioxetine should be introduced cautiously in patients who have a history of seizures or in patients with unstable epilepsy. Treatment should be discontinued in any patient who develops seizures or for whom there is an increase in seizure frequency.

#### Serotonin Syndrome (SS) or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS)

Serotonin Syndrome (SS) or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS), potentially life-threatening conditions, may occur with vortioxetine. The risk of SS or NMS is increased with concomitant use of serotonergic-active substances (including triptans), medicinal products that impair the metabolism of serotonin (including MAOIs), antipsychotics, and other dopamine antagonists. Patients should be monitored for the emergence of signs and symptoms of SS or NMS.

Serotonin Syndrome symptoms include mental status changes (e.g., agitation, hallucinations, coma), autonomic instability (e.g., tachycardia, labile blood pressure, hyperthermia), neuromuscular aberrations (e.g., hyperreflexia, uncoordination) and/or gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea). If this occurs, treatment with vortioxetine should be discontinued immediately and symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

#### Mania/hypomania

Vortioxetine should be used with caution in patients with a history of mania/hypomania and should be discontinued in any patient entering a manic phase.

#### Aggression/agitation

Patients treated with antidepressants, including vortioxetine, may also experience feelings of aggression, anger, agitation and irritability. Patient's condition and disease status should be closely monitored. Patients (and caregivers of patients) should be alerted to seek medical advice, if aggressive/agitated behaviour emerges or aggravates.

#### Haemorrhage

Bleeding abnormalities, such as ecchymoses, purpura and other haemorrhagic events, such as gastrointestinal or gynaecological bleeding, have been reported rarely with the use of antidepressants with serotonergic effect, including vortioxetine. SSRIs/SNRIs may increase the risk of postpartum haemorrhage, and this risk could potentially apply also to vortioxetine. Caution is advised in patients taking anticoagulants and/or medicinal products known to affect platelet function [e.g., atypical antipsychotics and phenothiazines, most tricyclic antidepressants, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), acetylsalicylic acid (ASA)] and in patients with known bleeding tendencies/disorders.

#### Hyponatraemia

Hyponatraemia, probably due to inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH), has been reported rarely with the use of antidepressants with serotonergic effect (SSRIs, SNRIs). Caution should be exercised in patients at risk, such as the elderly, patients with cirrhosis of the liver or patients concomitantly treated with medicinal products known to cause hyponatraemia.

Discontinuation of vortioxetine should be considered in patients with symptomatic hyponatraemia and appropriate medical intervention should be instituted.

#### Glaucoma

Mydriasis has been reported in association with use of antidepressants, including vortioxetine. This mydriatic effect has the potential to narrow the eye angle resulting in increased intraocular pressure and angle-closure glaucoma. Caution is advised when prescribing vortioxetine to patients with increased intraocular pressure, or those at risk of acute narrow-angle glaucoma.

#### Elderly

Data on the use of Vortioxetine in elderly patients with major depressive episodes are limited. Therefore, caution should be exercised when treating patients  $\geq 65$  years of age with doses higher than 10 mg vortioxetine once daily.

#### Renal or hepatic impairment

Given that subjects with renal or hepatic impairment are vulnerable and given that the data on the use of vortioxetine in these subpopulations are limited, caution should be exercised when treating these patients.

## 4.5 Drugs interactions

Vortioxetine is extensively metabolised in the liver, primarily through oxidation catalysed by CYP2D6 and to a minor extent CYP3A4/5 and CYP2C9.

### **Potential for other medicinal products to affect vortioxetine**

#### Irreversible non-selective MAOIs

Due to the risk of serotonin syndrome, vortioxetine is contraindicated in any combination with irreversible non-selective MAOIs. Vortioxetine must not be initiated for at least 14 days after discontinuation of treatment with an irreversible non-selective MAOI. Vortioxetine must be discontinued for at least 14 days before starting treatment with an irreversible non-selective MAOI.

#### Reversible, selective MAO-A inhibitor (moclobemide)

The combination of vortioxetine with a reversible and selective MAO-A inhibitor, such as moclobemide, is contraindicated. If the combination proves necessary, the added medicinal product should be given with minimum dosage and under close clinical monitoring for serotonin Syndrome.

#### Reversible, non-selective MAOI (linezolid)

The combination of vortioxetine with a weak reversible and non-selective MAOI, such as the antibiotic linezolid, is contraindicated. If the combination proves necessary, the added medicinal product should be given with minimum dosage and under close clinical monitoring for serotonin syndrome.

#### Irreversible, selective MAO-B inhibitor (selegiline, rasagiline)

Although a lower risk of serotonin syndrome is expected with selective MAO-B inhibitors than with MAO-A inhibitors, the combination of vortioxetine with irreversible MAO-B inhibitors, such as selegiline or rasagiline should be administered with caution. Close monitoring for serotonin syndrome is necessary if used concomitantly.

#### Serotonergic medicinal products

Co-administration of medicinal products with serotonergic effect (e.g., tramadol, sumatriptan and other triptans) may lead to serotonin syndrome.

#### St. John's wort

Concomitant use of antidepressants with serotonergic effect and herbal remedies containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) may result in a higher incidence of adverse reactions including Serotonin Syndrome.

#### Medicinal products lowering the seizure threshold

Antidepressants with serotonergic effect can lower the seizure threshold. Caution is advised when concomitantly using other medicinal products capable of lowering the seizure threshold [e.g., antidepressants (tricyclics, SSRIs, SNRIs), neuroleptics (phenothiazines, thioxanthenes and butyrophenones), mefloquine, bupropion, tramadol].

#### ECT (electroconvulsive therapy)

There is no reported clinical experience with concurrent administration of vortioxetine and ECT, therefore caution is advisable.

