PROMETHAZINE HCL AND CODEINE PHOSPHATE ORAL SOLUTION, CV

52015

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HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use PROMETHAZINE HCL AND CODEINE PHOSPHATE ORAL SOLUTION safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for PROMETHAZINE HCL AND CODEINE PHOSPHATE ORAL SOLUTION.

PROMETHAZINE HCL and CODEINE PHOSPHATE oral solution, CV

Initial U.S. Approval: 1952

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

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

- **Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exposes users to risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess patient's risk before prescribing and monitor closely for these behaviors and conditions. (5.1)**
- **Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur. Monitor closely, especially upon initiation or when used in patients at higher risk. (5.2)**
- **Accidental ingestion of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of codeine. (5.2)**
- **Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codeine; most cases followed tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being an ultra-rapid metabolizer of codeine due to a CYP2D6 polymorphism. (5.3) Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy. (4) Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine.**
- **Postmarketing cases of respiratory depression, including fatalities have been reported with use of promethazine in pediatric patients. Children may be particularly sensitive to the additive respiratory depressant effects when promethazine is combined with other respiratory depressants, including codeine. (5.4).**
- **Ensure accuracy when prescribing, dispensing, and administering Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. (2.1, 5.7)**
- **The effects of concomitant use or discontinuation of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with codeine are complex, requiring careful consideration of the effects on the parent drug, codeine, and the active metabolite, morphine. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking a CYP3A4 inhibitor, CYP3A4 inducer, or 2D6 inhibitor. (5.9, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3)**
- **Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients taking benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol. (5.10, 7.4)**
- **Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not recommended for use in pregnant women. Prolonged use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. If Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available. (5.19, 8.1)**

---RECENT MAJOR CHANGES---

Boxed Warning	8/2017 and 6/2018
Indications and Usage (1)	6/2018
Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.3)	6/2018
Dosage and Administration, Children under 12 years (2.2) Removed	8/2017
Dosage and Administration, Children under 18 years (2.2) Removed	6/2018
Contraindications (4)	8/2017 and 6/2018
Warnings and Precautions (5.3, 5.4)	8/2017
Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9, 5.11, 5.16, 5.18, 5.19, 5.20)	6/2018

---INDICATIONS AND USAGE---

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is a combination of codeine, an opioid agonist; and promethazine, a phenothiazine, indicated for the temporary relief of cough and upper respiratory symptoms associated with allergy or the common cold in patients 18 years of age and older. (1)

Important Limitations of Use (1)
- Not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age.
- Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses, reserve Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate assessment of the etiology of the cough has been made.

---DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION---
- Adults 18 years of age and older: 5 mL every 4 to 6 hours as needed, not to exceed 6 doses (30 mL) in 24 hours. (2.2)
- Measure Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with an accurate milliliter measuring device. (2.1, 5.7)
- Do not increase the dose or dosing frequency. (2.1)
- Prescribe for the shortest duration consistent with treatment goals. (2.3)
- Reevaluate patients with unresponsive cough in 5 days or sooner for possible underlying pathology. (2.3)
- Reevaluate patient prior to refilling. (2.3)

---DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS---

Oral solution: Each 5 mL contains codeine phosphate, 10 mg and promethazine hydrochloride 6.25 mg, in a flavored syrup base. (3)

---CONTRAINDICATIONS---
- Children younger than 12 years of age. (4)
- Significant respiratory depression. (4)
- Acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in absence of resuscitative equipment. (4)
- Known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus. (4)
- Concurrent use of monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) therapy or within the last 14 days. (4)
- History of an idiosyncratic reaction to promethazine or to other phenothiazines. (4)
- Hypersensitivity to codeine or other opiates, promethazine, or any of the inactive ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. (4)

---WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS---

See Boxed WARNINGS
- Life-threatening respiratory depression in patients with chronic pulmonary disease or in elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients: Monitor closely, particularly during initiation of therapy. (5.6)
- Activities requiring mental alertness: Avoid engaging in hazardous tasks requiring mental alertness such as driving or operating machinery. (5.8)
- Risks of use in patients with head injury, impaired consciousness, increased intracranial pressure, or brain tumors: Avoid use. May increase intracranial pressure and obscure the clinical course of head injuries. (5.12)
- Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome: Monitor during therapy. (5.13)
- Paradoxical Reactions: Monitor during therapy. (5.14)
- Seizures in patients with seizure disorders: Monitor during therapy. (5.15)
- Bone marrow depression: Use with caution in patients with bone marrow depression. (5.17)
- Severe hypotension: Monitor during initiation of therapy. Avoid use in patients with circulatory shock. (5.18)
- Adrenal insufficiency: If diagnosed, treat with physiologic replacement of corticosteroids, and wean patient off of the opioid. (5.20)

---ADVERSE REACTIONS---

Common adverse reactions include: Sedation (somnolence, mental clouding, lethargy), impaired mental and physical performance, lightheadedness, dizziness, headache, dry mouth, nausea, vomiting, constipation, shortness of breath, and sweating. (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Quagen Pharmaceuticals LLC at 1-888-344-9603 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

---DRUG INTERACTIONS---
- Serotonergic Drugs: Concomitant use may result in serotonin syndrome. Discontinue if serotonin syndrome is suspected. (7.5)
- Muscle relaxants: Avoid concomitant use. (7.7)
- Diuretics: Codeine may reduce the efficacy of diuretics. Monitor for reduced effect. (7.8)
- Anticholinergic drugs: Concurrent use may cause paralytic ileus. (5.11, 7.9)

---USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS---
- Pregnancy: Avoid use in pregnant women. May cause fetal harm. (8.1)
- Lactation: Breastfeeding not recommended. (8.2)
- Renal Impairment: Use with caution in patients with severe renal impairment. (8.6)
- Hepatic Impairment: Use with caution in patients with severe hepatic impairment. (8.7)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA approved Medication Guide.

Revised: 10/2020

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

* Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

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

Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exposes patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Reserve Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate assessment of the etiology of the cough has been made. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, prescribe Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals, monitor all patients regularly for the development of addition or abuse, and refill only after reevaluation of the need for continued treatment. [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Monitor for respiratory depression, especially during initiation of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution therapy or when used in patients at higher risk [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Accidental Ingestion

Accidental ingestion of even one dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of codeine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

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

Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codeine. Most of the reported cases occurred following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being an ultra-rapid metabolizer of codeine due to a CYP2D6 polymorphism [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]. Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy [*see Contraindications (4)*].

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine.

Promethazine and Respiratory Depression in Children

Postmarketing cases of respiratory depression, including fatalities have been reported with use of promethazine in pediatric patients. Children may be particularly sensitive to the additive respiratory depressant effects when promethazine is combined with other respiratory depressants, including codeine. [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

Risk of Medication Errors

Ensure accuracy when prescribing, dispensing, and administering Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. Always use an accurate milliliter measuring device when measuring and administering Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].

Interactions with Drugs Affecting Cytochrome P450 Isoenzymes

The effects of concomitant use or discontinuation of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with codeine are complex, requiring careful consideration of the effects on the parent drug, codeine, and the active metabolite, morphine. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking a CYP3A4 inhibitor, CYP3A4 inducer, or 2D6 inhibitor [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.9), Drug Interactions (7.1, 7.2, 7.3)*].

Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants

Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients taking benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol. [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10), Drug Interactions (7.4)*]

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not recommended for use in pregnant women [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*]. Prolonged use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. If Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.20)*].

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is indicated for the temporary relief of coughs and upper respiratory symptoms associated with allergy or the common cold in patients 18 years of age and older.

Important Limitations of Use
- Not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Contraindicated in pediatric patients under 12 years of age [*see Contraindications (4), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Contraindicated in pediatric patients 12 to 18 years of age after tonsillectomy or adenoidectomy [*see Contraindications (4), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*], reserve Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate assessment of the etiology of the cough has been made.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Important Dosage and Administration Instructions

Administer Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution by the oral route only.

Always use an accurate milliliter measuring device when administering Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution to ensure that the dose is measured and administered accurately. A household teaspoon is not an accurate measuring device and could lead to overdosage [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]. For prescriptions where a measuring device is not provided, a pharmacist can provide an appropriate measuring device and can provide instructions for measuring the correct dose. Do not overfill. Rinse the measuring device with water after each use.

