PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

WELLBUTRIN XL® (bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets)

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Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in short term studies in children and adolescents with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of WELLBUTRIN XL or any other antideréssant in a child or adólescent must balance this risk with the clinical neéd. Patients wh are started on therapy should be observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or nusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. WELLBUTRIN XL is not approved for use in pediatric patients. (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric Use.)

Pooled analyses of short-term (4 to 16 weeks) placebo-controlled trials of 9 antideore drugs (SSRIs and others) in children and adolescents with major depressive disorder (MDI obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), or other psychiatric disorders (a total of 24 trials suicidal thinking or hehavior (suicidality) during the first few months of treatment in thos sants was 4%, twice the placebo risk of 2%. No suicides occurred in these trials.

WELLBUTRIN XL (bupropion hydrochloride), an antidepressant of the aminoketone class, is chem cally unrelated to tricyclic, tetracyclic, selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor, or other known antidepressant agents. Its structure closely resembles that of diethylpropion; it is related to phenylethylamines. It is designated as (+)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-[(1 1-dimethylethyl)aminol-1-pro ydrochloride. The molecular weight is 276.2. The molecular formula is $C_{13}H_{18}CINO$ •HCl. Bupropion hydrochloride powder is white, crystalline, and highly soluble in water. It has a bitter taste and pro uces the sensation of local anesthesia on the oral mucosa. The structural formula is:

WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets are supplied for oral administration as 50-mg and 300-mg, creamy-white to pale yellow extended-release ablets. Each tablet contains the labeled amount of bupropion hydrochloride and the inactive ingredients: ethylcellulose aqueous fispersion (NF), glyceryl behenate, methacrylic acid copolymer dispersion (NF), polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, poyidone, silion dioxide, and triethyl citrate. The tablets are printed with edible

he insoluble shell of the extended-release tablet may remain intact during gastrointestinal transit and is eliminated in the feces.

Pharmacodynamics: Bupropion is a relatively weak inhibitor of the neuronal untake of noreniner ine, serotonin, and dopamine, and does not inhibit monoamine oxidase. While the mechanism o action of bupropion, as with other antidepressants, is unknown, it is presumed that this action is

diated by noradrenergic and/or dopaminergic mechanisms. Pharmacokinetics: Bupropion is a racemic mixture. The pharmacologic activity and pharmacokinetics of the individual enantiomers have not been studied. The mean elimination half-life (+SD) of buproon after chronic dosing is 21 (±9) hours, and steady-state plasma concentrations of bupropion are

eached within 8 days In a study comparing 14-day dosing with WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets 300 mg once daily to the mmediate-release formulation of bupropion at 100 mg 3 times daily, equivalence was demonstrated or peak plasma concentration and area under the curve for bupropion and the 3 metabolites (hydroxy propion, threehydrobupropion, and erythrohydrobupropion). Additionally, in a study comparing 14-day dosing with WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets 300 mg once daily to the sustained-release formulation of bupropion at 150 mg 2 times daily, equivalence was demonstrated for peak plasma concentration

and area under the curve for bupropion and the 3 metabolites. Absorption: Following oral administration of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets to healthy volunteers time to peak plasma concentrations for bupropion was approximately 5 hours and food did not affect the

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

Metabolism: Bupropion is extensively metabolized in humans. Three metabolites have been shown to be active: hydroxybupropion, which is formed via hydroxylation of the tert-butyl group of bupropion, and the amino-alcohol isomers threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion, which are med via reduction of the carbonyl group. In vitro findings suggest that cytochrome P450IIB (CYP2R6) is the principal isoenzyme involved in the formation of hydroxybunronion, while cyto hrome P450 isoenzymes are not involved in the formation of threohydrobupropion. Oxidation of he bupropion side chain results in the formation of a glycine conjugate of meta-chlorobenzoic aci which is then excreted as the major urinary metabolite. The potency and toxicity of the metabolites elative to bupropion have not been fully characterized. However, it has been demonstrated in an antidepressant screening test in mice that hydroxybupropion is one half as potent as bupropion while threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion are 5-fold less potent than bupropion. This ay be of clinical importance because the plasma concentrations of the metabolites are as high or

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Because bupropion is extensively metabolized, there is the potential for drug-drug interactions, rticularly with those agents that are metabolized by the cytochrome P450IIB6 (CYP2B6) isoenzyme. though bupropion is not metabolized by cytochrome P450IID6 (CYP2D6), there is the potential for teractions when bupropion is co-administered with drugs metabolized by this isoenzyme e PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions).

In humans, neak plasma concentrations of hydroxybupropion occur approximately 7 hours after administration of WELLBUTRIN XL. Following administration of WELLBUTRIN XL, peak plasma concentrations of hydroxybupropion are approximately 7 times the peak level of the parent drug at steady state. The elimination half-life of hydroxybupropion is approximately 20 (±5) hours, and its AUC at teady state is about 13 times that of bupropion. The times to peak concentrations for the erythrovdrobupropion and threohydrobupropion metabolites are similar to that of the hydroxybupropio etabolite. However, their elimination half-lives are longer, approximately 33 (±10) and 37 (±13) hours, respectively, and steady-state AUCs are 1.4 and 7 times that of bupropion, respectively Bupropion and its metabolites exhibit linear kinetics following chronic administration of 300 to

Elimination: Following oral administration of 200 mg of ¹⁴C-bupropion in humans, 87% and 10% of the radioactive dose were recovered in the urine and feces, respectively. However, the fraction of ne oral dose of bupropion excreted unchanged was only 0.5%, a finding consistent with the extenve metabolism of bupropion.

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

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

e second study showed no statistically significant differences in the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its active metabolites in 9 patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis compared to 8 healthy llunteers. However, more variability was observed in some of the pharmacokinetic parameters for purposion (ALIC C_{max} and T_{max}) and its active metabolites (t_{10}) in patients with mild to moderate ttic cirrhosis. In addition, in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis, the bupropion C_{max} and AUC were substantially increased (mean difference; by approximately 70% and 3-fold, respectively) and nore variable when compared to values in healthy volunteers; the mean bupropion half-life was also longer (29 hours in patients with severe henatic cirrhosis vs 19 hours in healthy subjects). For the metabolite hydroxybupropion, the mean C_{max} was approximately 69% lower. For the combined amino-alcohol isomers threohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion, the mean C_{max} was approximately % lower. The mean AUC increased by about 1¹/₂-fold for hydroxybupropion and about 2¹/₂-fold for nreo/erythrohydrobupropion. The median T_{max} was observed 19 hours later for hydroxybupropion and 31 hours later for threo/erythrohydrobupropion. The mean half-lives for hydroxybupropion and p/erythrohydrobupropion were increased 5- and 2-fold, respectively, in patients with severe epatic cirrhosis compared to healthy volunteers (see WARNINGS, PRÉCAUTIONS, and DOSAGE