#### CYP2D6 inhibitors

The exposure to vortioxetine increased 2.3-fold for area under the curve (AUC) when vortioxetine 10 mg/day was co-administered with bupropion (a strong CYP2D6 inhibitor 150 mg twice daily)

for 14 days in healthy subjects. Co-administration resulted in a higher incidence of adverse reactions when bupropion was added to vortioxetine than when vortioxetine was added to bupropion. Depending on individual patient response, a lower dose of vortioxetine may be considered if strong CYP2D6 inhibitor (e.g., bupropion, quinidine, fluoxetine, paroxetine) is added to vortioxetine treatment.

#### CYP3A4 inhibitors and CYP2C9, and CYP2C19 inhibitors

When vortioxetine was co-administered following 6 days of ketoconazole 400 mg/day (a CYP3A4/5 and P-glycoprotein inhibitor) or following 6 days of fluconazole 200 mg/day (a CYP2C9, CYP2C19, and CYP3A4/5 inhibitor) in healthy subjects, a 1.3-fold and 1.5-fold increase, respectively, in vortioxetine AUC was observed. No dose adjustment is needed.

No inhibitory effect of 40 mg single-dose omeprazole (CYP2C19 inhibitor) was observed on the multiple-dose pharmacokinetics of vortioxetine in healthy subjects.

#### Interactions in CYP2D6 poor metabolisers

Co-administration of strong inhibitors of CYP3A4 (such as itraconazole, voriconazole, clarithromycin, telithromycin, nefazodone, conivaptan and many of the HIV protease inhibitors) and inhibitors of CYP2C9 (such as fluconazole and amiodarone) to CYP2D6 poor metabolisers has not been investigated specifically, but it is anticipated that it will lead to a more marked increased exposure of vortioxetine in these patients as compared to the moderate effect described above. Depending on individual patient response, a lower dose of vortioxetine may be considered if a strong inhibitor of CYP3A4 or CYP2C9 is co-administered in CYP2D6 poor metabolisers.

#### Cytochrome P450 inducers

When a single dose of 20 mg vortioxetine was co-administered following 10 days of rifampicin 600 mg/day (a broad inducer of CYP isozymes) in healthy subjects, a 72% decrease in AUC of vortioxetine was observed. Depending on individual patient response, a dose adjustment may be considered if a broad cytochrome P450 inducer (e.g., rifampicin, carbamazepine, phenytoin) is added to vortioxetine treatment.

#### Alcohol

No effect on the pharmacokinetics of vortioxetine or ethanol and no significant impairment, relative to placebo, in cognitive function were observed when vortioxetine in a single dose of 20 mg or 40 mg was co-administered with a single dose of ethanol (0.6 g/kg) in healthy subjects. However, alcohol intake is not advisable during antidepressant treatment.

#### Acetylsalicylic acid

No effect of multiple doses of acetylsalicylic acid 150 mg/day on the multiple-dose pharmacokinetics of vortioxetine was observed in healthy subjects.

### **Potential for vortioxetine to affect other medicinal products**

#### Anticoagulants and antiplatelet medicinal products

No significant effects, relative to placebo, were observed in INR, prothrombin or plasma R-/S-warfarin values following co-administration of multiple doses of vortioxetine with stable doses of warfarin in healthy subjects. Also, no significant inhibitory effect, relative to placebo, on platelet aggregation or pharmacokinetics of acetylsalicylic acid or salicylic acid was observed when acetylsalicylic acid 150 mg/day was co-administered following multiple doses of vortioxetine administration in healthy subjects. However, caution should be exercised when vortioxetine is combined with oral anticoagulants or antiplatelet medicinal products due to a potential increased risk of bleeding attributable to a pharmacodynamic interaction.

### Cytochrome P450 substrates

In reported *in vitro*, vortioxetine did not show any relevant potential for inhibition or induction of cytochrome P450 isozymes.

Following multiple doses of vortioxetine, no inhibitory effect was observed in healthy subjects for the cytochrome P450 isozymes CYP2C19 (omeprazole, diazepam), CYP3A4/5 (ethinyl estradiol, midazolam), CYP2B6 (bupropion), CYP2C9 (tolbutamide, S-warfarin), CYP1A2 (caffeine) or CYP2D6 (dextromethorphan).

No pharmacodynamic interactions were observed in reported studies. No significant impairment, relative to placebo, in cognitive function was observed for vortioxetine following co-administration with a single 10 mg dose of diazepam. No significant effects, relative to placebo, were observed in the levels of sex hormones following co-administration of vortioxetine with a combined oral contraceptive (ethinyl estradiol 30 µg/levonorgestrel 150 µg).

### Lithium, tryptophan

No reported clinically relevant effect was observed during steady-state lithium exposure following co-administration with multiple doses of vortioxetine in healthy subjects. However, there have been reports of enhanced effects when antidepressants with serotonergic effect have been given together with lithium or tryptophan; therefore, concomitant use of vortioxetine with these medicinal products should be undertaken with caution.

### Interference with urine drug screens

There have been reports of false positive results in urine enzyme immunoassays for methadone in patients who have taken vortioxetine. Caution should be exercised in the interpretation of positive urine drug screen results, and confirmation by an alternative analytical technique (e.g., chromatographic methods) should be considered.

## **4.6 Use in special populations (such as pregnant women, lactating women, paediatric patients, geriatric patients etc.)**

### Pregnancy

There are limited reported data from the use of vortioxetine in pregnant women.

Reported studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity.

The following symptoms may occur in the newborn after maternal use of a serotonergic medicinal product in the later stages of pregnancy: respiratory distress, cyanosis, apnoea, seizures, temperature instability, feeding difficulty, vomiting, hypoglycaemia, hypertonia, hypotonia, hyperreflexia, tremor, jitteriness, irritability, lethargy, constant crying, somnolence and difficulty sleeping. These symptoms could be due to either discontinuation effects or excess serotonergic activity. In the majority of instances, such complications began immediately or soon (<24 hours) after delivery.

The reported epidemiological data suggest that the use of SSRIs in pregnancy, particularly in late pregnancy, may increase the risk of persistent pulmonary hypertension in the newborn (PPHN). Although no studies have investigated the association of PPHN with vortioxetine treatment, this potential risk cannot be ruled out taking into account the related mechanism of action (increase in serotonin concentrations).