Advise patients not to increase the dose or dosing frequency of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution because serious adverse events such as respiratory depression may occur with overdosage [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Overdosage (10)*]. The dosage of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution should not be increased if cough fails to respond; an unresponsive cough should be reevaluated for possible underlying pathology [*see Dosage and Administration (2.3), Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].

2.2. Recommended Dosage

Adults 18 years of age and older: 5 mL every 4 to 6 hours as needed, not to exceed 6 doses (30 mL) in 24 hours.

2.3 Monitoring, Maintenance, and Discontinuation of Therapy

Prescribe Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

Monitor patients closely for respiratory depression, especially within the first 24-72 hours of initiating therapy [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Reevaluate patients with unresponsive cough in 5 days or sooner for possible underlying pathology, such as foreign body or lower respiratory tract disease [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*]. If a patient requires a refill, reevaluate the cause of the cough and assess the need for continued treatment with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, the relative incidence of adverse reactions, and the development of addiction, abuse, or misuse [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

Do not abruptly discontinue Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in a physically-dependent patient [*see Drug Abuse and Dependence (9.3)*]. When a patient who has been taking Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution regularly and may be physically dependent no longer requires therapy with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, taper the dose gradually, by 25% to 50% every 2 to 4 days, while monitoring carefully for signs and symptoms of withdrawal. If the patient develops these signs or symptoms, raise the dose to the previous level and taper more slowly, either by increasing the interval between decreases, decreasing the amount of change in dose, or both.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Oral solution: Each 5 mL contains codeine phosphate, 10 mg and promethazine hydrochloride 6.25 mg, in a flavored syrup base [*see Description (11)*].

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated for:
- All children younger than 12 years of age [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3, 5.5), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].
- Postoperative pain management in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3)*].

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is also contraindicated in patients with:
- Significant respiratory depression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].
- Acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].
- Known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.11)*].
- A history of an idiosyncratic reaction to promethazine or to other phenothiazines [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.14)*].
- Concurrent use of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or use of MAOIs within 14 days [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.16), Drug Interactions (7.6)*].
- Hypersensitivity to codeine, promethazine, or any of the inactive ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Adverse Reactions (6)*]. Persons known to be hypersensitive to certain other opioids may exhibit cross-reactivity to codeine.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains codeine, a Schedule V controlled substance. As an opioid, Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exposes users to the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse [*see Drug Abuse and Dependence (9)*], which can lead to overdose and death [*see Overdosage (10)*]. **Reserve Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for use in adult patients for whom the benefits of cough suppression are expected to outweigh the risks, and in whom an adequate assessment of the etiology of the cough has been made. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, prescribe Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for the shortest duration that is consistent with individual patient treatment goals, monitor all patients regularly for the development of addiction or abuse, and refill only after reevaluation of the need for continued treatment.**

Although the risk of addiction in any individual is unknown, it can occur in patients appropriately prescribed Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Addiction can occur at recommended dosages and if the drug is misused or abused. Risks are increased in patients with a personal or family history of substance abuse (including drug or alcohol abuse or addiction) or mental illness (e.g., major depression).

Opioids are sought by drug abusers and people with addiction disorders and are subject to criminal diversion. Consider these risks when prescribing or dispensing Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Strategies to reduce these risks include prescribing the drug in the smallest appropriate quantity and advising the patient on the proper disposal of unused drug [*see Patient Counseling Information (17)*]. Contact local state professional licensing board or state controlled substances authority for information on how to prevent and detect abuse or diversion of this product.

5.2 Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression has been reported with the use of opioids, including codeine, one of the active ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Codeine produces dose-related respiratory depression by directly acting on the brain stem respiratory center that controls respiratory rhythm and may produce irregular and periodic breathing. Codeine is subject to variability in metabolism based upon CYP2D6 genotype, which can lead to an increased exposure to the active metabolite morphine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]. Promethazine exerts a depressant effect on the respiratory center that is independent of and additive to that of other respiratory depressants, including codeine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]. Respiratory depression, if not immediately recognized and treated, may lead to respiratory arrest and death. Management of respiratory depression includes discontinuation of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, close observation, supportive measures, and use of opioid antagonists (e.g. naloxone), depending on the patient's clinical status [*see Overdosage (10)*]. Carbon dioxide (CO2) retention from opioid-induced respiratory depression can exacerbate the sedating effects of opioids.

While serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression can occur at any time during the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, the risk is greatest during the initiation of therapy, when Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used concomitantly with other drugs that may cause respiratory depression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*], in patients with chronic pulmonary disease or decreased respiratory reserve, and in patients with altered pharmacokinetics or altered clearance (e.g. elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].

To reduce the risk of respiratory depression, proper dosing of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is essential [*see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]. Monitor patients closely, especially within the first 24-72 hours of initiating therapy or when used in patients at higher risk.

Overdose of codeine in adults has been associated with fatal respiratory depression, and the use of codeine in children younger than 12 years of age has been associated with fatal respiratory depression when used as recommended [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]. Accidental ingestion of even one dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, especially by children, can result in respiratory depression and death.

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

Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have occurred in children who received codeine. Codeine is subject to variability in metabolism based upon CYP2D6 genotype (described below), which can lead to an increased exposure to the active metabolite morphine. Based upon post-marketing reports, children younger than 12 years old appear to be more susceptible to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine, particularly if there are risk factors for respiratory depression. For example, many reported cases of death occurred in the post-operative period following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, and many of the children had evidence of being ultra-rapid metabolizers of codeine. Furthermore, children with obstructive sleep apnea who are treated with codeine for post-tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy pain may be particularly sensitive to its respiratory depressant effect. Because of the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression and death:
- Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in all children younger than 12 years of age [*see Contraindications (4)*].
- Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated for post-operative management in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy [*see Contraindications (4)*].
- Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine. Risk factors include conditions associated with hypoventilation, such as postoperative status, obstructive sleep apnea, obesity, severe pulmonary disease, neuromuscular disease, and concomitant use of other medications that cause respiratory depression. [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*]
- Healthcare providers should choose the lowest effective dose for the shortest period of time and inform patients and caregivers about these risks and the signs of morphine overdose [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Overdosage (10)*].

Lactation

At least one death was reported in a nursing infant who was exposed to high levels of morphine in breast milk because the mother was an ultra-rapid metabolizer of codeine. Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.2)*].

CYP2D6 Genetic Variability: Ultra-Rapid Metabolizers

Some individuals may be ultra-rapid metabolizers because of a specific CYP2D6 genotype (e.g., gene duplications denoted as *1/*1xN or *1/*2xN). The prevalence of this CYP2D6 phenotype varies widely and has been estimated at 1 to 10% for Whites (European, North American), 3 to 4% for Blacks (African Americans), 1 to 2% for East Asians (Chinese, Japanese, Korean), and may be greater than 10% in certain ethnic groups (i.e., Oceanian, Northern African, Middle Eastern, Ashkenazi Jews, Puerto Rican). These individuals convert codeine into its active metabolite, morphine, more rapidly and completely than other people. This rapid conversion results in higher than expected serum morphine levels. Even at labeled dosage regimens, individuals who are ultra-rapid metabolizers may have life-threatening or fatal respiratory depression or experience signs of overdose (such as extreme sleepiness, confusion, or shallow breathing) [*see Overdosage (10)*]. Therefore, individuals who are ultra-rapid metabolizers should not use Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

5.4 Promethazine and Respiratory Depression

Children

Postmarketing cases of respiratory depression, including fatalities, have been reported with use of promethazine in pediatric patients. Concomitant administration with other respiratory depressants may increase the risk of respiratory depression. Children may be particularly sensitive to the additive respiratory depressant effects when promethazine is combined with other respiratory depressants, including codeine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3, 5.5, 5.10)*].

Excessively large dosages of antihistamines, including promethazine hydrochloride, in pediatric patients may cause sudden death [*see Overdosage (10)*].

Concomitant Conditions and Other Risk Factors

Avoid use of promethazine in patients at risk for respiratory depression. Risk factors include conditions associated with hypoventilation, such as postoperative status, obstructive sleep apnea, obesity, severe pulmonary disease, neuromuscular disease, and concomitant use of other medications that cause respiratory depression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6, 5.10)*].

5.5 Risks with Use in Pediatric Populations

Children are particularly sensitive to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3)*] and promethazine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]. Because of the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression and death, Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in children less than 12 years of age, and in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy [*see Contraindications (4)*].