Renal: The effect of renal disease on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion has not been studied. The elimination of the major metabolites of bupropion may be affected by reduced renal function. **Left Ventricular Dysfunction:** During a chronic dosing study with bupropion in 14 depressed patients with left ventricular dysfunction (history of CHF or an enlarged heart on x-ray), no apparent effect on the

netics of bupropion or its metabolites was revealed, compared to healthy volunteers. Age: The effects of age on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its metabolites have not been lly characterized, but an exploration of steady-state bupropion concentrations from several depreson efficacy studies involving patients dosed in a range of 300 to 750 mg/day, on a 3 times daily nedule, revealed no relationship between age (18 to 83 years) and plasma concentration of bupronion. A single-dose pharmacokinetic study demonstrated that the disposition of bupropion and its netabolites in elderly subjects was similar to that of younger subjects. These data suggest there is no prominent effect of age on bupropion concentration; however, another pharmacokinetic study single and multiple dose, has suggested that the elderly are at increased risk for accumulation of

inion and its metabolites (see PRECAUTIONS: Geriatric Use **Gender:** A single-dose study involving 12 healthy male and 12 healthy female volunteers revealed no sex-related differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters of bupropion.

nokers: The effects of cigarette smoking on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion were studied in 4 healthy male and female volunteers: 17 were chronic cigarette smokers and 17 were nonsmokers wing oral administration of a single 150-mg dose of bupropion, there was no statistically significant difference in C_{max}, half-life, T_{max}, AUC, or clearance of bupropion or its active metabolites between smokers and nonsmokers.

The efficacy of bupropion as a treatment for major depressive disorder was established with the mmediate-release formulation of bupropion in two 4-week, placebo-controlled trials in adult inpa tients and in one 6-week, placeho-controlled trial in adult outpatients. In the first study, patients were

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itrated in a bupropion dose range of 300 to 600 mg/day of the immediate-release formulation on a 3 times daily schedule; 78% of patients received maximum doses of 450 mg/day or less. This trial demonstrated the effectiveness of bupropion on the Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS) total score, the depressed mood item (item 1) from that scale, and the Clinical Global Impressions (CGI) severity score. A second study included 2 fixed doses of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion (300 and 450 mg/day) and placebo. This trial demonstrated the effectiveness of bupropion, but only at the 450-mg/day dose of the immediate-release formulation; the results were positive for the HDRS total score and the CGI severity score, but not for HDRS item 1. In the third study, outpatients received 300 mg/day of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion. This study demonstrated ne effectiveness of bupropion on the HDRS total score, HDRS item 1, the Montgomery-Asberg

In a longer-term study, outpatients meeting DSM-IV criteria for major depressive disorder, recur-rent type, who had responded during an 8-week open trial on bupropion (150 mg twice daily of the ustained-release formulation) were randomized to continuation of their same dose of bupropion or cebo, for up to 44 weeks of observation for relapse. Response during the open phase was defined is CGI Improvement score of 1 (very much improved) or 2 (much improved) for each of the final B weeks. Relapse during the double-blind phase was defined as the investigator's judgment that drug reatment was needed for worsening depressive symptoms. Patients receiving continued bupropior tment experienced significantly lower relapse rates over the subsequent 44 weeks compared to

epression Rating Scale, the CGI severity score, and the CGI improvement score.

there are no independent trials demonstrating the antidepressant effectiveness of WELLBUTRIN XL, studies have demonstrated similar bioavailability of WELLBUTRIN XL to both the state conditions, i.e., WELLBUTRIN XL 300 mg once daily was shown to have bioavailability that wa nilar to that of 100 mg 3 times daily of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion and to that of 150 mg 2 times daily of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion, with regard to both peak concentration and extent of absorption, for parent drug and metabolites

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ELLBUTRIN XL is indicated for the treatment of major depressive disorder

The efficacy of hunronion in the treatment of a major depressive episode was established in two -week controlled trials of inpatients and in one 6-week controlled trial of outpatients whose diagses corresponded most closely to the Major Depression category of the APA Diagnostic and tatistical Manual (DSM) (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY)

A major depressive episode (DSM-IV) implies the presence of 1) depressed mond or 2) loss of interest or pleasure; in addition, at least 5 of the following symptoms have been present during the same 2-week period and represent a change from previous functioning; depressed mood, markedly ninished interest or pleasure in usual activities, significant change in weight and/or appetite, insor nia or hypersomnia, psychomotor agitation or retardation, increased fatique, feelings of quilt or worthsness, slowed thinking or impaired concentration, a suicide attempt, or suicidal ideati

The efficacy of bupropion in maintaining an antidepressant response for up to 44 weeks following 8 weeks of acute treatment was demonstrated in a placebo-controlled trial with the sustained-release formulation of bupropion (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). Nevertheless, the physician who elects o use WELLBUTRIN XL for extended periods should periodically reevaluate the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient.

VELLBUTRIN XL is contraindicated in patients with a seizure disorde WELLBUTRIN XL is contraindicated in patients treated with ZYBAN® (bupropion hydrochloride) ustained-Release Tablets, WELLBUTRIN (bupropion hydrochloride) the immediate-release formulan, WELLBUTRIN SR (bupropion hydrochloride) the sustained-release formulation, or any other

nedications that contain bupropion because the incidence of seizure is dose dependent. WELLBUTRIN XL is contraindicated in patients with a current or prior diagnosis of bulimia or anorexia nervosa because of a higher incidence of seizures noted in patients treated for bulimia with immediate-release formulation of hunronion

WELLBUTRIN XL is contraindicated in patients undergoing abrupt discontinuation of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepine he concurrent administration of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets and a monoamine oxidase (MAO)

inhibitor is contraindicated. At least 14 days should elapse between discontinuation of an MAO inhibitor and initiation of treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets.

WELLBUTRIN XL is contraindicated in patients who have shown an allergic response to bupropion or the other ingredients that make up WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets.

Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk: Patients with major depressive disorder (MDD), both adult and pediatric, may experience worsening of their depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ideation and behavior (suicidality) or unusual changes in behavior, whether or not they are taking antidepressant nedications, and this risk may persist until significant remission occurs. There has been a longstanding concern that antidepressants may have a role in inducing worsening of depression and th emergence of suicidality in certain patients. Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thinking and navior (suicidality) in short-term studies in children and adolescents with Major Depressive Disorder MDD) and other psychiatric disorders

ntrolled trials of 9 antidepressant drugs (SSRIs and others) in children and adolescents with MDD, OCD, or other psychiatric disorders (a total of 24 trials involving ng over 4,400 patients) have revealed a greater risk of adverse events representing suicidal behavior r thinking (suicidality) during the first few months of treatment in those receiving antidepressants

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The average risk of such events in patients receiving antidepressants was 4%, twice the placebo risk of 2%. There was considerable variation in risk among drugs, but a tendency toward an increase for almost all drugs studied. The risk of suicidality was most consistently observed in the MDD trials, but there were signals of risk arising from some trials in other psychiatric indications (obsessive co sive disorder and social anxiety disorder) as well. No suicides occurred in any of these trials. It is unknown whether the suicidality risk in pediatric patients extends to longer-term use, i.e., beyond several months. It is also unknown whether the suicidality risk extends to adults.

All pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for any indication should be observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, and unusual changes in behavior, especially during the nitial few months of a course of drug therapy, or at times of dose changes, either increases or decreases. Such observation would generally include at least weekly face-to-face contact with patients or their family members or caregivers during the first 4 weeks of treatment, then eve other week visits for the next 4 weeks, then at 12 weeks, and as clinically indicated beyond 12 weeks dditional contact by telephone may be appropriate between face-to-face visits.