Vortioxetine should only be administered to pregnant women if the expected benefits outweigh the potential risk to the foetus.

In reported Observational data have provided evidence of an increased risk (less than 2-fold) of postpartum haemorrhage following exposure to an SSRI or SNRI within the month prior to birth. Although no studies have investigated an association between vortioxetine treatment and

postpartum haemorrhage, there is a potential risk, taking into account the related mechanism of action.

Breast-feeding

In reported available data in animals have shown excretion of vortioxetine/ vortioxetine metabolites in milk. It is expected that vortioxetine will be excreted into human milk.

A risk to the breastfeeding child cannot be excluded.

A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or to discontinue/abstain from vortioxetine treatment taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

Fertility

In reported fertility studies in male and female rats showed no effect of vortioxetine on fertility, sperm quality or mating performance.

Human case reports with medicinal products from the related pharmacological class of antidepressants (SSRIs) have shown an effect on sperm quality that is reversible. Impact on human fertility has not been observed so far.

**4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Vortioxetine has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, as adverse reactions such as dizziness have been reported, patients should exercise caution when driving or operating hazardous machinery, especially when starting treatment with vortioxetine or when changing the dose.

**4.8 Undesirable effects**

Summary of the safety profile

The most common adverse reaction was nausea.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

Adverse reactions are listed below using the following convention: very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ); common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ); uncommon ( $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$ ); rare ( $\geq 1/10,000$  to  $< 1/1,000$ ); very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ ), not known (cannot be estimated from the available data). The list is based on information from clinical trials and post-marketing experience.

<b>SYSTEM ORGAN CLASS</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>ADVERSE REACTION</b>
<b>Immune system disorders</b>	Not known*	Anaphylactic reaction
<b>Metabolism and nutrition disorders</b>	Not known *	Hyponatraemia
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>	Common	Abnormal dreams
	Not known *	Insomnia
	Not known *	Agitation, aggression
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>	Common	Dizziness
	Not known *	Serotonin Syndrome
<b>Eye disorders</b>	Rare	Mydriasis (which may lead to acute narrow angle glaucoma)



<b>Vascular disorders</b>	Uncommon	Flushing
	Not known*	Haemorrhage (including contusion, ecchymosis, epistaxis, gastrointestinal or vaginal bleeding)
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	Very common	Nausea
	Common	Diarrhoea, Constipation, Vomiting
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b>	Common	Pruritus, including pruritus generalised
	Uncommon	Night sweats
	Not known*	Angioedema, Urticaria Rash

\* Based on post-marketing cases

### **Description of adverse reactions**

#### *Nausea*

Nausea was usually mild or moderate and occurred within the first two weeks of treatment. The reactions were usually transient and did not generally lead to cessation of therapy. Gastrointestinal adverse reactions, such as nausea, occurred more frequently in women than men.

#### *Elderly patients*

For doses  $\geq 10$  mg vortioxetine once daily, the withdrawal rate from the studies was higher in patients aged  $\geq 65$  years.

For doses of 20 mg vortioxetine once daily, the incidences of nausea and constipation were higher in patients aged  $\geq 65$  years (42% and 15%, respectively) than in patients aged  $< 65$  years (27% and 4%, respectively).

#### *Sexual dysfunction*

In reported clinical studies, sexual dysfunction was assessed using the Arizona Sexual Experience Scale (ASEX). Doses of 5 to 15 mg showed no difference to placebo. However, the 20 mg dose of vortioxetine was associated with an increase in sexual dysfunction (TESD).

#### *Class effect*

Epidemiological studies, mainly conducted in patients 50 years of age and older, show an increased risk of bone fractures in patients receiving a medicinal product from related pharmacological classes of antidepressants (SSRIs or TCAs). The mechanism behind this risk is unknown, and it is not known if this risk is also relevant for vortioxetine.

#### *Paediatric population*

A total of 308 adolescent patients aged 12 to 17 years with major depressive disorder (MDD) were treated with vortioxetine in a reported double-blind, placebo-controlled study. In general, the adverse reaction profile of vortioxetine in adolescents was similar to that seen for adults except for higher incidences reported in adolescents than in adults for abdominal pain-related events and suicidal ideation.

## Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Torrent Pharma available at:  
[http://www.torrentpharma.com/index.php/site/info/adverse\\_event\\_reporting](http://www.torrentpharma.com/index.php/site/info/adverse_event_reporting).

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

### 4.9 Overdose

Ingestion of vortioxetine in reported clinical trials in the dose range of 40 mg to 75 mg has caused an aggravation of the following adverse reactions: nausea, postural dizziness, diarrhoea, abdominal discomfort, generalized pruritus, somnolence and flushing.

Post-marketing experience mainly concerns vortioxetine overdoses of up to 80 mg. In the majority of cases, no symptoms or mild symptoms were reported. The most frequently reported symptoms were nausea and vomiting.

There is limited experience with vortioxetine overdoses above 80 mg. Following dosages several fold higher than the therapeutic dose range, events of seizure and serotonin syndrome have been reported.

Management of overdose should consist of treating clinical symptoms and relevant monitoring. Medical follow-up in a specialized environment is recommended.

## 5 Pharmacological properties

### 5.1 Mechanism of Action

The mechanism of action of vortioxetine is thought to be related to its direct modulation of serotonergic receptor activity and inhibition of the serotonin (5-HT) transporter. Nonclinical data indicate that vortioxetine is a 5-HT<sub>3</sub>, 5-HT<sub>7</sub>, and 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptor antagonist, 5-HT<sub>1B</sub> receptor partial agonist, 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor agonist and inhibitor of the 5-HT transporter, leading to modulation of neurotransmission in several systems, including predominantly the serotonin but probably also the norepinephrine, dopamine, histamine, acetylcholine, GABA and glutamate systems. This multimodal activity is considered responsible for the antidepressant and anxiolytic-like effects and the improvement of cognitive function, learning and memory observed with vortioxetine in animal studies. However, the precise contribution of the individual targets to the observed pharmacodynamic profile remains unclear and caution should be applied when extrapolating animal data directly to man.