Use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in children also exposes them to the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse [*see Drug Abuse and Dependence (9)*], which can lead to overdose and death [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Overdosage (10)*]. Because the benefits of symptomatic treatment of cough associated with allergies or the common cold do not outweigh the risks of use of codeine in pediatric patients, Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not indicated for use in patients younger than 18 years of age [*see Indications (1), Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

5.6 Risks with Use in Other At-Risk Populations

Unresponsive Cough

The dosage of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution should not be increased if cough fails to respond; an unresponsive cough should be reevaluated in 5 days or sooner for possible underlying pathology, such as foreign body or lower respiratory tract disease [*see Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

Asthma and Other Pulmonary Disease

The use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients with acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment is contraindicated [*see Contraindications (4)*].

Opioid analgesics and antitussives, including codeine, one of the active ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, should not be used in patients with acute febrile illness associated with productive cough or in patients with chronic respiratory disease where interference with ability to clear the tracheobronchial tree of secretions would have a deleterious effect on the patient's respiratory function.

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution-treated patients with significant chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cor pulmonale, and those with a substantially decreased respiratory reserve, hypoxia, hypercapnia, or pre-existing respiratory depression are at increased risk of decreased respiratory drive including apnea, even at recommended dosages of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Elderly, Cachectic, or Debilitated Patients: Life-threatening respiratory depression is more likely to occur in elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients because they may have altered pharmacokinetics or altered clearance compared to younger, healthier patients [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Because of the risk of respiratory depression, avoid the use of opioid antitussives, including Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients with compromised respiratory function, patients at risk of respiratory failure, and in elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients. If Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is prescribed, monitor such patients closely, particularly when initiating Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution and when Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is given concomitantly with other drugs that depress respiration [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

5.7 Risk of Accidental Overdose and Death due to Medication Errors

Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. To reduce the risk of overdose and respiratory depression, ensure that the dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is communicated clearly and dispensed accurately [*see Dosage and Administration (2.1)*].

Advise patients to always use an accurate milliliter measuring device when measuring and administering Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Inform patients that a household teaspoon is not an accurate measuring device and such use could lead to overdosage and serious adverse reactions [*see Overdosage (10)*]. For prescriptions where a measuring device is not provided, a pharmacist can provide an appropriate calibrated measuring device and can provide instructions for measuring the correct dose.

5.8 Activities Requiring Mental Alertness: Risks of Driving and Operating Machinery

Codeine and promethazine, two of the active ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, may produce marked drowsiness and impair the mental and/or physical abilities required for the performance of potentially hazardous tasks such as driving a car or operating machinery. Advise patients to avoid engaging in hazardous tasks requiring mental alertness and motor coordination after ingestion of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Avoid concurrent use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with alcohol or other central nervous system depressants because additional impairment of central nervous system performance may occur [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

5.9 Risks of Interactions with Drugs Affecting Cytochrome P450 Isoenzymes

The effects of concomitant use or discontinuation of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with codeine are complex. Use of cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers, 3A4 inhibitors, or 2D6 inhibitors with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution requires careful consideration of the effects on the parent drug, codeine, and the active metabolite, morphine.

Cytochrome P450 3A4 Interaction

The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with all cytochrome P450 3A4 inhibitors, such as macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole-antifungal agents (e.g., ketoconazole), and protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir) or discontinuation of a cytochrome P450 3A4 inducer such as rifampin, carbamazepine, and phenytoin, may result in an increase in codeine plasma concentrations with subsequently greater metabolism by cytochrome P450 2D6, resulting in greater morphine levels, which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression.

The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with all cytochrome P450 3A4 inducers or discontinuation of a cytochrome P450 3A4 inhibitor may result in lower codeine levels, greater norcodeine levels, and less metabolism via 2D6 with resultant lower morphine levels. This may be associated with a decrease in efficacy, and in some patients, may result in signs and symptoms of opioid withdrawal.

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking a CYP3A4 inhibitor or CYP3A4 inducer. If concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with inhibitors and inducers of CYP3A4 is necessary, monitor patients for signs and symptoms that may reflect opioid toxicity and opioid withdrawal [*see Drug Interactions (7.1, 7.2)*].

Risks of Concomitant Use or Discontinuation of Cytochrome P450 2D6 Inhibitors

The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with all cytochrome P450 2D6 inhibitors (e.g., amiodarone, quinidine) may result in an increase in codeine plasma concentrations and a decrease in active metabolite morphine plasma concentration which could result in an analgesic efficacy reduction or symptoms of opioid withdrawal.

Discontinuation of a concomitantly used cytochrome P450 2D6 inhibitor may result in a decrease in codeine plasma concentration and an increase in active metabolite morphine plasma concentration which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression.

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking a CYP2D6 inhibitor. If concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with inhibitors of CYP2D6 is necessary, monitor patients for signs and symptoms that may reflect opioid toxicity and opioid withdrawal [*see Drug Interactions (7.3)*].

5.10 Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or other CNS Depressants

Concomitant use of opioids, including Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, with benzodiazepines, or other CNS depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Because of these risks, avoid use of opioid cough medications in patients taking benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol [*see Drug Interactions (7.4)*].

Observational studies have demonstrated that concomitant use of opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines increases the risk of drug-related mortality compared to use of opioids alone. Because of similar pharmacologic properties, it is reasonable to expect similar risk with concomitant use of opioid cough medications and benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, or alcohol.

Advise both patients and caregivers about the risks of respiratory depression and sedation if Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used with benzodiazepines, alcohol, or other CNS depressants [*see Patient Counseling Information (17)*].

5.11 Risks of Use in Patients with Gastrointestinal Conditions

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in patients with known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus [*see Contraindications (4)*]. The use of codeine in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may obscure the diagnosis or clinical course of patients with acute abdominal conditions.

The concurrent use of anticholinergics with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may produce paralytic ileus [*see Drug Interactions (7.9)*].

The codeine in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may result in constipation or obstructive bowel disease, especially in patients with underlying intestinal motility disorders. Use with caution in patients with underlying intestinal motility disorders.

The codeine in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may cause spasm of the sphincter of Oddi, resulting in an increase in biliary tract pressure. Opioids may cause increases in serum amylase [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.21)*]. Monitor patients with biliary tract disease, including acute pancreatitis for worsening symptoms.

Administration of promethazine has been associated with reported cholestatic jaundice.

5.12 Risks of Use in Patients with Head Injury, Impaired Consciousness, Increased Intracranial Pressure, or Brain Tumors

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients with head injury, intracranial lesions, or a pre-existing increase in intracranial pressure. In patients who may be susceptible to the intracranial effects of CO2 retention (e.g., those with evidence of increased intracranial pressure or brain tumors), Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may reduce respiratory drive, and the resultant CO2 retention can further increase intracranial pressure. Furthermore, opioids produce adverse reactions that may obscure the clinical course of patients with head injuries.

5.13 Risk of Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome

A potentially fatal symptom complex sometimes referred to as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS) has been reported in association with promethazine HCl alone or in combination with antipsychotic drugs. Clinical manifestations of NMS are hyperpyrexia, muscle rigidity, altered mental status and evidence of autonomic instability (irregular pulse or blood pressure, tachycardia, diaphoresis and cardiac dysrhythmias).

The diagnostic evaluation of patients with this syndrome is complicated. In arriving at a diagnosis, it is important to identify cases where the clinical presentation includes both serious medical illness (e.g., pneumonia, systemic infection, etc.) and untreated or inadequately treated extrapyramidal signs and symptoms (EPS). Other important considerations in the differential diagnosis include central anticholinergic toxicity, heat stroke, drug fever and primary central nervous system (CNS) pathology.

The management of NMS should include 1) immediate discontinuation of promethazine HCl, antipsychotic drugs, if any, and other drugs not essential to concurrent therapy, 2) intensive symptomatic treatment and medical monitoring, and 3) treatment of any concomitant serious medical problems for which specific treatments are available. There is no general agreement about specific pharmacological treatment regimens for uncomplicated NMS.

Since recurrences of NMS have been reported with phenothiazines, avoid use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients with a history consistent with NMS.

5.14 Risk of Paradoxical Reactions, including Dystonias

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains promethazine, a phenothiazine.