Adults with MDD or co-morbid depression in the setting of other psychiatric illness being treated with antidepressants should be observed similarly for clinical worsening and suic especially during the initial few months of a course of drug therapy, or at times of dose changes

In addition, patients with a history of suicidal behavior or thoughts, those patients exhib cant degree of suicidal ideation prior to commencement of treatment, and young adult are at an increased risk of suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts, and should receive carefu

ne following symptoms, anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressive ness, impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness), hypomania, and mania, have been reported in adult and pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder as well as for other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric. Although a causal link between the emergence of such symptoms and either the worsening of depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ipulses has not been established, there is concern that such symptoms may represent precursors t emerging suicidality.

deration should be given to changing the therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuin

the medication, in patients whose depression is persistently worse, or who are experiencing emerge suicidality or symptoms that might be precursors to worsening depression or suicidality, especially if these symptoms are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. Families and caregivers of pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder or other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric, should be alerted about the need to monitor patients for the emergence of agitation, irritability, unusual changes in behavior, and the other symptoms described above, as well as the emergence of suicidality, and to

report such symptoms immediately to health care providers. Such monitoring should include daily observation by families and caregivers. Prescriptions for WELLBUTRIN XL should be written for the smallest quantity of tablets consistent with good patient management, in order to reduce the risk of overdose. Families and caregivers of adults being treated for depression should be similarly advised creening Patients for Bipolar Disorder: A major depressive episode may be the initial presentatio of bipolar disorder. It is generally believed (though not established in controlled trials) that treating such an episode with an antidepressant alone may increase the likelihood of precipitation of a mixed, manic episode in patients at risk for bipolar disorder. Whether any of the symptoms described above represent such a conversion is unknown. However, prior to initiating treatment with an antidepressant, patients with depressive symptoms should be adequately screened to determine if they are at risk for pipolar disorder; such screening should include a detailed psychiatric history, including a family histo of suicide, bipolar disorder, and depression. It should be noted that WELLBUTRIN XL is not approved

atients should be made aware that WELLBUTRIN XL contains the same active ingre found in ZYBAN, used as an aid to smoking cessation treatment, and that WELLBUTRIN XL should not be used in combination with ZYBAN, or any other medications that contain bupropion, such as WELLBUTRIN SR (bupropion hydrochloride), the sustained-release formulation or WELLBUTRIN (bupropion hydrochloride), the immediate-release formulation.

Seizures: Bunronion is associated with a dose-related risk of seizures. The risk of seizures is also related to patient factors, clinical situations, and concomitant medications, which must be con sidered in selection of nationts for therapy with WELLBUTRIN XL, WELLBUTRIN XL should be discontinued and not restarted in patients who experience a seizure while on treatment. As WELLBUTRIN XL is bioequivalent to both the immediate-release formulation of bupro pion and to the sustained-release formulation of bupropion, the seizure incidence with

r use in treating hinglar depression

VELLBUTRIN XL, while not formally evaluated in clinical trials, may be similar to that presented below for the immediate-release and sustained-release formulations of bupropion. Dose: At doses up to 300 mg/day of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion (WELLBUTRIN SR), the incidence of seizure is approximately 0.1% (1/1.000).

Data for the immediate-release formulation of bupropion revealed a seizure incidence of approximately 0.4% (i.e., 13 of 3.200 patients followed prospectively) in patients treated at doses in a range of 300 to 450 mg/day. This seizure incidence (0.4%) may exceed that of some other marketed antidepressants.

ional data accumulated for the immediate-release formulation of bupropion suggest that the estimated seizure incidence increases almost tenfold between 450 and 600 mg/day The 600 mg dose is twice the usual adult dose and one and one-third the maximum recom mended daily dose (450 mg) of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets. This disproportionate increase in seizure incidence with dose incrementation calls for caution in dosing.

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Patient factors: Predisposing factors that may increase the risk of seizure with bupropion use

include history of head trauma or prior seizure, central nervous system (CNS) tumor, the pres ence of severe hepatic cirrhosis, and concomitant medications that lower seizure threshold. Clinical situations: Circumstances associated with an increased seizure risk include, among others, excessive use of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepines); addiction to opiate cocaine, or stimulants; use of over-the-counter stimulants and anorectics; and diabetes treated

with oral hypoglycemics or insulin. Concomitant medications: Many medications (e.g., antipsychotics, antidepressants, theophylline systemic steroids) are known to lower seizure threshold.

Recommendations for Reducing the Risk of Seizure: Retrospective analysis of clinical experience gained during the development of bupropion suggests that the risk of seizure may be

• the total daily dose of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets does not exceed 450 mg,

the rate of incrementation of dose is gradual. WELLBUTRIN XL should be administered with extreme caution to patients with a history of seizure, cranial trauma, or other predisposition(s) toward seizure, or patients treated with other agents (e.g., antipsychotics, other antidepressants, theophylline, systemic steroids, etc.) that

Hepatic Impairment: WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with extreme caution in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis. In these patients a reduced frequency and/or dose is required, as peak bupropion as well as AUC, levels are substantially increased and accumulation is likely to occur in such atients to a greater extent than usual. The dose should not exceed 150 mg every other day in these patients (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, PRECAUTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Potential for Hepatotoxicity: In rats receiving large doses of bupropion chronically, there was an increase in incidence of hepatic hyperplastic nodules and hepatocellular hypertrophy. In dogs receiv-

arge doses of bupropion chronically, various histologic changes were seen in the liver, and laboratory tests suggesting mild hepatocellular injury were noted.

General: Agitation and Insomnia: Increased restlessness, agitation, anxiety, and insomnia, especially shortly after initiation of treatment, have been associated with treatment with bupropion. Patients in placeho-controlled trials with WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained-release formulation of hunronion experienced agitation, anxiety, and insomnia as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Incidence of Anitation, Anxiety, and Insomnia in Placeho-Controlled Trials

e 1. incluence of Agriculon, Anxiety, and insomina in Fracebo-controlled finals			
Adverse Event Term	WELLBUTRIN SR 300 mg/day (n = 376)	WELLBUTRIN SR 400 mg/day (n = 114)	Placebo (n = 385)
gitation nxiety somnia	3% 5% 11%	9% 6% 16%	2% 3% 6%

In clinical studies, these symptoms were sometimes of sufficient magnitude to require treatment

Symptoms were sufficiently severe to require discontinuation of treatment in 1% and 2.6% of its treated with 300 and 400 mg/day, respectively, of bupropion sustained-release tablets and .8% of patients treated with placebo **Psychosis, Confusion, and Other Neuropsychiatric Phenomena:** Depressed patients treated with

bupropion have been reported to show a variety of neuropsychiatric signs and symptoms, including delusions, hallucinations, psychosis, concentration disturbance, paranoia, and confusion. In some cases, these symptoms abated upon dose reduction and/or withdrawal of treatment. Activation of Psychosis and/or Mania: Antidepressants can precipitate manic episodes in bipolar

disorder patients during the depressed phase of their illness and may activate latent psychosis in other susceptible patients. WELLBUTRIN XL is expected to pose similar risks. Altered Appetite and Weight: In placebo-controlled studies using WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained

release formulation of bupropion, patients experienced weight gain or weight loss as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Incidence of Weight Gain and Weight Loss in Placebo-Controlled Trials