In humans, two positron emission tomography (PET) studies have been conducted using 5-HT transporter ligands (11C-MADAM or 11C-DASB) to quantify the 5-HT transporter occupancy in the brain across different dose levels. The mean 5-HT transporter occupancy in the raphe nuclei was approximately 50% at 5 mg/day, 65% at 10 mg/day and increased to above 80% at 20 mg/day.

### 5.2 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Psychoanaleptics; Other antidepressants

ATC code: N06AX26

#### **Clinical efficacy and safety**

The efficacy and safety of vortioxetine have been studied in a clinical programme that included more than 6,700 patients, of whom more than 3,700 were treated with vortioxetine in short-term (≤12 weeks) studies of major depressive disorder (MDD). Twelve double-blind, placebo controlled, 6/8-week, fixed-dose studies have been conducted to investigate the short-term efficacy of vortioxetine in MDD in adults (including the elderly). The efficacy of vortioxetine was demonstrated with at least one dosage group across 9 of the 12 studies, showing at least a 2-point

difference to placebo in the Montgomery and Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS) or Hamilton Depression Rating Scale 24-item (HAM-D24) total score. This was supported by clinical relevance as demonstrated by the proportions of responders and remitters and the improvement in the Clinical Global Impression – Global Improvement (CGI-I) score. The efficacy of vortioxetine increased with increasing dose.

The effect in the individual studies was supported by the meta-analysis (MMRM) of the mean change from baseline in MADRS total score at Week 6/8 in the short-term, placebo-controlled studies in adults. In the meta-analysis, the overall mean difference to placebo across the studies was statistically significant: -2.3 points ( $p = 0.007$ ), -3.6 points ( $p < 0.001$ ), and -4.6 points ( $p < 0.001$ ) for the 5, 10, and 20 mg/day doses, respectively; the 15 mg/day dose did not separate from placebo in the meta-analysis, but the mean difference to placebo was -2.6 points. The efficacy of vortioxetine is supported by the pooled responder analysis, in which the proportion of responders ranged from 46% to 49% for vortioxetine versus 34% for placebo ( $p < 0.01$ ; NRI analysis).

Furthermore, vortioxetine, in the dose range of 5-20 mg/day, demonstrated efficacy on the broad range of depressive symptoms (assessed by improvement in all MADRS single-item scores).

The efficacy of vortioxetine 10 or 20 mg/day was further demonstrated in a 12-week, double-blind, flexible-dose comparative study versus agomelatine 25 or 50 mg/day in patients with MDD. Vortioxetine was statistically significantly better than agomelatine as measured by improvement in the MADRS total score and supported by the clinical relevance as demonstrated by the proportions of responders and remitters and improvement in the CGI-I.

### **Maintenance**

The maintenance of antidepressant efficacy was demonstrated in a relapse-prevention study. Patients in remission after an initial 12-week open-label treatment period with vortioxetine were randomised to vortioxetine 5 or 10 mg/day or placebo and observed for relapse during a double-blind period of at least 24 weeks (24 to 64 weeks). Vortioxetine was superior ( $p=0.004$ ) to placebo on the primary outcome measure, the time to relapse of MDD, with a hazard ratio of 2.0; that is, the risk of relapse was two times higher in the placebo group than in the vortioxetine group.

### **Elderly**

In reported the 8-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled, fixed-dose study in elderly depressed patients (aged  $\geq 65$  years,  $n=452$ , 156 of whom were on vortioxetine), vortioxetine 5 mg/day was superior to placebo as measured by improvement in the MADRS and HAM-D24 total scores. The effect seen with vortioxetine was a 4.7 point difference to placebo in MADRS total score at Week 8 (MMRM analysis).

### **Patients with severe depression or with depression and high levels of anxiety symptoms**

In severely depressed patients (baseline MADRS total score  $\geq 30$ ) and in depressed patients with a high level of anxiety symptoms (baseline HAM-A total score  $\geq 20$ ) vortioxetine also demonstrated efficacy in the short-term studies in adults (the overall mean difference to placebo in MADRS total score at Week 6/8 ranged from 2.8 to 7.3 points and from 3.6 to 7.3 points, respectively, (MMRM analysis)). In the reported dedicated study in elderly, vortioxetine was also effective in these patients.

The maintenance of antidepressant efficacy was also demonstrated in this patient population in the long-term relapse prevention study.

**Effects of vortioxetine on the Digit Symbol Substitution Test (DSST), the University of California San Diego Performance-Based Skills Assessment (UPSA) (objective measures) and Perceived Deficits Questionnaire (PDQ) and Cognitive and Physical Functioning Questionnaire CPFO (subjective measures) scores**

The efficacy of vortioxetine (5-20 mg/day) in patients with MDD has been investigated in 2 adult and 1 elderly short-term, placebo-controlled studies.

Vortioxetine had a statistically significant effect versus placebo on the Digit Symbol Substitution Test (DSST), ranging from  $\Delta = 1.75$  ( $p = 0.019$ ) to  $4.26$  ( $p < 0.0001$ ) in the 2 studies in adults and  $\Delta = 2.79$  ( $p = 0.023$ ) in the study in the elderly. In the meta-analyses (ANCOVA, LOCF) of the mean change from baseline in DSST number of correct symbols in all 3 studies, vortioxetine separated from placebo ( $p < 0.05$ ) with a standardised effect size of 0.35. When adjusting for the change in MADRS the total score in the meta-analysis of the same studies showed that vortioxetine separated from placebo ( $p < 0.05$ ) with a standardised effect size of 0.24.

One reported study assessed the effect of vortioxetine on functional capacity using the University of California San Diego Performance-Based Skills Assessment (UPSA). Vortioxetine separated from placebo statistically with results of 8.0 for vortioxetine versus 5.1 points for placebo ( $p = 0.0003$ ).