Phenothiazines are associated with dystonic reactions, particularly in pediatric patients who have an acute illness associated with dehydration. Paradoxical reactions, including dystonia, torticollis, tongue protrusion, hyperexcitability, and abnormal movements have been reported in patients following a single administration of promethazine. Discontinue Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if a paradoxical reaction occurs.

5.15 Increased Risk of Seizures in Patients with Seizure Disorders

The codeine and promethazine in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may increase the frequency of seizures in patients with seizure disorders, and may increase the risk of seizures occurring in other clinical settings associated with seizures. Monitor patients with a history of seizure disorders for worsened seizure control during Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution therapy.

5.16 Co-administration with Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)

Concurrent use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in patients receiving monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or within 14 days of stopping such therapy [*see Contraindications (4)*]. MAOIs may potentiate the effects of morphine, codeine's active metabolite, including respiratory depression, coma, and confusion MAOIs [*see Drug Interactions (7.6)*].

5.17 Bone-Marrow Depression

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution should be used with caution in patients with bone-marrow depression. Leukopenia and agranulocytosis have been reported, usually when promethazine has been used in association with other known marrow-toxic agents.

5.18 Severe Hypotension

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may cause severe hypotension including orthostatic hypotension and syncope in ambulatory patients. There is increased risk in patients whose ability to maintain blood pressure has already been compromised by a reduced blood volume or concurrent administration of certain CNS depressant drugs (e.g., phenothiazines or general anesthetics) [*see Drug Interactions (7.4)*]. Monitor these patients for signs of hypotension after initiating Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

In patients with circulatory shock, Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may cause vasodilation that can further reduce cardiac output and blood pressure. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients with circulatory shock.

5.19 Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not recommended for use in pregnant women. Prolonged use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in withdrawal in the neonate. Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, unlike opioid withdrawal syndrome in adults, may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. Observe newborns for signs of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and manage accordingly. Advise pregnant women using opioids for a prolonged period of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available. [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.1), Patient Counseling Information (17)*].

5.20 Adrenal Insufficiency

Cases of adrenal insufficiency have been reported with opioid use, more often following greater than one month of use. Presentation of adrenal insufficiency may include non-specific symptoms and signs including nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and low blood pressure. If adrenal insufficiency is suspected, confirm the diagnosis with diagnostic testing as soon as possible. If adrenal insufficiency is diagnosed, treat with physiologic replacement doses of corticosteroids. Wean the patient off of the opioid to allow adrenal function to recover and continue corticosteroid treatment until adrenal function recovers. Other opioids may be tried as some cases reported use of a different opioid without recurrence of adrenal insufficiency. The information available does not identify any particular opioids as being more likely to be associated with adrenal insufficiency.

5.21 Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Because opioid agonists may increase biliary tract pressure, with resultant increase in plasma amylase or lipase levels, determination of these enzyme levels may be unreliable for 24 hours after administration of a dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

The following laboratory tests may be affected in patients who are receiving promethazine:

Pregnancy Tests: Diagnostic pregnancy tests based on immunological reactions between HCG and anti-HCG may result in false-negative or false-positive interpretations.

Glucose Tolerance Test: An increase in blood glucose has been reported in patients receiving promethazine.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following serious adverse reactions are described, or described in greater detail, in other sections:
- Addiction, abuse, and misuse [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.1), Drug Abuse and Dependence (9.3)*]
- Life-threatening respiratory depression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6), Overdosage (10)*]
- Ultra-rapid metabolism of codeine and other risk factors for life-threatening respiratory depression in children [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]
- Accidental overdose and death due to medication errors [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]
- Decreased mental alertness with impaired mental and/or physical abilities [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*]
- Interactions with benzodiazepines and other CNS depressants [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*]
- Paralytic ileus, gastrointestinal adverse reactions [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.11)*]
- Increased intracranial pressure [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]
- Obscured clinical course in patients with head injuries [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]
- Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.13)*]
- Paradoxical reactions, including dystonias [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.14)*]
- Seizures [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.15)*]
- Interactions with MAOI [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.16)*]
- Bone marrow suppression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.17)*]
- Severe hypotension [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.18)*]
- Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.19)*]
- Adrenal insufficiency [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.20)*]

The following adverse reactions have been identified during clinical studies, in the literature, or during post-approval use of codeine and/or promethazine. Because these reactions may be reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

The most common adverse reactions to Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution include: Sedation (somnolence, mental clouding, lethargy), impaired mental and physical performance, lightheadedness, dizziness, headache, dry mouth, nausea, vomiting, constipation, shortness of breath, sweating.

Other reactions include:

Anaphylaxis: Anaphylaxis has been reported with codeine, one of the ingredients in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

Body as a whole: Coma, death, fatigue, falling injuries, lethargy.

Cardiovascular: Peripheral edema, increased blood pressure, decreased blood pressure, tachycardia, chest pain, palpitation, syncope, orthostatic hypotension, prolonged QT interval, hot flush.

Central Nervous System: Ataxia, diplopia, facial dyskinesia, insomnia, migraine, increased intracranial pressure, seizure, tinnitus, tremor, vertigo.

Dermatologic: Flushing, hyperhidrosis, photosensitivity, pruritus, rash, urticaria.

Endocrine/Metabolic: Cases of serotonin syndrome, a potentially life-threatening condition, have been reported during concomitant use of opioids with serotonergic drugs. Cases of adrenal insufficiency have been reported with opioid use, more often following greater than one month of use. Cases of androgen deficiency have occurred with chronic use of opioids [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)*].

Gastrointestinal: Abdominal pain, bowel obstruction, decreased appetite, diarrhea, difficulty swallowing, dry mouth, GERD, indigestion, jaundice, pancreatitis, paralytic ileus, biliary tract spasm (spasm of the sphincter of Oddi).

Genitourinary: Urinary tract infection, ureteral spasm, spasm of vesicle sphincters, urinary retention.

Hematologic: Bone marrow suppression, agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia, and thrombocytopenia have been reported.

Laboratory: Increases in serum amylase.

Musculoskeletal: Arthralgia, backache, muscle spasm.

Ophthalmic: Blurred vision, miosis (constricted pupils), visual disturbances.

Paradoxical Reactions: Dystonias, torticollis, tongue protrusion, hyperexcitability, and abnormal movements have been reported following a single administration of promethazine.

Psychiatric: Agitation, anxiety, confusion, fear, dysphoria, depression, hallucinations.

Reproductive: Hypogonadism, infertility.

Respiratory: Apnea, bronchitis, cough, dry nose, dry throat, dyspnea, nasal congestion, nasopharyngitis, respiratory depression, sinusitis, thickening of bronchial secretions, tightness of chest and wheezing, upper respiratory tract infection.

Other: Drug abuse, drug dependence, Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome, opioid withdrawal syndrome.

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

No specific drug interaction studies have been conducted with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

7.1 Inhibitors of CYP3A4

The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with CYP3A4 inhibitors, such as macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole-antifungal agents (e.g. ketoconazole), or protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir), may result in an increase in codeine plasma concentrations with subsequently greater metabolism by cytochrome CYP2D6, resulting in greater morphine levels, which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression, particularly when an inhibitor is added after a stable dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is achieved [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*]. After stopping a CYP3A4 inhibitor, as the effects of the inhibitor decline, it may result in lower codeine levels, greater norcodeine levels, and less metabolism via CYP2D6 with resultant lower morphine levels [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*], resulting in decreased opioid efficacy or a withdrawal syndrome in patients who had developed physical dependence to codeine.

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution while taking a CYP3A4 inhibitor. If concomitant use is necessary, monitor patients for respiratory depression and sedation at frequent intervals.

7.2 CYP3A4 Inducers

The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution and CYP3A4 inducers, such as rifampin, carbamazepine, or phenytoin, can result in lower codeine levels, greater norcodeine levels, and less metabolism via 2D6 with resultant lower morphine levels [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*], resulting in decreased efficacy or onset of a withdrawal syndrome in patients who have developed physical dependence [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*]. After stopping a CYP3A4 inducer, as the effects of the inducer decline, codeine plasma concentrations may increase with subsequently greater metabolism by cytochrome CYP2D6, resulting in greater morphine levels [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*], which could increase or prolong both the therapeutic effects and adverse reactions, and may cause serious respiratory depression.