Weight Change	WELLBUTRIN SR 300 mg/day (n = 339)	WELLBUTRIN SR 400 mg/day (n = 112)	Placebo (n = 347)	1
ed >5 lbs	3%	2%	4%	t
>5 lbs	14%	19%	6%	

In studies conducted with the immediate-release formulation of bupropion, 35% of patients receiving tricyclic antidepressants gained weight, compared to 9% of patients treated with the immediateelease formulation of bupropion. If weight loss is a major presenting sign of a patient's depressive ness, the anorectic and/or weight-reducing potential of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets should be considered

Allergic Reactions: Anaphylactoid/anaphylactic reactions characterized by symptoms such as pruus, urticaria, angioedema, and dyspnea requiring medical treatment have been reported in clinical trials with bupropion. In addition, there have been rare spontaneous postmarketing reports of ervthema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and anaphylactic shock associated with bupropion. A patient should stop taking WELLBUTRIN XL and consult a doctor if experiencing allergic or anaphy-

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lactoid/anaphylactic reactions (e.g., skin rash, pruritus, hives, chest pain, edema, and shortness of

Arthralgia, myalgia, and fever with rash and other symptoms suggestive of delayed hypersensitivity nave been reported in association with bupropion. These symptoms may resemble serum sickness.

Cardiovascular Effects: In clinical practice, hypertension, in some cases severe, requiring acute replacement therapy. These events have been observed in both patients with and without evidence of

Data from a comparative study of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion (ZYBAN® Sustainedase Tablets), nicotine transdermal system (NTS), the combination of sustained-release bupropion plus NTS, and placebo as an aid to smoking cessation suggest a higher incidence of treatment-emergent hypertension in patients treated with the combination of sustained-release bupropion and NTS. In this study, 6.1% of patients treated with the combination of sustained-release bupropion and NTS had treatment-emergent hypertension compared to 2.5%, 1.6%, and 3.1% of patients treated with sustained-release bupropion, NTS, and placebo, respectively. The majority of these patients had evi-dence of pre-existing hypertension. Three patients (1.2%) treated with the combination of ZYBAN and NTS and 1 patient (0.4%) treated with NTS had study medication discontinued due to hyperten sion compared to none of the patients treated with ZYBAN or placebo. Monitoring of blood pressure

recommended in patients who receive the combination of bupropion and nicotine replacement.
There is no clinical experience establishing the safety of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets in patients with a if it is used in these groups. Bupropion was well tolerated in depressed patients who had previously eveloped orthostatic hypotension while receiving tricyclic antidepressants, and was also generally well tolerated in a group of 36 depressed innatients with stable congestive heart failure (CHF). How ever, bupropion was associated with a rise in supine blood pressure in the study of patients with CHF, resulting in discontinuation of treatment in 2 nations for exacerbation of baseline hypertension

Hepatic Impairment: WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with extreme caution in patients with severe nepatic cirrhosis. In these patients, a reduced frequency and/or dose is required. WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with caution in patients with hepatic impairment (including mild to moderate hepatic irrhosis) and reduced frequency and/or dose should be considered in patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis.

All patients with hepatic impairment should be closely monitored for possible adverse effects that could indicate high drug and metabolite levels (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, WARNINGS, and

Renal Impairment: No studies have been conducted in patients with renal impairment. Bupropion is extensively metabolized in the liver to active metabolites, which are further metabolized and subsequently excreted by the kidneys. WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment and a reduced frequency and/or dose should be considered as bupropion and it metabolites may accumulate in such patients to a greater extent than usual. The patient should be closely monitored for possible adverse effects that could indicate high drug or metabolite levels. Information for Patients: Prescribers or other health professionals should inform natients, their families, and their caregivers about the benefits and risks associated with treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL and should counsel them in its appropriate use. A patient Medication Guide About Using Antideressants in Children and Teenagers is available for WELLBUTRIN XL. The prescriber or health proessional should instruct patients, their families, and their caregivers to read the Medication Guide and should assist them in understanding its contents. Patients should be given the opportunity to cuss the contents of the Medication Guide and to obtain answers to any questions they may have. The complete text of the Medication Guide is reprinted at the end of this document. Additional impornt information concerning WELLBUTRIN XL is provided in a tear-off leaflet entitled "Patient

nformation" at the end of this labeling. Patients should be advised of the following issues and asked to alert their prescriber if these occur

while taking WELLBUTRIN XI Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk: Patients, their families, and their caregivers should be encouraged to be alert to the emergence of anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness), hypomania, mania, other unusual changes in behavior, worsening of depression, and suicidal ideation, especially early during antidepressant treatment and when the dose is adjusted up or down. Families and caregivers of patients should be advised to observe for the emergence of such symptoms on a day-to-day basis, since changes may be abrupt. Such symptoms should be reported to the patient's prescriber or nealth professional, especially if they are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms. Symptoms such as these may be associated with an increased risk for suici-I thinking and behavior and indicate a need for very close monitoring and possibly changes in

the medication. Patients should be made aware that WELLBUTRIN XL contains the same active ingredient found in ZYBAN, used as an aid to smoking cessation treatment, and that WELLBUTRIN XI should not be nation with ZYBAN or any other medications that contain bupropion hydroc such as WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained-release formulation, and WELLBUTRIN, the immediate

Patients should be told that WELLBUTRIN XL should be discontinued and not restarted if they experience a seizure while on treatmen

Patients should be told that any CNS-active drug like WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets may impair their ability to perform tasks requiring judgment or motor and cognitive skills. Consequently, until they are nably certain that WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets do not adversely affect their performance, they should refrain from driving an automobile or operating complex, hazardous machinery.

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Patients should be told that the excessive use or abrupt discontinuation of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepines) may alter the seizure threshold. Some patients have reported lower alco-hol tolerance during treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL. Patients should be advised that the consump-

on of alcohol should be minimized or avoided. Patients should be advised to inform their physicians if they are taking or plan to take any precription or over-the-counter drugs. Concern is warranted because WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets and

other drugs may affect each other's metabolism Patients should be advised to notify their physicians if they become pregnant or intend to become pregnant during therapy.

atients should be advised to swallow WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets whole so that the release rate is not altered. Do not chew, divide, or crush tablets.

Patients should be advised that they may notice in their stool something that looks like a tablet. This is normal. The medication in WELLBUTRIN XL is contained in a non-absorbable shell that has een specially designed to slowly release drug in the body. When this process is completed, the

empty shell is eliminated from the body. aboratory Tests: There are no specific laboratory tests recommended.

Drug Interactions: Few systemic data have been collected on the metabolism of bupropion following itant administration with other drugs or, alternatively, the effect of concomitant administration of bupropion on the metabolism of other drugs.

Because bupropion is extensively metabolized, the coadministration of other drugs may affect its clinical activity. In vitro studies indicate that bupropion is primarily metabolized to hydroxybupropion CYP2B6 isoenzyme. Therefore, the potential exists for a drug interaction between WELLBUTRIN XL and drugs that are substrates or inhibitors of the CYP2B6 isoenzyme (e.g., orphenadrine, thiotepa nosphamide). In addition, in vitro studies suggest that paroxetine, sertraline, norfluoxe tine, and fluvoxamine as well as nelfinavir, ritonavir, and efavirenz inhibit the hydroxylation of bupro n. No clinical studies have been performed to evaluate this finding. The threohydrobupropion metabolite of bupropion does not appear to be produced by the cytochrome P450 iscenzymes. The effects of concomitant administration of cimetidine on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its active metabolites were studied in 24 healthy young male volunteers. Following oral administration of two 150-mg tablets of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion with and without 800 mg f cimetidine, the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and hydroxybupropion were unaffected. Howeve there were 16% and 32% increases in the AUC and C_{max} , respectively, of the combined moieties of preohydrobupropion and erythrohydrobupropion.