In reported study, vortioxetine was superior to placebo on subjective measures, evaluated using the Perceived Deficits Questionnaire with results of -14.6 for vortioxetine and -10.5 for placebo ( $p = 0.002$ ). Vortioxetine did not separate from placebo on subjective measures when evaluated using the Cognitive and Physical Functioning Questionnaire with results of -8.1 for vortioxetine versus -6.9 for placebo ( $p = 0.086$ ).

**Tolerability and safety**

The safety and tolerability of vortioxetine have been established in short- and long-term studies across the dose range of 5 to 20 mg/day. For information on undesirable effects.

**Vortioxetine did not increase the incidence of insomnia or somnolence relative to placebo.**

In reported clinical short- and long-term placebo-controlled studies, potential discontinuation symptoms were systematically evaluated after abrupt treatment cessation of vortioxetine. There was no clinically relevant difference to placebo in the incidence or nature of the discontinuation symptoms after either short-term (6-12 weeks) or long-term (24-64 weeks) treatment with vortioxetine.

The incidence of self-reported adverse sexual reactions was low and similar to placebo in clinical short- and long-term studies with vortioxetine. In studies using the Arizona Sexual Experience Scale (ASEX), the incidence of treatment-emergent sexual dysfunction (TESD) and the ASEX total score showed no clinically relevant difference to placebo in symptoms of sexual dysfunction at the 5 to 15 mg/day doses of vortioxetine. For the 20 mg/day dose, an increase in TESD was seen compared to placebo (an incidence difference of 14.2%, 95% CI [1.4, 27.0]).

The effect of vortioxetine on sexual function was further evaluated in an 8-week, double-blind, flexible-dose, comparative reported study ( $n = 424$ ) versus escitalopram in patients treated for at least 6 weeks with an SSRI (citalopram, paroxetine, or sertraline), with a low level of depressive symptoms (baseline CGI-S  $\leq 3$ ) and TESD induced by the prior SSRI treatment. Vortioxetine 10-20 mg/day had statistically significantly less TESD than escitalopram 10-20 mg/day as measured by change in the CSFQ-14 total score (2.2 points,  $p = 0.013$ ) at week 8. The proportion of responders was not significantly different in the vortioxetine group (162 (74.7%)) compared with the escitalopram group (137 (66.2%)) at week 8 (OR 1.5  $p = 0.057$ ). The antidepressant effect was maintained in both treatment groups.

Vortioxetine had no effect relative to placebo on body weight, heart rate, or blood pressure in reported clinical short- and long-term studies.

No reported clinically significant changes were observed in hepatic or renal assessments in clinical studies.

Vortioxetine has not shown any reported clinically significant effect on ECG parameters, including the QT, QTc, PR and QRS intervals, in patients with MDD. In a thorough QTc study in healthy subjects at doses up to 40 mg daily, no potential for the prolongation of the QTc interval was observed.

### **Paediatric population**

One reported randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, active-referenced, fixed dose, 8-week study was conducted in adolescent patients with MDD aged 12 to 17 years. The study included a 4-week single-blind placebo lead-in period with standardized psychosocial intervention (N=777); only non-responders from the lead-in period were randomised (N=615). Neither vortioxetine 10 mg/day nor 20 mg/day was statistically significantly superior to placebo based on the Children's Depression Rating Scale-Revised (CDRS-R) total score. The active reference (fluoxetine 20 mg/day) separated statistically from placebo on the CDRS-R total score. In general, the adverse reaction profile of vortioxetine in adolescents was similar to that seen for adults except for higher incidences reported in adolescent than in adults for abdominal pain-related event and suicidal ideation. Discontinuation due to adverse events (mostly due to suicidal ideation, nausea and vomiting) was highest in patients treated with vortioxetine 20 mg/day (5.6%) as compared to vortioxetine 10 mg/day (2.7%), fluoxetine (3.3%), and placebo (1.3%). The most commonly reported adverse events in the vortioxetine treatment groups were nausea, vomiting and headache. Suicidal ideation and behaviour were reported as adverse events both during the 4-week single-blind lead-in period (placebo 13/777 [1.7%]), and during the 8-week treatment period (vortioxetine 10 mg/day 2/147 [1.4%], vortioxetine 20 mg/day 6/161 [3.7%], fluoxetine 6/153 [3.9%], placebo 0/154 [0%]). Suicidal ideation and behaviour as measured by Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) was similar across treatment groups.

The European Medicines Agency has waived the obligation to submit the results of studies in major depressive disorder with vortioxetine in children aged less than 7 years.

The European Medicines Agency has deferred the obligation to submit the results of studies with vortioxetine in one or more subsets of the paediatric population in treatment of major depressive disorder.

## **5.3 Pharmacokinetic properties**

### **Absorption**

Vortioxetine is slowly, but well absorbed after oral administration and the peak plasma concentration is reached within 7 to 11 hours. Following multiple dosing of 5, 10, or 20 mg/day, mean C<sub>max</sub> values of 9 to 33 ng/mL were observed. The absolute bioavailability is 75%. No effect of food on the pharmacokinetics was observed.

### **Distribution**

The mean volume of distribution (V<sub>ss</sub>) is 2,600 L, indicating extensive extravascular distribution. Vortioxetine is highly bound to plasma proteins (98 to 99%) and the binding appears to be independent of vortioxetine plasma concentrations.

## **Biotransformation**

Vortioxetine is extensively metabolised in the liver, primarily through oxidation catalysed by CYP2D6 and to a minor extent CYP3A4/5 and CYP2C9, and subsequent glucuronic acid conjugation.

No inhibitory or inducing effect of vortioxetine was observed in the drug-drug interaction studies for the CYP isozymes CYP1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, or CYP3A4/5. Vortioxetine is a poor P-gp substrate and inhibitor.

The major metabolite of vortioxetine is pharmacologically inactive.