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking CYP3A4 inducers. If concomitant use of a CYP3A4 inducer is necessary, follow the patient for reduced efficacy.

7.3 Inhibitors of CYP2D6

Codeine is metabolized by CYP2D6 to form morphine. The concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution and CYP2D6 inhibitors, such as paroxetine, fluoxetine, bupropion, or quinidine, can increase the plasma concentration of codeine, but can decrease the plasma concentration of active metabolite morphine, which could result in reduced efficacy [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

After stopping a CYP2D6 inhibitor, as the effects of the inhibitor decline, the codeine plasma concentration will decrease but the active metabolite morphine plasma concentration will increase, which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking inhibitors of CYP2D6.

7.4 Benzodiazepines, and Other CNS Depressants

Due to additive pharmacologic effect, the concomitant use of benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants, including alcohol, other sedatives/hypnotics, anxiolytics, tranquilizers, muscle relaxants, general anesthetics, antipsychotics, and other opioids, can increase the risk of hypotension, respiratory depression, profound sedation, coma, and death. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients who are taking benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants. [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

7.5 Serotonergic Drugs

The concomitant use of opioids with other drugs that affect the serotonergic neurotransmitter system has resulted in serotonin syndrome. If concomitant use is warranted, carefully observe the patient, particularly during treatment initiation. Discontinue Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if serotonin syndrome is suspected.

7.6 Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated in patients who are taking MAOIs (i.e., certain drugs used for depression, psychiatric or emotional conditions, or Parkinson's disease) or have taken MAOIs within 14 days [*see Contraindications (4)*].

MAOI interactions with opioids may manifest as serotonin syndrome or opioid toxicity (e.g., respiratory depression, coma) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.16)*].

Drug interactions, including an increased incidence of extrapyramidal effects, have been reported when some MAOI and phenothiazines are used concomitantly.

7.7 Muscle Relaxants

Codeine may enhance the neuromuscular blocking action of skeletal muscle relaxants and produce an increased degree of respiratory depression. Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients taking muscle relaxants. If concomitant use is necessary, monitor patients for signs of respiratory depression that may be greater than otherwise expected.

7.8 Diuretics

Opioids can reduce the efficacy of diuretics by inducing the release of antidiuretic hormone. Monitor patients for signs of diminished diuresis and/or effects on blood pressure and increase the dosage of the diuretic as needed.

7.9 Anticholinergic Drugs

The concomitant use of anticholinergic drugs with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may increase risk of urinary retention and/or severe constipation, which may lead to paralytic ileus [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.11)*]. Monitor patients for signs of urinary retention or reduced gastric motility when Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used concomitantly with anticholinergic drugs.

Additive adverse effects resulting from cholinergic blockade (e.g., xerostomia, blurred vision, or constipation) may occur when anticholinergic drugs are administered with promethazine].

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not recommended for use in pregnant women, including during or immediately prior to labor.

Prolonged use of opioids during pregnancy may cause neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.19), Clinical Considerations*].

There are no available data with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution use in pregnant women to inform a drug-associated risk for adverse developmental outcomes. Published studies with codeine have reported inconsistent findings and have important methodological limitations (*see Data*). There are reports of respiratory depression when codeine is used during labor and delivery *(see Clinical Considerations)*.

Reproductive toxicity studies have not been conducted with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution; however, studies are available with individual active ingredients (*see Data*).

In animal reproduction studies, codeine administered by the oral route to pregnant rats during the period of organogenesis increased resorptions and decreased fetal weights at a dose approximately 25 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) in the presence of maternal toxicity (*see Data*).

For pregnant mice and rats that received promethazine at doses 0.2 and 3-6 times the MRHD, during various periods of gestation, there were findings of increased fetal resorptions and skeletal fragility, decreased pup weight, and developmental delays of pups (*see Data*).

Based on the animal data, advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus.

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population is unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2 to 4% and 15 to 20%, respectively.

Clinical Considerations

Fetal/Neonatal Adverse Reactions

Prolonged use of opioid analgesics during pregnancy for medical or nonmedical purposes can result in physical dependence in the neonate and neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome shortly after birth.

Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome presents as irritability, hyperactivity and abnormal sleep pattern, high pitched cry, tremor, vomiting, diarrhea and failure to gain weight. The onset, duration, and severity of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome vary based on the specific opioid used, duration of use, timing and amount of last maternal use, and rate of elimination of the drug by the newborn. Observe newborns for symptoms of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and manage accordingly [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.19)*].

Labor or Delivery

Opioids cross the placenta and may produce respiratory depression and psycho-physiologic effects in neonates. An opioid antagonist, such as naloxone, must be available for reversal of opioid-induced respiratory depression in the neonate. Opioids, including Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, can prolong labor through actions which temporarily reduce the strength, duration, and frequency of uterine contractions.

However, this effect is not consistent and may be offset by an increased rate of cervical dilation, which tends to shorten labor. Monitor neonates exposed to opioids during labor for signs of excess sedation and respiratory depression.

Data

Human Data

Published data from case-control and observational studies on codeine use during pregnancy are inconsistent in their findings. Some studies of codeine exposure showed an increased risk of overall congenital malformations while others did not. An increased risk of specific malformations with codeine exposure such as respiratory malformations, spina bifida and congenital heart defects were reported in some studies.

The majority of studies examining the use of promethazine in pregnancy did not find an association with an increased risk of congenital anomalies. In the few studies reporting an association, no consistent pattern of malformations was noted.

Most of the studies, both positive and negative, were limited by small sample size, recall bias and lack of information regarding dose and timing of exposure.

Animal Data

Reproductive toxicity studies have not been conducted with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution; however, studies are available with individual active ingredients.

Codeine

In an embryofetal development study in pregnant rats dosed throughout the period of organogenesis, codeine increased resorptions and decreased fetal weights at a dose approximately 25 times the MRHD (on a mg/m^2 basis with a maternal oral dose of 120 mg/kg/

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day); however, these effects occurred in the presence of maternal toxicity. In embryofetal development studies with pregnant rabbits and mice dosed throughout the period of organogenesis, codeine produced no adverse developmental effects at doses approximately 15 and 65 times, respectively, the MRHD (on a mg/m² basis with maternal oral doses of 30 mg/kg/day in rabbits and 600 mg/kg/day in mice).

Promethazine

In pregnant mice dosed during the period of implantation from gestation days 1 to 5, promethazine increased resorption at doses approximately 0.2 times the MRHD (on a mg/m² basis with maternal intraperitoneal and subcutaneous doses up to 1 mg/kg/day).

In pregnant rats dosed during the period of organogenesis from gestation days 5 to 16, promethazine hydrochloride induced complete resorption at doses approximately 6 times the MRHD (on a mg/m² basis with maternal oral doses up to 20 mg/kg/day).

In pregnant rats dosed during the period of organogenesis from gestation days 7 to 13, promethazine resulted in skeletal fragility of pups at doses approximately 3 times the MRHD (on a mg/m² basis with maternal oral doses up to 10 mg/kg/day).

In pregnant rats dosed during the period of organogenesis from gestation days 10 to 12, promethazine resulted in decreased weight and delays in initial occurrence of behavioral/reflex of pups at doses approximately 3 times the MRHD (on a mg/m² basis with maternal oral doses up to 10 mg/kg/day).

The relevance of these findings to humans is unclear.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions, including excess sedation, respiratory depression, and death in a breastfed infant, advise patients that breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*].

There are no data on the presence of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in human milk, the effects of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution on the breastfed infant, or the effects of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution on milk production; however, data are available with codeine and promethazine.

Codeine

Codeine and its active metabolite, morphine, are present in human milk. There are published studies and cases that have reported excessive sedation, respiratory depression and death (in one infant) in infants exposed to codeine via breast milk. Women who are ultra-rapid metabolizers of codeine achieve higher than expected serum levels of morphine, potentially leading to higher levels of morphine in breast milk that can be dangerous in their breastfed infants. In women with normal codeine metabolism (normal CYP2D6 activity), the amount of codeine secreted into human milk is low and dose-dependent. There is no information on the effects of the codeine on milk production.

Promethazine

There are no data on the presence of promethazine in human milk. However, direct oral administration of promethazine has been associated with respiratory depression, including fatalities, in pediatric patients [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]. Promethazine has been shown to decrease basal prolactin levels in non-nursing women, and therefore may affect milk production.