While not systematically studied, certain drugs may induce the metabolism of bupropion (e.g.,

arbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin). Animal data indicated that bupropion may be an inducer of drug-metabolizing enzymes in humans. In one study, following chronic administration of bupropion, 100 mg 3 times daily to 8 healthy male unteers for 14 days, there was no evidence of induction of its own metabolism. Nevertheless

nere may be the potential for clinically important alterations of blood levels of coadministered drugs Drugs Metabolized By Cytochrome P450IID6 (CYP2D6): Many drugs, including most antidepre (SSRIs, many tricyclics), beta-blockers, antiarrhythmics, and antipsychotics are metabolize by the CYP2D6 isoenzyme. Although bupropion is not metabolized by this isoenzyme, bupropion and hydroxybupropion are inhibitors of CYP2D6 isoenzyme in vitro. In a study of 15 male subjects (ages 9 to 35 years) who were extensive metabolizers of the CYP2D6 isoenzyme, daily doses of bupro pion given as 150 mg twice daily followed by a single dose of 50 mg desipramine increased the $C_{\rm m}$ effect was present for at least 7 days after the last dose of bupropion. Concomitant use of bupropior

rith other drugs metabolized by CYP2D6 has not been formally studied. Therefore, co-administration of bupropion with drugs that are metabolized by CYP2D6 isoenzyme including certain antidepressants (e.g., nortriptyline, imipramine, desipramine, paroxetine, fluoxetine ertraline), antipsychotics (e.g., haloperidol, risperidone, thioridazine), beta-blockers (e.g., metoprool), and Type 1C antiarrhythmics (e.g., propafenone, flecainide), should be approached with caution and should be initiated at the lower end of the dose range of the concomitant medication. If bupro-

on is added to the treatment regimen of a patient already receiving a drug metabolized by CYP2D6 the need to decrease the dose of the original medication should be considered, particularly for those itant medications with a narrow therapeutic index.

MAO Inhibitors: Studies in animals demonstrate that the acute toxicity of bupropion is enhanced y the MAO inhibitor phenelzine (see CONTRAINDICATIONS) Levodona and Amantadine: Limited clinical data suggest a higher incidence of adverse experiences ts receiving bupropion concurrently with either levodopa or amantadine. Administration of

WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets to patients receiving either levodopa or amantadine concurrently should be ndertaken with caution, using small initial doses and gradual dose increase Drugs That Lower Seizure Threshold: Concurrent administration of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets and agents (e.g., antipsychotics, other antidepressants, theophylline, systemic steroids, etc.) that lower seizure threshold should be undertaken only with extreme caution (see WARNINGS). Low initial dos-

g and gradual dose increases should be employed.

Nicotine Transdermal System: (see PRECAUTIONS: Cardiovascular Effects).

Alcohol: In postmarketing experience, there have been rare reports of adverse neuropsychiatric events or reduced alcohol tolerance in patients who were drinking alcohol during treatment with upropion. The consumption of alcohol during treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL should be minimized r avoided (also see CONTRAINDICATIONS)

ogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Lifetime carcinogenicity studies were performed in rats and mice at doses up to 300 and 150 mg/kg/day, respectively. These doses are approximately 7 and 2 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD), respectively, on a mg/m² basis. In the rat study there was an increase in nodular proliferative lesions of the liver at doses of

PHARMACIST—DETACH HERE AND GIVE LEAFLET TO PATIENT. ALSO PROVIDE AN APPROVED MEDICATION GUIDE ABOUT USING ANTIDEPRESSANTS IN CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

higher than those of bupropion.



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100 to 300 mg/kg/day (approximately 2 to 7 times the MRHD on a mg/m² basis): lower doses were not tested. The question of whether or not such lesions may be precursors of neoplasms of the liver is currently unresolved. Similar liver lesions were not seen in the mouse study, and no increase in malignant tumors of the liver and other organs was seen in either study.

Bupropion produced a positive response (2 to 3 times control mutation rate) in 2 of 5 strains in the Ames bacterial mutagenicity test and an increase in chromosomal aberrations in 1 of 3 in vivo rat

A fertility study in rats at doses up to 300 mg/kg/day revealed no evidence of impaired fertility. Pregnancy: Teratology studies have been performed with bupropion immediate-release formulation at dosages up to 450 mg/kg in rats, and at doses up to 150 mg/kg in rabbits (approximately 7 to 11 and 7 times the MRHD, respectively, on a mg/m² basis), and have revealed no evidence of harm to the fetus due to bupropion. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always redictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

To monitor fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to WELLBUTRIN XL. GlaxoSmithKline main-

tains a Bupropion Pregnancy Registry. Health care providers are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 336-2176.

Labor and Delivery: The effect of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets on labor and delivery in humans

Nursing Mothers: Like many other drugs, bupropion and its metabolites are secreted in human milk. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population have not been established (see BOX WARNING and WARNINGS: Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk). Anyone considering the use WELLBUTRIN XL in a child or adolescent must balance the potential risks with the clinical need. Geriatric Use: Of the approximately 6,000 patients who participated in clinical trials with bupropion sustained-release tablets (depression and smoking cessation studies), 275 were ≥65 years old and 47 were >75 years old. In addition, several hundred patients 65 and over participated in clinical trials using the immediate-release formulation of bupropion (depression studies). No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects. Reported clinical greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out

A single-dose pharmacokinetic study demonstrated that the disposition of bupropion and its metabolites in elderly subjects was similar to that of younger subjects; however, another pharmacokinetic study, single and multiple dose, has suggested that the elderly are at increased risk for accumulation of bupropion and its metabolites (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

opion is extensively metabolized in the liver to active metabolites, which are further metabolized and excreted by the kidneys. The risk of toxic reaction to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal fui , care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function (see PRECAUTIONS: Renal Impairment and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

ADVERSE REACTIONS (See also WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS.)