## **Elimination**

The mean elimination half-life and oral clearance are 66 hours and 33 L/h, respectively. Approximately 2/3 of the inactive vortioxetine metabolites are excreted in the urine and approximately 1/3 in the faeces. Only negligible amounts of vortioxetine are excreted in the faeces. Steady-state plasma concentrations are achieved in approximately 2 weeks.

### *Linearity/non-linearity*

The pharmacokinetics are linear and time independent in the dose range studied (2.5 to 60 mg/day).

In accordance with the half-life, the accumulation index is 5 to 6 based on AUC<sub>0-24h</sub> following multiple doses of 5 to 20 mg/day.

## **Special populations**

### *Elderly*

In elderly healthy subjects (aged  $\geq 65$  years; n=20), the exposure to vortioxetine increased up to 27% (C<sub>max</sub> and AUC) compared to young healthy control subjects (aged  $\leq 45$  years) after multiple doses of 10 mg/day. The lowest effective dose of 5 mg vortioxetine once daily should always be used as the starting dose in patients  $\geq 65$  years. However, caution should be exercised when prescribing to elderly patients at doses higher than 10 mg vortioxetine once daily.

### *Renal impairment*

Following a single dose of 10 mg vortioxetine, renal impairment estimated using the Cockcroft-Gault formula (mild, moderate, or severe; n=8 per group) caused modest exposure increases (up to 30%), compared to healthy matched controls. In patients with end-stage renal disease, only a small fraction of vortioxetine was lost during dialysis (AUC and C<sub>max</sub> were 13% and 27% lower, respectively; n=8) following a single 10 mg dose of vortioxetine. No dose adjustment is needed based on renal function.

### *Hepatic impairment*

The pharmacokinetics in subjects (N = 6-8) with mild, moderate, or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Criteria A, B, or C, respectively) were compared to healthy volunteers. The changes in AUC were less than 10% lower in subjects with mild or moderate hepatic impairment, and 10% higher in those with severe hepatic impairment. The changes in C<sub>max</sub> were less than 25% lower in all groups. No dose adjustment is needed based on hepatic function.

### *CYP2D6 gene types*

The plasma concentration of vortioxetine was approximately two times higher in CYP2D6 poor metabolisers than in extensive metabolisers. Co-administration of strong CYP3A4/2C9 inhibitors to CYP2D6 poor metabolisers could potentially result in higher exposure.

In CYP2D6 ultra-rapid metabolisers, the plasma concentration of vortioxetine 10 mg/day were between those obtained in extensive metabolisers at 5 mg/day and 10 mg/day.

Depending on individual patient response, a dose adjustment may be considered.

#### *Paediatric population*

Pharmacokinetics of vortioxetine in paediatric patients with major depressive disorder following oral administration of 5 to 20 mg once daily was characterized using population modeling analyses based on reported data from a pharmacokinetic study (7-17 years) and an efficacy and safety study (12-17 years). The pharmacokinetics of vortioxetine in paediatric patients was similar to that observed in adult patients.

### **6. Nonclinical properties**

Administration of vortioxetine in the reported general toxicity studies in mice, rats and dogs was mainly associated with CNS-related clinical signs. These included salivation (rat and dog), pupil dilatation (dog), and two incidences of convulsions in dogs in the general toxicity study programme. A no-effect level for convulsions was established with a corresponding safety margin of 5 considering the maximum recommended therapeutic dose of 20 mg/day. Target organ toxicity was restricted to kidneys (rats) and liver (mice and rats). The changes in the kidney in rats (glomerulonephritis, renal tubular obstruction, crystalline material in renal tubule) and in the liver of mice and rats (hepatocellular hypertrophy, hepatocyte necrosis, bile duct hyperplasia, crystalline material in bile ducts) were seen at exposures more than 10-fold (mice) and 2-fold (rats) the human exposure at the maximum recommended therapeutic dose of 20 mg/day. These findings were mainly attributed to rodent-specific vortioxetine-related crystalline material obstruction of the renal tubules and the bile ducts, respectively, and considered of low risk to humans.

Vortioxetine was not genotoxic in a standard battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests.

Based on results from conventional 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice or rats, vortioxetine is not considered to pose a risk of carcinogenicity in humans.

Vortioxetine had no effect on rat fertility, mating performance, reproductive organs, or sperm morphology and motility. Vortioxetine was not teratogenic in rats or rabbits, but reproductive toxicity in terms of effects on foetal weight and delayed ossification were seen in the rat at exposures more than 10-fold the human exposure at the maximum recommended therapeutic dose of 20 mg/day. Similar effects were seen in the rabbit at sub-therapeutic exposure.

In a pre- and post-natal study in rats, vortioxetine was associated with increased pup mortality, reduced bodyweight gain, and delayed pup development at doses that did not result in maternal toxicity and with associated exposures similar to those achieved in humans following administration of vortioxetine 20 mg/day.

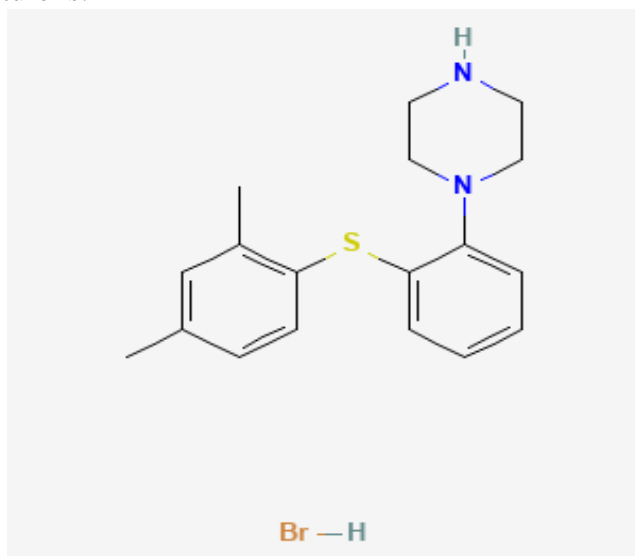
Vortioxetine-related material was distributed to the milk of lactating rats.