Clinical Considerations

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

8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

Infertility

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

8.4 Pediatric Use

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not indicated for use in patients younger than 18 years of age because the benefits of symptomatic treatment of cough associated with allergies or the common cold do not outweigh the risks for use of codeine in these patients [*see Indications (1), Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*].

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

Life-threatening respiratory depression and death have also occurred in children who received promethazine [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

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

- Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated for all children younger than 12 years of age [*see Contraindications (4)*].
- Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is contraindicated for post-operative management in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy [*see Contraindications (4)*].
- Avoid the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in adolescents 12 to 18 years of age who have other risk factors that may increase their sensitivity to the respiratory depressant effects of codeine unless the benefits outweigh the risks. Risk factors include conditions associated with hypoventilation, such as postoperative status, obstructive sleep apnea, obesity, severe pulmonary disease, neuromuscular disease, and concomitant use of other medications that cause respiratory depression [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3, 5.6)*].

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical studies have not been conducted with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in geriatric populations.

Use caution when considering the use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in patients 65 years of age or older. Elderly patients may have increased sensitivity to codeine; greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function; or concomitant disease or other drug therapy [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].

Respiratory depression is the chief risk for elderly patients treated with opioids, including Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Respiratory depression has occurred after large initial doses of opioids were administered to patients who were not opioid-tolerant or when opioids were co-administered with other agents that depress respiration [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.6, 5.10)*].

Codeine is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of adverse reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, monitor these patients closely for respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension.

8.6 Renal Impairment

The pharmacokinetics of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution has not been characterized in patients with renal impairment. Codeine pharmacokinetics may be altered in patients with renal failure. Clearance may be decreased and the metabolites may accumulate to much higher plasma levels in patients with renal failure as compared to patients with normal renal function. Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution should be used with caution in patients with severe impairment of renal function, and patients should be monitored closely for respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension.

8.7 Hepatic Impairment

No formal studies have been conducted in patients with hepatic impairment so the pharmacokinetics of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in this patient population are unknown. Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution should be used with caution in patients with impairment of hepatic function, and patients should be monitored closely for respiratory depression, sedation, and hypotension.

9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

9.1 Controlled Substance

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains codeine, a Schedule V controlled substance.

9.2 Abuse

Codeine

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Risks Specific to Abuse of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is for oral use only. Abuse of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution poses a risk of overdose and death. The risk is increased with concurrent use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with alcohol and other central nervous system depressants [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

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

9.3 Dependence

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

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

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

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

10 OVERDOSAGE

Clinical Presentation

Codeine

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

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

Promethazine

Signs and symptoms of overdosage with promethazine range from mild depression of the central nervous system and cardiovascular system to profound hypotension, respiratory depression, unconsciousness and sudden death. Other reported reactions include hyperreflexia, hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis and extensor-plantar reflexes (Babinski reflex).

Stimulation may be evident, especially in children and geriatric patients. Convulsions may rarely occur. A paradoxical reaction has been reported in children receiving single doses of 75 mg to 125 mg orally, characterized by hyperexcitability and nightmares.

Atropine-like signs and symptoms (dry mouth, fixed dilated pupils, flushing, tachycardia, hallucinations, gastrointestinal symptoms, convulsions, urinary retention, cardiac arrhythmias and coma) may be observed.

Impaired secretion from sweat glands following toxic doses of drugs with anticholinergic side effects may predispose to hyperthermia.

Treatment of Overdose

Treatment of overdosage is driven by the overall clinical presentation, and consists of discontinuation of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution together with institution of appropriate therapy. Give primary attention to the reestablishment of adequate respiratory exchange through provision of a patent and protected airway and the institution of assisted or controlled ventilation. Employ other supportive measures (including oxygen and vasopressors) in the management of circulatory shock and pulmonary edema as indicated. Cardiac arrest or arrhythmias will require advanced life-support techniques. Gastric emptying may be useful in removing unabsorbed drug.

The opioid antagonists, naloxone and nalmefene, are specific antidotes for respiratory depression resulting from opioid overdose. For clinically significant respiratory or circulatory depression secondary to codeine overdose, administer an opioid antagonist. An antagonist should not be administered in the absence of clinically significant respiratory depression. Because the duration of opioid reversal is expected to be less than the duration of action of codeine in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, carefully monitor the patient until spontaneous respiration is reliably reestablished. If the response to an opioid antagonist is suboptimal or only brief in nature, administer additional antagonist as directed by the product's prescribing information. The respiratory depressant effects of promethazine are not reversed by opioid antagonists, such as naloxone.

Because of the potential for promethazine to reverse epinephrine's vasopressor effect, epinephrine should NOT be used to treat hypotension associated with promethazine overdose.

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

11 DESCRIPTION

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains codeine, an opioid agonist, and promethazine, a phenothiazine.

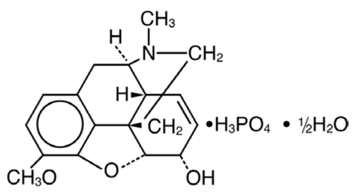
Each 5 mL of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains 10 mg of codeine phosphate and 6.25 mg of promethazine hydrochloride for oral administration.

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution has a pH between 4.4 and 5.4 and contains alcohol 7%.

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution also contains the following inactive ingredients: artificial and natural raspberry flavor, ascorbic acid, citric acid, D&C Red 33, dehydrated alcohol, edetate disodium, FD&C Blue 1, glycerin, methylparaben, propylparaben, saccharin sodium, sodium benzoate, sodium citrate, sucrose and water.

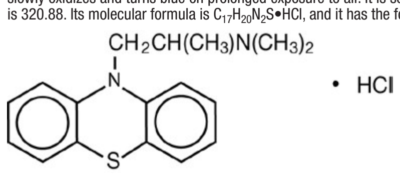
Codeine Phosphate

The chemical name for codeine phosphate is 7,8-Didehydro-4, 5α-epoxy-3-methoxy-17-methylmorphinan-6α-ol phosphate (1:1) (salt) hemihydrate. Codeine is one of the naturally occurring phenanthrene alkaloids of opium derived from the opium poppy, it is classified pharmacologically as a narcotic analgesic. The phosphate salt of codeine occurs as white, needle-shaped crystals or white crystalline powder. Codeine phosphate is freely soluble in water and slightly soluble in alcohol. The molecular weight is 406.37. Its molecular formula is $C_{18}H_{21}NO_3 \bullet H_3PO_4 \bullet \frac{1}{2} H_2O$, and it has the following chemical structure.



Promethazine Hydrochloride

The chemical name for promethazine hydrochloride, a phenothiazine derivative, is (±)-10-[2- (Dimethylamino)propyl] phenothiazine monohydrochloride. Promethazine hydrochloride occurs as a white to faint yellow, practically odorless, crystalline powder which slowly oxidizes and turns blue on prolonged exposure to air. It is soluble in water and freely soluble in alcohol. The molecular weight is 320.88. Its molecular formula is $C_{17}H_{20}N_2S \bullet HCl$, and it has the following chemical structure.



12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Codeine

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

Promethazine

Promethazine is a phenothiazine derivative, which differs structurally from the antipsychotic phenothiazines by the presence of a branched side chain and no ring substitution. Promethazine possesses antihistamine (H_1 receptor antagonist), antiemetic, sedative, and anticholinergic effects. It prevents released histamine from dilating capillaries and causing edema of the respiratory mucosa.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Codeine

Effects on the Central Nervous System

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

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

Effects on the Gastrointestinal Tract and Other Smooth Muscle

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

Effects on the Cardiovascular System

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

Effects on the Endocrine System

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

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

Effects on the Immune System

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

Concentration–Adverse Reaction Relationships

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

Promethazine

Promethazine competitively antagonize H_1 receptors located in most of the smooth muscle including the gastrointestinal tract, uterus, large blood vessels and bronchial muscle. Actions of histamine on H_1 receptors increases capillary permeability and edema formation, flare and pruritus.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

Codeine is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract with maximum plasma concentration occurring 60 minutes post administration. The presence of a high-fat, high-calorie meal did not significantly impact the PK of codeine.

Promethazine is well absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract. Clinical effects are apparent within 20 minutes after oral administration and generally last four to six hours, although they may persist as long as 12 hours.