WELLBUTRIN XL has been demonstrated to have similar bioavailability both to the immediat elease formulation of bupropion and to the sustained-release formulation of bupropion (see CLINICA The information included under the Incidence in Controlled Trials subsection (ADVERSE REACTIONS is based primarily on data from controlled clinical trials with WELLBUTRIN SR Tablets, the sustained-release formulation of bupropion. WELLBUTRIN XL has not been studied in placebo-controlled trials, although it has been studied in non-placebo-controlled clinical bioavailability studies. Information on additional adverse events associated with the sustained-release formulation of bupropion in smoking cessation trials, as well as the immediate-release formulation of bupropion is included in a separate section (see Other Events Observed During the Clinical Development and

Incidence in Controlled Trials With Bupropion: Adverse Events Associated With Discontinuation of Treatment Among Patients Treated With Bupropion: In placebo-controlled clinical trials, 9% and 11% of patients treated with 300 and 400 mg/day, respectively, of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion and 4% of patients treated with placebo discontinued treatment due to adverse events The specific adverse events in these trials that led to discontinuation in at least 1% of patients treated with either 300 mg/day or 400 mg/day of WELLBUTRIN SR, the sustained-release formulation of bupropion, and at a rate at least twice the placebo rate are listed in Table 3

Table 3 Treatment Discontinuations Due to Adverse Events in Placeho-Controlled Trials

Adverse Event Term	WELLBUTRIN SR 300 mg/day (n = 376)	WELLBUTRIN SR 400 mg/day (n = 114)	Placebo (n = 385)
Rash Nausea Agitation Migraine	2.4% 0.8% 0.3% 0.0%	0.9% 1.8% 1.8% 1.8%	0.0% 0.3% 0.3% 0.3%

In clinical trials with the immediate-release formulation of bupropion, 10% of patients and volunscontinued due to an adverse event. Events resulting in discontinuation, in addition to those

WELLBUTRIN XL® (bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets)

listed above for the sustained-release formulation of bupropion, include vomiting, seizures, and

Adverse Events Occurring at an Incidence of 1% or More Among Patients Treated With treated with 300 and 400 mg/day of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion and with placebo in controlled trials. Events that occurred in either the 300- or 400-mg/day group at an incidence of 1% or more and were more frequent than in the placebo group are included. Reported adverse events were classified using a COSTART-based Dictionary

Accurate estimates of the incidence of adverse events associated with the use of any drug are difficult to obtain. Estimates are influenced by drug dose, detection technique, setting, physician judgments, etc. The figures cited cannot be used to predict precisely the incidence of untoward events in the course of usual medical practice where patient characteristics and other factors differ from those hat prevailed in the clinical trials. These incidence figures also cannot be compared with those obtain n other clinical studies involving related drug products as each group of drug trials is conducted under a different set of conditions

Finally, it is important to emphasize that the tabulation does not reflect the relative severity and/or clinical importance of the events. A better perspective on the serious adverse events associated with the use of bupropion is provided in the WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS sections.

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Table 4. Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events in Placebo-Controlled Trials

Body System/ Adverse Event	WELLBUTRIN SR 300 mg/day (n = 376)	WELLBUTRIN SR 400 mg/day (n = 114)	Placebo (n = 385)
Body (General) Headache Infection Abdominal pain Asthenia Chest pain Pain Fever	26% 8% 3% 2% 3% 2% 1%	25% 9% 9% 4% 4% 3% 2%	23% 6% 2% 2% 1% 1%
Cardiovascular Palpitation Flushing Migraine Hot flashes	2% 1% 1% 1%	6% 4% 4% 3%	2% — 1% 1%
Digestive Dry mouth Nausea Constipation Diarrhea Anorexia Vomiting Dysphagia	17% 13% 10% 5% 4% 0%	24% 18% 5% 7% 3% 2% 2%	7% 8% 7% 6% 2% 2%
Musculoskeletal Myalgia Arthralgia Arthritis Twitch	2% 1% 0% 1%	6% 4% 2% 2%	3% 1% 0%
Nervous system Insomnia Dizziness Agitation Anxiety Tremor Nervousness Somnolence Irritability Memory decreased Paresthesia Central nervous system stimulation	11% 7% 3% 5% 6% 5% 2% 3% 	16% 11% 9% 6% 3% 3% 2% 2% 1%	6% 5% 2% 3% 1% 3% 2% 2% 1% 1%
Respiratory Pharyngitis Sinusitis Increased cough	3% 3% 1%	11% 1% 2%	2% 2% 1%
Skin Sweating Rash Pruritus Urticaria	6% 5% 2% 2%	5% 4% 4% 1%	2% 1% 2% 0%

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Body System/ Adverse Event	WELLBUTRIN SR 300 mg/day (n = 376)	WELLBUTRIN SR 400 mg/day (n = 114)	Placebo (n = 385)
pecial senses Tinnitus Taste perversion Amblyopia	6% 2% 3%	6% 4% 2%	2% — 2%
ogenital Urinary frequency Urinary urgency Vaginal hemorrhage† Urinary tract infection	2% 	5% 2% 2% 0%	2% 0% —

Adverse events that occurred in at least 1% of patients treated with either 300 or 400 mg/day of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion, but equally or more frequently in the placebo group, were: abnormal dreams, accidental injury, acne, appetite increased, back pain, bronchitis enorrhea, dyspepsia, flatulence, flu syndrome, hypertension, neck pain, respiratory disorder rhinitis, and tooth disorder.

Incidence based on the number of female patients. —Hyphen denotes adverse events occurring in greater than 0 but less than 0.5% of patients.

Additional events to those listed in Table 4 that occurred at an incidence of at least 1% in controlled clinical trials of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion (300 to 600 mg/day) and that were numerically more frequent than placebo were: cardiac arrhythmias (5% vs 4%), hypertension (4% vs hypotension (3% vs 2%), tachycardia (11% vs 9%), appetite increase (4% vs 2%), dyspepsia 3% vs 2%), menstrual complaints (5% vs 1%), akathisia (2% vs 1%), impaired sleep quality (4% vs sensory disturbance (4% vs 3%), confusion (8% vs 5%), decreased libido (3% vs 2%), hostility (6% vs 4%) auditory disturbance (5% vs 3%), and gustatory disturbance (3% vs 1%)

Incidence of Commonly Observed Adverse Events in Controlled Clinical Trials: Adverse events from Table 4 occurring in at least 5% of nationts treated with the sustained-release formulation of bupropion and at a rate at least twice the placebo rate are listed below for the 300- and 400-mg/day

300 mg/day of the Sustained-Release Formulation: Anorexia, dry mouth, rash, sweating, tinnitus,

400 mg/day of the Sustained-Release Formulation: Abdominal pain, agitation, anxiety, dizziness, dry mouth, insomnia, myalgia, nausea, palpitation, pharyngitis, sweating, tinnitus, and

Other Events Observed During the Clinical Development and Postmarketing Experience of Bupropion: In addition to the adverse events noted above, the following events have been reported in clinical trials and postmarketing experience with the sustained-release formulation of bupropion in depressed patients and in nondepressed smokers, as well as in clinical trials and postmarketing clinical experi-

ence with the immediate-release formulation of bupropio Adverse events for which frequencies are provided below occurred in clinical trials with the sustained-release formulation of bupropion. The frequencies represent the proportion of patients who experienced a treatment-emergent adverse event on at least one occasion in placebo-controlled studies or depression (n = 987) or smoking cessation (n = 1,013), or patients who experienced an adverse event requiring discontinuation of treatment in an open-label surveillance study with the sustained release formulation of bupropion (n = 3,100). All treatment-emergent adverse events are included except those listed in Tables 1 through 4, those events listed in other safety-related sections, those adverse events subsumed under COSTART terms that are either overly general or excessively specific so as to be uninformative those events not reasonably associated with the use of the drug and hose events that were not serious and occurred in fewer than 2 patients. Events of major clinical

importance are described in the WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS sections of the labeling. vents are further categorized by body system and listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the following definitions of frequency: Frequent adverse events are defined as those occurring in at least 1/100 patients. Infrequent adverse events are those occurring in 1/100 to 1/1,000 patients.

while rare events are those occurring in less than 1/1,000 patients. Adverse events for which frequencies are not provided occurred in clinical trials or postmarketing experience with bupropion. Only those adverse events not previously listed for sustained-release bupropion are included. The extent to which these events may be associated with WELLBUTRIN XL

Body (General): Infrequent were chills, facial edema, musculoskeletal chest pain, and photosensitivity. Rare was malaise. Also observed were arthralgia, myalgia, and fever with rash and other symptoms suggestive of delayed hypersensitivity. These symptoms may resemble serum sickness

Cardiovascular: Infrequent were postural hypotension, stroke, tachycardia, and vasodilation Rare was syncope. Also observed were complete atrioventricular block, extrasystoles, hypoter hypertension (in some cases severe, see PRECAUTIONS), myocardial infarction, phlebitis, and pul-

inal perforation, liver damage, pancreatitis, and stomach ulcer.