In juvenile toxicity studies in rats, all vortioxetine treatment-related findings were consistent with those noted in adult animals.

Environmental risk assessment studies have shown that vortioxetine has the potential to be persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic to the environment (risk to fish). However, by recommended patient usage vortioxetine is considered to pose negligible risk to the aquatic and terrestrial environment

## 7 Description

Vortioxetine Hydrobromide is 1-[2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)sulfanylphenyl] piperazine;hydrobromide. having molecular formula of C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>S and molecular weight is 379.4 the chemical structure is:



Vortioxetine Hydrobromide is a white to pale brown color powder. It is Soluble in methanol, sparingly soluble in ethanol and insoluble in water.

### Product Description

#### Vortioxetine Tablets 5 mg

Pink coloured, oval shaped, film-coated tablet, beveled edge, biconvex, debossed with 'L6' on one side and plain on the other side and free from physical defects.

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate, Titanium Dioxide, Yellow Oxide of Iron and Red oxide of Iron.

#### Vortioxetine Tablets 10 mg

Yellow coloured, capsule shaped, film-coated tablet, beveled edge, biconvex, debossed with 'L9' on one side and plain on the other side and free from physical defects.

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate, Titanium Dioxide and yellow oxide of iron.

#### Vortioxetine Tablets 20 mg

Red coloured, capsule shaped, film-coated tablet, beveled edge, biconvex, debossed with 'L9' on one side and plain on the other side and free from physical defects.

The excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate, Titanium Dioxide and Red Oxide of iron.



## 8 Pharmaceutical particulars

### 8.1 Incompatibilities

Not Applicable

### 8.2 Shelf-life

Do not use later than date of expiry.

### 8.3 Packaging information

Available in blister pack of 10 tablets.

### 8.4 Storage and handing instructions

- STORE AT A TEMPERATURE NOT EXCEEDING 30°C, PROTECTED FROM LIGHT AND MOISTURE.
- Keep out of reach of children.

## 9 Patient Counselling Information

### Package leaflet: Information for the user

#### Vortioxetine

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

#### What is in this leaflet

What is in this leaflet

9.1. What Vortioxetine and what they are used for

9.2. What you need to know before you take Vortioxetine

9.3 How to take Vortioxetine

9.4. Possible side effects

9.5. How to store Vortioxetine Tablets

9.6. Contents of the pack and other information

### 9.1 What is Vortioxetine and what it is used for

Vortioxetine contains the active substance vortioxetine. It belongs to a group of medicines called antidepressants.

Vortioxetine is used to treat major depressive episodes in adults.

### 9.2 What you need to know before you take Vortioxetine

#### Do not take Vortioxetine

- If you are allergic to Vortioxetine or any of the other ingredients of this medicine.
- If your resting heart rate before treatment is too slow (below 70 beats per minute);
- If you are suffering from cardiogenic shock (a heart condition treated in hospital);
- If you suffer from a heart rhythm disorder;

- If you are having a heart attack;
- If you suffer from very low blood pressure;
- If you suffer from unstable angina (a severe form in which chest pain occurs very frequently and with or without exertion);
- If you have heart failure which has recently become worse;
- If your heartbeat is exclusively imposed by your pacemaker;
- If you suffer from severe liver problems;
- If you are already taking medicines for the treatment of fungal infections (such as ketoconazole, itraconazole), macrolide antibiotics (such as josamycin, clarithromycin, telithromycin or erythromycin given orally), medicines to treat HIV infections (such as nelfinavir, ritonavir) or nefazodone (medicine to treat depression) or diltiazem, verapamil (used for high blood pressure or angina pectoris);
- if you are a woman able to have children and not using reliable contraception;
- if you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant;
- if you are breast-feeding.

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Vortioxetine

- are taking medicines with a so-called serotonergic effect, such as:
  - tramadol (a strong painkiller).
  - sumatriptan and similar medicines with active substance names ending in “triptans” (used to treat migraine).

Taking these medicines together with Vortioxetine may increase the risk of serotonin syndrome. This syndrome may be associated with hallucinations, involuntary twitching, accelerated heartbeat, high blood pressure, fever, nausea and diarrhoea.

- have had fits (seizures).

Your doctor will treat you cautiously if you have a history of fits or have unstable fit disorders/epilepsy. Fits are a potential risk with medicines used to treat depression. Treatment should be discontinued in any patient who develops fits or where there is an increase in the frequency of fits.

- have had mania
- have a tendency to bleed or bruise easily.
- have low sodium level in the blood.
- are 65 years of age or older.
- have a severe kidney disease.
- have a severe liver disease or a liver disease called cirrhosis.

Thoughts of suicide and worsening of your depression

If you are depressed and/or have anxiety disorders you can sometimes have thoughts of harming or killing yourself. These may be increased when first starting antidepressants, since these medicines all take time to work, usually about two weeks but sometimes longer.

You may be more likely to think like this if you:

- have previously had thoughts about killing or harming yourself.
- are a young adult.

Information from clinical trials has shown an increased risk of suicidal behaviour in adults aged less than 25 years with psychiatric conditions who were treated with an antidepressant.

If you have thoughts of harming or killing yourself at any time, contact your doctor or go to a hospital straight away. You may find it helpful to tell a relative or close friend that you are depressed or have an anxiety disorder, and ask them to read this leaflet. You might ask them to tell you if they think your depression or anxiety is getting worse, or if they are worried about changes in your behaviour..

### **Children and adolescents**

Vortioxetine is not intended for use in children and adolescents younger than 18 years due to lack of information for this age group.

### **Other medicines and Vortioxetine**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Phenelzine, iproniazid, isocarboxazid, nialamide, tranylcypromine (medicines to treat depression called non-selective monoamine oxidase inhibitors); you must not take any of these medicines together with vortioxetine. If you have taken any of these medicines, you will need to

Wait 14 days before you start taking vortioxetine. After stopping vortioxetine you must allow 14 days before taking any of these medicines.