Distribution

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

Promethazine is widely distributed in body tissues. Promethazine has high protein binding with about 80 to 93% of promethazine bound to plasma proteins. Promethazine passes the blood brain barrier and the placental barrier.

Elimination

Metabolism

Codeine is metabolized by conjugation with glucuronic acid to codeine-6-glucuronide (about 70 to 80%), by O-demethylation to morphine (about 5 to 10%), and by N-demethylation to norcodeine (about 10%). UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (UGT) 2B7 and 2B4 are the major enzymes mediating glucuronidation of codeine to C6G. Cytochrome P450 2D6 is the major enzyme responsible for conversion of codeine to morphine and P450 3A4 is the major enzyme mediating conversion of codeine to norcodeine. Morphine and norcodeine are further metabolized by conjugation with glucuronic acid. The glucuronide metabolites of morphine are morphine-3- glucuronide (M3G) and morphine-6-glucuronide (M6G). Morphine and its M6 glucuronide conjugate are pharmacologically active. Whether C6G has pharmacological activity is unknown. Norcodeine and M3 glucuronide conjugate of morphine are generally not considered to be pharmacologically active.

Promethazine is metabolized by the liver to a variety of inactive metabolites such as sulfoxides of promethazine, N-demethylpromethazine and other glucuronides.

Excretion

Approximately 90% of the total dose of codeine is excreted through the kidneys, of which approximately 10% is unchanged codeine. Plasma half-lives of codeine and its metabolites have been reported to be approximately 3 hours.

Promethazine has an elimination half-life of 10-14 hours, with excretion of metabolites appearing in the urine and feces. The sulfoxides of promethazine and N-demethylpromethazine are the predominant metabolites appearing in the urine.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, and fertility studies have not been conducted with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution; however, published information is available for the individual active ingredients.

Codeine

Carcinogenicity studies were conducted with codeine. Two-year studies in F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice were conducted to assess the carcinogenic potential of codeine. No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female rats at codeine dietary doses up to 70 and 80 mg/kg/day (approximately equivalent to 15 and 20 times, the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively). No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female mice at codeine dietary doses up to 400 mg/kg/day (approximately equivalent to 45 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis).

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

Fertility studies with codeine have not been conducted.

Promethazine

Carcinogenicity studies were conducted with promethazine hydrochloride. Two-year studies in F344/N rats and B6C3F1 mice were conducted to assess the carcinogenic potential of promethazine hydrochloride. No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female rats at promethazine hydrochloride oral doses up to 33 mg/kg/day for 5 days/week (approximately equivalent to 10 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis). No evidence of tumorigenicity was observed in male and female mice at promethazine hydrochloride oral doses up to 45 and 15 mg/kg/day for 5 days/week (approximately equivalent to 7 and 2 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis, respectively).

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

Fertility studies with promethazine have not been conducted.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, 6.25 mg and 10 mg per 5 mL, is a clear, purple solution, supplied as:

NDC Number	Size
70752-139-06	4 fl. oz. (118 mL) bottle
70752-139-12	16 fl. oz. (473 mL) bottle

Keep bottles tightly closed.

Store at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F). [See USP Controlled Room Temperature.]

Protect from light.

Dispense in tight, light-resistant container (USP/NF) with a child-resistant closure.

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

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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

Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse

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

Important Dosing and Administration Instructions

Instruct patients how to measure and take the correct dose of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Advise patients to measure Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with an accurate milliliter measuring device. Patients should be informed that a household teaspoon is not an accurate measuring device and could lead to overdosage. Advise patients to ask their pharmacist to recommend an appropriate measuring device and for instructions for measuring the correct dose [*see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]. Advise patients not to increase the dose or dosing frequency of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution because serious adverse events such as respiratory depression may occur with overdosage [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2), Overdosage (10)*].

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

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

Accidental Ingestion

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

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

Advise caregivers that Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not indicated for pediatric patients under 18 years of age, and is contraindicated in all children younger than 12 years of age and in children younger than 18 years of age following tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy.

Activities Requiring Mental Alertness

Advise patients to avoid engaging in hazardous tasks that require mental alertness and motor coordination such as operating machinery or driving a motor vehicle as Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may produce marked drowsiness [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*].

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

Inform patients and caregivers that potentially fatal additive effects may occur if Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is used with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants, including alcohol. Advise patients to avoid concomitant use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants and to not use alcohol while taking Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.10), Drug Interactions (7.4)*].

Constipation

Advise patients of the potential for severe constipation [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.11), Adverse Reactions (6)*].

Anaphylaxis

Inform patients that anaphylaxis has been reported with ingredients contained in Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Advise patients how to recognize such a reaction and when to seek medical attention [*see Contraindications (4), Adverse Reactions (6)*].

MAOI Interaction

Inform patients not to take Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution while using or within 14 days of stopping any drugs that inhibit monoamine oxidase. Patients should not start MAOIs while taking Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.16), Drug Interactions (7.6)*].

Hypotension

Inform patients that Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may cause orthostatic hypotension and syncope. Instruct patients how to recognize symptoms of low blood pressure and how to reduce the risk of serious consequences should hypotension occur (e.g., sit or lie down, carefully rise from a sitting or lying position) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.18)*].

Pregnancy

Advise patients that use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not recommended during pregnancy [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Inform female patients of reproductive potential that use of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.19), Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

Inform female patients of reproductive potential that Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can cause fetal harm and to inform their healthcare provider of a known or suspected pregnancy [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*].

Lactation

Advise women that breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.2)*].

Infertility

Inform patients that chronic use of opioids, such as codeine, a component of Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, may cause reduced fertility. It is not known whether these effects on fertility are reversible [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].

Adrenal Insufficiency

Inform patients that Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution could cause adrenal insufficiency, a potentially life-threatening condition. Adrenal insufficiency may present with non-specific symptoms and signs such as nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and low blood pressure. Advise patients to seek medical attention if they experience a constellation of these symptoms [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.20)*].

Serotonin Syndrome

Inform patients that Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution could cause a rare but potentially life-threatening condition resulting from concomitant administration of serotonergic drugs. Warn patients of the symptoms of serotonin syndrome and to seek medical attention right away if symptoms develop. Instruct patients to inform their physicians if they are taking, or plan to take serotonergic medications. [*see Adverse Reactions (6), Drug Interactions (7.5)*].

Disposal of Unused Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution

Advise patients to properly dispose of unused Promethazine HCl and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Advise patients to throw the drug in the household trash following these steps. 1) Remove them from their original containers and mix them with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter (this makes the drug less appealing to children and pets, and unrecognizable to people who may intentionally go through the trash seeking drugs). 2) Place the mixture in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the drug from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag, or to dispose of in accordance with local state guidelines and/or regulations.

Manufactured by:
Quagen Pharmaceuticals LLC
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

52015
Rev. 10/20

MEDICATION GUIDE
Promethazine (proe METH a zeen) Hydrochloride and Codeine (KOE deen) Phosphate Oral Solution, C-V

What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not for children under 18 years of age.

Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can cause serious side effects, including:

- **Addiction, abuse and misuse.** Taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution or other medicines that contain an opioid can cause addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. This can happen even if you take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider. Your risk of addiction, abuse, and misuse is increased if you or a family member has a history of drug or alcohol abuse or addiction, or mental health problems.
  - **Do not** share your Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with other people.
  - Keep Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in a safe place away from children.
- **Life-threatening breathing problems (respiratory depression)**. Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can cause breathing problems (respiratory depression) that can happen at any time during treatment and can lead to death. Your risk of breathing problems is greatest when you first start taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, are taking other medicines that can cause breathing problems, have certain lung problems, are elderly or have certain other health problems. **Children are at higher risk for respiratory depression.** Breathing problems can happen even if you take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider.
  Call your healthcare provider or get emergency medical help right away if anyone taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, or your breastfeeding baby, has any of the symptoms below:
  - increased sleepiness
  - shallow breathing
  - confusion
  - limpness
  - difficulty breathing

Keep Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in a safe place away from children. Accidental use of even 1 dose of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, especially by a child, is a medical emergency and can cause breathing problems (respiratory depression) which can lead to death. If a child accidentally takes Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, get emergency help right away.

