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**Adverse events should also be reported to McNeil Products Limited on 0808 238 9999.**

## **Imodium SoftGels 2mg Capsules, soft (*formerly Imodium IBS Relief 2mg Capsules, soft*) (loperamide hydrochloride) Product Information**

### **Presentation:**

Clear blue, oval, soft gelatine capsule containing loperamide hydrochloride 2 mg. Excipient with known effect: each capsule contains 115.31 mg propylene glycol which is equivalent to 0.65 mg/mg, also contains 0.06 micrograms of soya lecithin.

### **Uses:**

Symptomatic treatment of acute diarrhoea in adults and children aged 12 years and over. Symptomatic treatment of acute episodes of diarrhoea associated with irritable bowel syndrome in adults aged 18 years and over following initial diagnosis by a doctor.

### **Dosage:**

Acute diarrhoea in adults and children over 12 years old: two capsules initially followed by one capsule after every loose stool. The total daily dose should not exceed 6 capsules. Symptomatic treatment of acute episodes of diarrhoea associated with irritable bowel syndrome in adults aged 18 years and over: two capsules to be taken initially, followed by one capsule after every loose stool, or as previously advised by your doctor. The total daily dose should not exceed 6 capsules.

### **Contraindications:**

Imodium SoftGels 2mg Capsules, soft is contraindicated in children under 12 years of age, in individuals with hypersensitivity to loperamide hydrochloride, any of the excipients, soya, or peanuts. This product should not be used in the following conditions: acute dysentery, which is characterised by blood in stools and high fever, acute ulcerative colitis, bacterial enterocolitis caused by invasive organisms such as *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, and *Campylobacter*, and pseudomembranous colitis associated with broad spectrum antibiotics. Do not use this product in conditions wherein the inhibition of peristalsis must be avoided, due to the possible risk of ileus, megacolon, or toxic megacolon. Discontinue this product immediately when ileus, constipation, or abdominal distension develop.

### **Precautions:**

Treatment with Imodium SoftGels 2mg Capsules, soft is symptomatic; give specific treatment when appropriate. The priority in acute diarrhoea is the prevention or reversal of fluid and electrolyte depletion, particularly in young children and in frail and elderly patients. Use of this product does not preclude the administration of appropriate fluid and electrolyte replacement therapy. Since persistent diarrhoea can

be an indicator of potentially more serious conditions, Imodium SoftGels 2mg Capsules, soft should not be used for prolonged periods until the underlying cause of the diarrhoea has been investigated. If symptoms persist for more than 48 hours, consult a doctor. Use with caution in patients with hepatic impairment. Patients with AIDS should stop therapy with Imodium SoftGels 2mg Capsules, soft if abdominal distension develops. If this product is being used to control episodes of diarrhoea associated with irritable bowel syndrome, consult a doctor if clinical improvement is not seen within 48 hours, for any changes in the pattern of symptoms, or if there is a need for continuous treatment of more than 2 weeks. Cardiac events have been reported in association with overdose. Some cases with extremely high doses had a fatal outcome. Loss of consciousness, depressed level of consciousness, tiredness, dizziness, or drowsiness may occur when diarrhoea is treated with this medicine. Therefore, it is advisable to use caution when driving a car or operating machinery. Cardiac events including QT interval and QRS complex prolongation and torsades de pointes have been reported in association with overdose. Overdose can unmask existing Brugada syndrome. Patients should not exceed the recommended dose and/or the recommended duration of treatment. Caution is needed in patients with a history of drug abuse. Abuse and misuse of loperamide, has been described. Upon cessation, cases of drug withdrawal syndrome have been observed in individuals abusing, misusing, or intentionally overdosing with excessively large doses of loperamide. Loperamide is an opioid with low bioavailability and limited potential to penetrate the blood brain barrier at therapeutic doses. However, addiction is observed with opioids as a class.

**Pregnancy and Lactation:**

This product is not recommended in pregnant and lactating women.

**Side effects:**

Common: constipation, flatulence, headache, nausea.

Uncommon: dizziness, somnolence, abdominal pain, abdominal discomfort, dry mouth, abdominal pain upper, vomiting, dyspepsia, and rash.

Rare: hypersensitivity reaction, anaphylactic reaction (including anaphylactic shock), anaphylactoid reaction, loss of consciousness, stupor, depressed level of consciousness, hypertonia, coordination abnormality, miosis, ileus (including paralytic ileus), megacolon (including toxic megacolon), abdominal distension, bullous eruption (including Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis and erythema multiforme), angioedema, urticaria, pruritus, urinary retention, fatigue.

Not known: acute pancreatitis.

*Please refer to Summary of Product Characteristics for detailed information*

**RRP (ex-VAT):** 6's £4.79

**Legal Category:** GSL

**PL Holder:** McNeil Products Ltd., 50 – 100 Holmers Farm Way, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP12 4EG

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