- moclobemide (a medicine to treat depression).
- selegiline, rasagiline (medicines to treat Parkinson's disease).
- Linezolid (a medicine to treat bacterial infections).
- Lithium (a medicine to treat depression and mental disorders) or tryptophan.
- Medicines known to cause low sodium level.
- Rifampicin (a medicine to treat tuberculosis and other infections).
- Carbamazepine, phenytoin (medicines to treat epilepsy or other illness).
- Warfarin, dipyridamole, phenprocoumon, low-dose acetylsalicylic acid (blood thinning medicines).

Medicines that increase the risk of fits:

- Sumatriptan and similar medicines with active substance names ending in "triptans".
- Tramadol (a strong painkiller).
- Mefloquine (a medicine to prevent and treat malaria).
- Bupropion (a medicine to treat depression also used to wean from smoking).
- Fluoxetine, paroxetine and other medicines to treat depression called SSRI/SNRIs, tricyclics.
- St John's wort (*hypericum perforatum*) (a medicine to treat depression).

- quinidine (a medicine to treat heart rhythm disorders).
- chlorpromazine, chlorprothixene, haloperidol (medicines to treat mental disorders belonging to the groups called phenothiazines, thioxanthenes, butyrophenones).

Please tell your doctor if you are taking any of the medicines above, since your doctor needs to know if you already are at risk for seizures.

### **Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**

#### Pregnancy

Vortioxetine should not be used during pregnancy unless the doctor says it is absolutely necessary.

If you take medicines to treat depression, including vortioxetine, during the last 3 months of your pregnancy, you should be aware that the following effects may be seen in your newborn baby: trouble with breathing, bluish skin, fits, body temperature changes, feeding difficulties, vomiting, low blood sugar, stiff or floppy muscles, vivid reflexes, tremor, jitteriness, irritability, lethargy, constant crying, sleepiness and sleeping difficulties. Contact your doctor immediately if your newborn baby has any of these symptoms.

Make sure your midwife and/or doctor know you are on vortioxetine. When taken during pregnancy, particularly in the last 3 months of pregnancy, medicines like vortioxetine may increase the risk of a serious condition in babies, called persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn (PPHN), making the baby breathe faster and appear bluish. These symptoms usually begin during the first 24 hours after the baby is born. If this happens to your baby, you should contact your midwife and/or doctor immediately

#### Breast-feeding

It is expected that the ingredients of vortioxetine will pass into breast milk. vortioxetine is not to be used during breast-feeding. Your doctor will make a decision on whether you should stop breast-feeding, or stop using vortioxetine taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for your child, and the benefit of therapy for you.

### **Driving and using machines**

Vortioxetine has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, as adverse reactions such as dizziness have been reported, caution is advised during such activities when beginning vortioxetine treatment or changing the dose.

## **9.3 How to take Vortioxetine**

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

The recommended dose of vortioxetine is 10 mg vortioxetine taken as one daily dose in adults less than 65 years of age. The dose may be increased by your doctor to a maximum of 20 mg vortioxetine per day or lowered to a minimum of 5 mg vortioxetine per day depending on your response to treatment.

For elderly people 65 years of age or older, the starting dose is 5 mg vortioxetine taken once daily.

#### **If you take more vortioxetine than you should:**

A large dose of vortioxetine could make you feel breathless or tired because your heart slows down too much. If this happens, contact your doctor immediately Duration of use.

#### **If you forget to take Vortioxetine**

Take the next dose at the usual time. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

### **If you stop taking Vortioxetine**

Do not stop taking vortioxetine without talking with your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist

### **9.4 Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

In general, the observed side effects were mild to moderate and occurred within the first two weeks of treatment. The reactions were usually temporary and did not lead to cessation of therapy.

Side effects listed below have been reported in the following frequencies.

#### ***Very common: may affect more than 1 in 10 people***

- Nausea

#### ***Common: may affect up to 1 in 10 people***

- Diarrhoea, constipation, vomiting

- Dizziness

- itching of the whole body

- Abnormal dreams

#### ***Uncommon: may affect up to 1 in 100 people***

- flushing

- Night sweats

#### ***Not known: frequency cannot be estimated from available data***

- low levels of sodium in the blood (the symptoms may include feeling dizzy, weak, confused, sleepy or very tired, or feeling or being sick; more serious symptoms are fainting, fits or falls)

- Serotonin syndrome

- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat

- hives

An increased risk of bone fractures has been observed in patients taking this type of medicines.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via any point of contact of Torrent Pharma available at:

[https://torrentpharma.com/index.php/site/info/adverse\\_event\\_reporting](https://torrentpharma.com/index.php/site/info/adverse_event_reporting)

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

### **9.5 How to store Vortioxetine**

- STORE AT A TEMPERATURE NOT EXCEEDING 30°C, PROTECTED FROM LIGHT AND MOISTURE.
- Keep out of reach of children.

### **9.6 Contents of the pack and other information**

The active substance is Vortioxetine Hydrobromide

The other excipients used are Colloidal silicon dioxide, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Mannitol, Sodium Starch Glycolate, Hydroxypropyl Cellulose, Talc, Magnesium Stearate , Titanium Dioxide, Yellow Oxide of Iron and Red oxide of Iron .

Vortioxetine is available in blister pack of 10 tablets.

#### **10 Details of manufacturer**

Manufactured in India by:

Torrent Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

PLOT NO. Z/ 104 TO 106,

DAHEJ, SEZ-II, TALUKA-VAGRA,

DIST – BHARUCH, INDIA

#### **11 Details of permission or licence number with date**

G/25/2010

#### **12. Date of revision**

Not Applicable

#### **MARKETED BY**



TORRENT PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.

**IN/VORTIOXETINE 5, 10, 20 mg/NOV-21/01/PI**