- **Overdose and death due to medicine dosing errors.** Overdose and death can happen if you measure the wrong dose of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Always use an accurate milliliter (mL) measuring device to measure the correct amount of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. **Do not** use a household teaspoon to measure your medicine. You may accidentally take too much. You can ask your pharmacist for the measuring device you should use and how to measure the correct dose.
- **Breathing problems (respiratory depression)** that can lead to death and opioid withdrawal can happen if you start taking or stop taking other medicines while taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, including:
  - certain antibiotics
  - certain medicines to treat a fungal infection
  - certain medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)-1 infection, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), or Hepatitis C
  - rifampin
  - carbamazepine
  - phenytoin
- **Severe drowsiness, breathing problems (respiratory depression), coma, and death** can happen in adults and children who take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with benzodiazepines, or other central nervous system depressants, including alcohol.
  - **Do not** take any benzodiazepines or medicines that can cause drowsiness or sleepiness during treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Ask your healthcare provider for a list of these medicines if you are not sure.
  - **Do not** drink alcohol during treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.
- **Opioid withdrawal in a newborn.** Use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can cause withdrawal symptoms in your newborn baby that could be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. You should not take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you are pregnant. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant.

What is Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

- Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is a prescription medicine used in adults to temporarily treat cough and upper respiratory symptoms that you can have with allergies or a common cold.
  Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution contains 2 medicines, promethazine and codeine. Promethazine is an antihistamine. Codeine is an opioid (narcotic) cough suppressant.
- **Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is a federal controlled substance (C-V) because it contains codeine that can be abused or lead to dependence.** Keep Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in a safe place to prevent misuse and abuse. Selling or giving away Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may harm others, and is against the law. Tell your healthcare provider if you have ever abused or been dependent on alcohol, prescription medicines or street drugs.

Who should not take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution is not for children under 18 years of age. See "**What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?**"

Do not take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you:

- have severe breathing problems (respiratory depression). See **"What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- have a blockage (obstruction) in your bowel such as a paralytic ileus.
- take a medicine called a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI).
  - **Do not** take an MAOI within 14 days after you stop taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.
  - **Do not** start taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you stopped taking an MAOI in the last 14 days.
- have a type of glaucoma called "narrow angle glaucoma".
- have problems with your urinary tract or difficulty urinating (urinary retention).
- are allergic to promethazine, codeine, or any of the ingredients in Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. See the end of this Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. You may have an increased risk of an allergic reaction to Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you are allergic to certain other opioid medicines.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about this information.

Before you take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- have a drug addiction
- have lung or breathing problems
- have a fever and are coughing up mucus
- have had a recent head injury
- have had brain tumor or other brain problems
- have or have had seizures
- have pain in your stomach-area (abdomen)
- have constipation or other bowel problems
- have bile duct or pancreas problems
- have kidney or liver problems
- have prostate problems
- have problems with your urinary tract or difficulty urinating
- have uncontrolled spasms of your face, neck or muscles of your body, arms and legs (dystonia)
- have a history of neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
- have blood disorders including low white blood cells
- have low blood pressure (hypotension)
- have adrenal gland problems
- plan to have surgery

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can harm your unborn baby. See **"What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. Codeine passes into your breast milk and can cause serious side effects in your baby including increased sleepiness, breathing problems (respiratory depression), and death. It is not known if promethazine can pass into your breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution or breastfeed. You should not do both. See **"What should I avoid while taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- plan to have children. Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may affect the ability to have a child in females and males (fertility problems). It is not known if these fertility problems will be reversible, even after you stop taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with certain other medicines can cause side effects or affect how well Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution or the other medicines work. Do not start or stop taking other medicines without talking to your healthcare provider.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- take pain medicines such as opioids (narcotics).
- take cold or allergy medicines that contain antihistamines or cough suppressants.
- drink alcohol.
- take muscles relaxants.
- take certain medicines used to treat mood, anxiety, psychotic or thought disorders, or depression, including monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), tricyclics, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), selective serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), or antipsychotics.
- take water pills (diuretics).
- take medicines called "anticholinergics" used to treat asthma, chronic bronchitis (COPD), or stomach problems.

Ask your healthcare provider if you are not sure if you take one of these medicines.

How should I take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- Take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it. **Do not** change your dose without talking to your healthcare provider.
- Take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution by mouth only.
- **Do not** take more than 30 mL of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in 24 hours.
- Take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution using an accurate milliliter (mL) measuring device. If you do not have one, ask your pharmacist to give you a measuring device to measure the correct amount of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. **Do not use a household teaspoon to measure your medicine. You may accidently take too much.**
- **Do not** overfill the measuring device.
- Rinse your measuring device with water after each use.
- If you take too much Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.
- Tell your healthcare provider if your cough does not get better within 5 days of treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

What should I avoid while taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

- Avoid driving a car or operating machinery during treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can cause you to be drowsy, slow your thinking and motor skills, and affect your vision.
- **Do not** drink alcohol during treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Drinking alcohol with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can increase your chances of having serious side effects, accidental overdose, and cause death.

Avoid the use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you:

- are pregnant. Use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution during pregnancy can cause withdrawal symptoms in your newborn baby that could be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant.
- are breastfeeding. Use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution while breastfeeding can cause severe breathing problems (respiratory depression) in your breastfed infant that could be life-threatening.

What are the possible side effects of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may cause serious side effects, including:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- **Bowel problems including severe constipation or stomach pain.** See **"Who should not take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?"**
- **Increased pressure in your head (increased intracranial pressure).** Avoid the use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution if you have a head injury or have been told that you have changes in the tissue of your brain (brain lesions) or increased pressure in your head.
- **Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS) which can lead to death.** Tell you healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms of NMS:
  - high fever
  - confusion
  - changes in pulse, heart rate, or blood pressure
  - stiff muscles
  - sweating
- **Uncontrolled spasms of your face and neck muscles, or muscles of your body, arms, and legs (dystonia).** These muscle spasms can cause abnormal movements and body positions, and speech problems. These spasms may happen after one dose of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms.
- **Increased risk of seizures in people with seizure disorders.** If you have a seizure disorder, Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution may increase how often you have seizures.
- **Low blood pressure.** A sudden drop in blood pressure can happen in some people during treatment with Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution and this may cause you to feel dizzy, faint, lightheaded, or weak, especially when you stand up (orthostatic hypotension). Your risk of having this problem may be increased if you take Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution with certain other medicines that lower blood pressure. If you have any of these symptoms while taking Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution, sit or lie down. Do not change your body position too fast. Get up slowly from sitting or lying down.
- **Adrenal gland problems.** Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution can cause serious and life-threatening adrenal gland problems. Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check for adrenal gland problems. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms:
  - nausea
  - weakness
  - vomiting
  - dizziness
  - not wanting to eat (anorexia)
  - low blood pressure
  - fatigue
- **Changes in laboratory blood levels**, including high blood sugar and false pregnancy test reading.

The most common side effects of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution include:

- sleepiness
- headache
- difficulty urinating
- confusion
- irritability
- sweating
- coordination problems
- anxiety
- shortness of breath
- decrease in mental and physical performance
- restlessness
- nausea
- lack of energy
- nervousness
- vomiting
- lightheadedness
- tremor
- constipation
- dizziness
- dry mouth

These are not all the possible side effects of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

- Store Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Store Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution in a tightly closed container, in a dry, cool place away from heat or direct sunlight.
- **Keep Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

How should I dispose of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

Remove unused Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution from the container and mix it with an undesirable, non-toxic substance such as cat litter or used coffee grounds to make it less appealing to children and pets. Place the mixture in a container such as a sealed plastic bag and throw it away in the household trash. You can also follow your state or local guidelines on how to safely throw away Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

General information about the safe and effective use of Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in Promethazine Hydrochloride and Codeine Phosphate Oral Solution?

Active ingredients: promethazine hydrochloride and codeine phosphate

Inactive ingredients: artificial and natural raspberry flavor, ascorbic acid, citric acid, D&C Red 33, dehydrated alcohol, edetate disodium, FD&C Blue 1, glycerin, methylparaben, propylparaben, saccharin sodium, sodium benzoate, sodium citrate, sucrose and water.

Manufactured by:
Quagen Pharmaceuticals LLC
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

For more information, go to www.quagenpharma.com or call 1-888-344-9603.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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An electronic copy of the Package Insert along with medication guide can be obtained from: https://www.quagenpharma.com/Products.aspx