Digestive: Infrequent were abnormal liver function, bruxism, gastric reflux, gingivitis, glossitis ncreased salivation, jaundice, mouth ulcers, stomatitis, and thirst. Rare was edema of tongue. Also observed were colitis, esophagitis, gastrointestinal hemorrhage, gum hemorrhage, hepatitis, intes-

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-

Endocrine: Also observed were hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia, and syndrome of inappropriate

Hemic and Lymphatic: Infrequent was ecchymosis. Also observed were anemia. leukocytosis leukopenia, lymphadenopathy, pancytopenia, and thrombocytopenia. Altered PT and/or INR, infrequently associated with hemorrhagic or thrombotic complications, were observed when bupropion

Metabolic and Nutritional: Infrequent were edema and peripheral edema. Also observed

Musculoskeletal: Infrequent were leg cramps. Also observed were muscle rigidity/fever/rhabdomyolysis and muscle weakness.

Nervous System: Infrequent were abnormal coordination, decreased libido, depersonalization, dysphoria, emotional lability, hostility, hyperkinesia, hypertonia, hypesthesia, suicidal ideation, and vertigo, Rare were amnesia, ataxia, derealization, and hypomania, Also observed were abnormal elecroencephalogram (EEG), akinesia, aphasia, coma, delirium, dysarthria, dyskinesia, dystonia, euphoria, extrapyramidal syndrome, hallucinations, hypokinesia, increased libido, manic reaction, neuralgia, neuro-

pathy, paranoid reaction, and unmasking tardive dyskinesia. atory: Rare was bronchospasm. Also observed was pneumonia Skin: Rare was maculopapular rash. Also observed were alopecia, angioedema, exfoliative dermatitis,

Special Senses: Infrequent were accommodation abnormality and dry eye. Also observed were deafness, diplopia, and mydriasis.

Urogenital: Infrequent were impotence, polyuria, and prostate disorder. Also observed were abnormal ejaculation, cystitis, dyspareunia, dysuria, gynecomastia, menopause, painful erection, salpingitis, urinary incontinence, urinary retention, and vaginitis.

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Controlled Substance Class: Bupropion is not a controlled substance. Humans: Controlled clinical studies of hupronion (immediate-release formulation) conducted in nor mal volunteers, in subjects with a history of multiple drug abuse, and in depressed patients showed

some increase in motor activity and agitation/excit In a population of individuals experienced with drugs of abuse, a single dose of 400 mg of bupropion produced mild amphetamine-like activity as compared to placebo on the Morphine-Benzedrine Subscale of the Addiction Research Center Inventories (ARCI), and a score intermediate between placebo and amphetamine on the Liking Scale of the ARCI. These scales measure general feelings of euphoria and drug desirability.

Findings in clinical trials, however, are not known to reliably predict the abuse potential of drugs Nonetheless, evidence from single-dose studies does suggest that the recommended daily dosage of burronion when administered in divided doses is not likely to be especially reinforcing to ampheta mine or stimulant abusers. However, higher doses that could not be tested because of the risk of

seizure might be modestly attractive to those who abuse stimulant drugs.

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

Human Overdose Experience: There has been very limited experience with overdosage of the susrelease formulation of bupropion (WELLBUTRIN SR Tablets); 3 cases were reported during clinical trials. One patient ingested 3,000 mg of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion and vomited quickly after the overdose; the patient experienced blurred vision and lightheadedness. A second patient ingested a "handful" of WELLBUTRIN SR Tablets (the sustained-release formulation ienced confusion, lethargy, nausea, jitteriness, and seizure. A third patient ingested 3,600 mg of the sustained-release formulation of bupropion and a bottle of wine; the patient experienced nausea al hallucinations, and "grogginess." None of the patients experienced further sequelae.

There has been extensive experience with overdosage of the immediate-release formulation of bupro-. Thirteen overdoses occurred during clinical trials. Twelve patients ingested 850 to 4,200 mg and recovered without significant sequelae. Another patient who ingested 9,000 mg of the immediate release formulation of bupropion and 300 mg of tranylcypromine experienced a grand mal seizure and recovered without further sequelae

introduction, overdoses of up to 17,500 mg of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion have been reported. Seizure was reported in approximately one third of all cases. Other serious actions reported with overdoses of the immediate-release formulation of bupropion alone include hallucinations, loss of consciousness, and sinus tachycardia. Fever, muscle rigidity, rhahdomyolysis sion, stupor, coma, and respiratory failure have been reported when the immediate-release formulation of bupropion was part of multiple drug overdoses.

Although most patients recovered without sequelae, deaths associated with overdoses of the immediate-release formulation of hunronion alone have been reported rarely in patients ingesting assive doses of the drug. Multiple uncontrolled seizures, bradycardia, cardiac failure, and cardiac arrest prior to death were reported in these patients.

rdosage Management: Ensure an adequate airway, oxygenation, and ventilation. Monitor cardiac rhythm and vital signs. EEG monitoring is also recommended for the first 48 hours post-ingestion General supportive and symptomatic measures are also recommended. Induction of emesis is not

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recommended. Gastric lavage with a large-bore orogastric tube with appropriate airway protection needed, may be indicated if performed soon after ingestion or in symptomatic patient Activated charcoal should be administered. There is no experience with the use of forced diuresis

dialysis, hemoperfusion, or exchange transfusion in the management of bupropion overdoses. No specific antidotes for bupropion are known. Due to the dose-related risk of seizures with WELLBUTRIN XL, hospitalization following suspected

overdose should be considered. Based on studies in animals, it is recommended that seizures be reated with intravenous benzodiazepine administration and other supportive measures, as appropriate. In managing overdosage, consider the possibility of multiple drug involvement. The physician should consider contacting a poison control center for additional information on the treatment of any overdose. Telephone numbers for certified poison control centers are listed in the Physicians' Desk

General Dosing Considerations: It is particularly important to administer WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets in a manner most likely to minimize the risk of seizure (see WARNINGS), Gradual escalation in dosage is also important if agitation, motor restlessness, and insomnia, often seen during the initial days of treatment, are to be minimized. If necessary, these effects may be managed by temporary reduction of dose or the short-term administration of an intermediate to long-acting sedative hypnotic. A seda tive hypnotic usually is not required beyond the first week of treatment. Insomnia may also be minimized by avoiding bedtime doses. If distressing, untoward effects supervene, dose escalation shoul be stopped. WELLBUTRIN XL should be swallowed whole and not crushed, divided, or chewed.

WELLBUTRIN XL may be taken without regard to meals.

Initial Treatment: The usual adult target dose for WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets is 300 mg/day, given once daily in the morning. Dosing with WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets should begin at 150 mg/day given as a single daily dose in the morning. If the 150-mg initial dose is adequately tolerated, an increas o the 300-mg/day target dose, given as once daily, may be made as early as day 4 of dosing. There should be an interval of at least 24 hours between successive doses.

Increasing the Dosage Above 300 mg/day: As with other antidepressants, the full antidepressant effect of WELLBUTRIN XL Tablets may not be evident until 4 weeks of treatment or longer. An increase in dosage to the maximum of 450 mg/day, given as a single dose, may be considered for patients in whom no clinical improvement is noted after several weeks of treatment at 300 mg/day. Switching Patients from WELLBUTRIN Tablets or from WELLBUTRIN SR Sustained-Release Ťabléts: When switching patients from WELLBUTRIN Tablets to WELLBUTRIN XL or from WELLBUTRIN SP Sustained-Release Tablets to WELLBUTRIN XL, give the same total daily dose when possible. Patients who are currently being treated with WELLBUTRIN Tablets at 300 mg/day (for example, 100 mg 3 times a day) may be switched to WELLBUTRIN XL 300 mg once daily. Patients who are currently being treated with WELLBUTRIN SR Sustained-Release Tablets at 300 mg/day (for example, 150 mg twice) may be switched to WELLBUTRIN XL 300 mg once daily.

Maintenance Treatment: It is generally agreed that acute episodes of depression require several months or longer of sustained pharmacological therapy beyond response to the acute episode. It is unknown whether or not the dose of WELLBUTRIN XL needed for maintenance treatment is identical to the dose needed to achieve an initial response. Patients should be periodically reassessed to etermine the need for maintenance treatment and the appropriate dose for such treatment Dosage Adjustment for Patients With Impaired Hepatic Function: WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with extreme caution in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis. The dose should not exceed 150 mg

every other day in these patients. WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with caution in patients with hepatic impairment (including mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis) and a reduced frequency and/or e should be considered in patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis (see CLINICAL PHAR-MACOLOGY, WARNINGS, and PRECAUTIONS Dosage Adjustment for Patients With Impaired Renal Function: WELLBUTRIN XL should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment and a reduced frequency and/or dose should be con-

sidered (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and PRECAUTIONS)

WELLBUTRIN XI. Extended-Release Tablets, 150 mg of hunronion hydrochloride, are to pale yellow, round, tablets printed with "WELLBUTRIN XL 150" in bottles of 30 (NDC 0173-0730-01) and 90 (NDC 0173-0730-02) tablets.

WELLBUTRIN XL Extended-Release Tablets, 300 mg of bupropion hydrochloride, are creamy-white to pale yellow, round, tablets printed with "WELLBUTRIN XL 300" in bottles of 30 tablets (NDC 0173-

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

WELLBUTRIN XL® (WELL byu-trin) propion hydrochloride extended-releasé tablet

bout Using Antidepressants in Children and Teenage

What is the most important information I should know if my child is being prescribed

Parents or quardians need to think about 4 important things when their child is prescribed

There is a risk of suicidal thoughts or actions

2. How to try to prevent suicidal thoughts or actions in your child

WELLBUTRIN XL® (bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets)

3. You should watch for certain signs if your child is taking an antidepressant There are benefits and risks when using antidepressants

1. There is a Risk of Suicidal Thoughts or Actions

Children and teenagers sometimes think about suicide, and many report trying to kill themselves

pressants increase suicidal thoughts and actions in some children and teenagers. But suicidal thoughts and actions can also be caused by depression, a serious medical condition that is commonly treated with antidepressants. Thinking about killing yourself or trying to kill yourself is called suicidality or being suicidal.

A large study combined the results of 24 different studies of children and teenagers with depression or other illnesses. In these studies, patients took either a placebo (sugar pill) or an antidepressant for 1 to 4 months. No one committed suicide in these studies, but some nationts became suicidal 0 sugar pills, 2 out of every 100 became suicidal. On the antidepressants, 4 out of every 100 patients

For some children and teenagers, the risks of suicidal actions may be especially high. These include natients with

Bipolar illness (sometimes called manic-depressive illness).

. A family history of bipolar illness A personal or family history of attempting suicide.

If any of these are present, make sure you tell your healthcare provider before your child takes

2. How to Try to Prevent Suicidal Thoughts and Actions

To try to prevent suicidal thoughts and actions in your child, pay close attention to changes in her or his moods or actions, especially if the changes occur suddenly. Other important people in your child's life can help by paying attention as well (e.g., your child, brothers and sisters, teachers, and other important people). The changes to look out for are listed in Section 3, on what to watch for.

Whenever an antidepressant is started or its dose is changed, pay close attention to your child

After starting an antidepressant, your child should generally see his or her healthcare provider:

Once a week for the first 4 weeks

. Every 2 weeks for the next 4 weeks

 After taking the antidepressant for 12 weeks • After 12 weeks, follow your healthcare provider's advice about how often to come back More often if problems or questions arise (see Section 3)

You should call your child's healthcare provider between visits if needed

3. You Should Watch For Certain Signs if Your Child is Taking an Antidepressant

Contact your child's healthcare provider right away if your child exhibits any of the following signs for the first time, or they seem worse, or worry you, your child, or your child's teacher:

 Thoughts about suicide or dying Attempts to commit suicide

. New or worse depression

. New or worse anxiety Feeling very agitated or restless.

Difficulty sleeping (insomnia)

New or worse irritability

Acting aggressive, being angry, or violent

Acting on dangerous impulses

An extreme increase in activity and talking

• Other unusual changes in behavior or mood Never let your child stop taking an antidepressant without first talking to his or her healthcare provider. Stopping an antidepressant suddenly can cause other symptoms.

4. There are Benefits and Risks When Using Antidepressants

Antidepressants are used to treat depression and other illnesses. Depression and other illnesses can lead to suicide. In some children and teenagers, treatment with an antidepressant increases suicidal thinking or actions. It is important to discuss all the risks of treating depression and also the risks of not treating it. You and your child should discuss all treatment choices with your healthcare provider

Other side effects can occur with antidepressants (see section below)

WELLBUTRIN XL® (bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets)

Of all antidepressants, only fluoxetine (Prozac®)* has been FDA approved to treat pediatric depression. For obsessive compulsive disorder in children and teenagers, FDA has approved only fluoxetine

(Prozac®)*, sertraline (Zoloft®)*, fluvoxamine, and clomipramine (Anafranil®) Your healthcare provider may suggest other antidepressants based on the past experience of your

child or other family members. Is this all I need to know if my child is being prescribed an antidepressant?

No. This is a warning about the risk of suicidality. Other side effects can occur with antidepressants Be sure to ask your healthcare provider to explain all the side effects of the particular drug he or she is prescribing. Also ask about drugs to avoid when taking an antidepressant. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist where to find more information.

The following are registered trademarks of their respective manufacturers: Prozac®/Eli Lilly and Company: Zoloft®/Pfizer Pharmaceuticals: Anafranil®/Mallinckrodt Inc

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PHARMACIST—DETACH HERE AND GIVE LEAFLET TO PATIENT. ALSO PROVIDE AN APPROVED MEDICATION GUIDE ABOUT USING ANTIDEPRESSANTS IN CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

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