

## **Anagrelide 0.5 mg Hard Capsules**

### **Package leaflet: Information for the patient**

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet**

- 1. What Anagrelide Hard Capsules are and what they are used for**
- 2. What you need to know before you take Anagrelide Hard Capsules**
- 3. How to take Anagrelide Hard Capsules**
- 4. Possible side effects**
- 5. How to store Anagrelide Hard Capsules**
- 6. Contents of the pack and other information**

#### **1. What Anagrelide Hard Capsules are and what they are used for**

Anagrelide Hard Capsules contains the active substance, anagrelide. Anagrelide is a medicine which interferes with the development of platelets. It reduces the number of platelets produced by the bone marrow, which results in a decrease in the platelet count in the blood towards a more normal level. For this reason it is used to treat patients with essential thrombocythaemia.

Essential thrombocythaemia is a condition which occurs when the bone marrow produces too many of the blood cells known as platelets. Large numbers of platelets in the blood can cause serious problems with blood circulation and clotting.

#### **2. What you need to know before you take Anagrelide**

##### **Do not take Anagrelide Hard Capsules:**

- if you are allergic to anagrelide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). An allergic reaction may be recognised as a rash, itching, swollen face or lips, or shortness of breath.
- if you have moderate or severe liver problems
- if you have moderate or severe kidney problems.

##### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor before taking Anagrelide:

- if you have or think you might have a problem with your heart
- if you were born with or have family history of prolonged QT interval (seen on ECG, electrical recording of the heart), or you are taking other medicines that result in abnormal ECG changes or if you have low levels of electrolytes e.g. potassium, magnesium or calcium (see section "Other medicines and Anagrelide Hard Capsules")
- if you have any problems with your liver or kidneys.

In combination with acetylsalicylic acid (a substance present in many medicines used to relieve pain and lower fever, as well as to prevent blood clotting, also known as aspirin), there is an increased risk of major haemorrhages (bleeding) (see section "Other medicines and Anagrelide Hard Capsules").

### **Children and adolescents**

There is limited information on the use of Anagrelide in children and adolescents and therefore this medicine should be used with caution.

### **Other medicines and Anagrelide Hard Capsules**

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

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

- medicines that can alter your heart rhythm e.g. sotalol, amiodarone
- fluvoxamine, used to treat depression
- certain types of antibiotic, such as enoxacin, used to treat infections
- theophylline, used to treat severe asthma and breathing problems
- medicines used to treat heart disorders, for example, milrinone, enoximone, amrinone, olprinone and cilostazol
- acetylsalicylic acid (a substance present in many medicines used to relieve pain and lower fever, as well as to prevent blood clotting, also known as aspirin)
- other medicines used to treat conditions affecting the platelets in your blood, e.g. clopidogrel
- omeprazole, used to reduce the amount of acid produced in the stomach
- oral contraceptives: if you experience bad diarrhoea whilst taking this medicine, it may reduce how well the oral contraceptive works and use of an extra method of contraception is recommended (e.g. condom). See the instructions in the patient leaflet of the contraceptive pill you are taking.

Anagrelide or these medicines may not work properly if taken together.

If you are not sure, speak to your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. Anagrelide should not be taken by pregnant women. Women who are at risk of becoming pregnant should make sure that they are using effective contraception when taking Anagrelide. Speak to your doctor if you need advice with contraception.

Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or if you are planning to breast-feed your baby. Anagrelide should not be taken while breast-feeding. You **must stop** breast-feeding if you are taking Anagrelide.

### **Driving and using machines**

Dizziness has been reported by some patients taking Anagrelide. **Do not** drive or use machines if you feel dizzy.

### **Important information about some of the ingredients of Anagrelide Hard Capsules**

#### **Anagrelide Hard Capsules contains lactose**

If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23mg) per hard capsule, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

### 3. How to take Anagrelide Hard Capsules

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

The amount of Anagrelide that people take can be different, and this depends on your condition. Your doctor will prescribe the best dose for you.

The usual starting dose of Anagrelide is 1 mg. You take this dose as one capsule of 0.5 mg twice a day, for at least a week. After this time, your doctor may either increase or decrease the number of capsules that you take to find the dose best suited to you and which treats your condition most effectively.

Your capsules should be swallowed whole with a glass of water. **Do not** crush the capsules or dilute the contents in a liquid. You can take the capsules with food or after a meal or on an empty stomach. It is best to take the capsule(s) at the same time every day.

**Do not** take more capsules than your doctor has recommended.

Your doctor will ask you to have blood tests at regular intervals to check that your medicine is working effectively and that your liver and kidneys are working well.

#### **If you take more Anagrelide Hard Capsules than you should**

If you take more Anagrelide than you should or if someone else has taken your medicine, tell a doctor or pharmacist **immediately**. Show them the pack of Anagrelide.

#### **If you forget to take Anagrelide Hard Capsules**

Take your capsules as soon as you remember. Take your next dose at the usual time. **Do not** take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

### 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. If you are worried, speak to your doctor.

#### **Serious side effects:**

**Uncommon:** Heart failure (signs include shortness of breath, chest pain, swelling of the legs due to fluid build-up), severe problem with the rate or rhythm of the heart beat (ventricular tachycardia, supraventricular tachycardia or atrial fibrillation), inflammation of the pancreas which causes severe abdominal and back pain (pancreatitis), vomiting blood or passing bloody or black stools, severe reduction in blood cells which can cause weakness, bruising, bleeding or infections (pancytopenia), pulmonary hypertension (signs include shortness of breath, swelling in legs or ankles, and lips and skin can turn bluish colour).

**Rare:** Kidney failure (when you pass little or no urine), heart attack.

**If you notice any of these side effects, contact your doctor immediately.**

**Very common side effects: may affect more than 1 in 10 people**  
Headache.

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

Dizziness, tiredness, rapid heart beat, irregular or strong heartbeat (palpitations), feeling sick (nausea), diarrhoea, stomach pain, wind, being sick (vomiting), reduction in red blood cell count (anaemia), fluid retention or rash.

**Uncommon side effects: may affect up to 1 in 100 people**

A feeling of weakness or feeling unwell, high blood pressure, irregular heart beat, fainting, chills or fever, indigestion, loss of appetite, constipation, bruising, bleeding, swelling (oedema), weight loss, muscle aches, painful joints, back pain, decreased or loss of feeling or sensation such as numbness, especially in the skin, abnormal feeling or sensation such as tingling and 'pins and needles', sleeplessness, depression, confusion, nervousness, dry mouth, loss of memory, breathlessness, nosebleed, serious lung infection with fever, shortness of breath, cough, phlegm, hair loss, skin itching or discolouration, impotence, chest pain, reduction in blood platelets, which increases the risk of bleeding or bruising (thrombocytopenia), accumulation of fluid around the lungs or an increase in liver enzymes. Your doctor may do a blood test which may show an increase in your liver enzymes.

**Rare side effects: may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people**

Bleeding gums, weight gain, severe chest pain (angina pectoris), Prinzmetal angina, heart muscle disease (signs include fatigue, chest pain and palpitations), enlarged heart, accumulation of fluid around the heart, loss of coordination, difficulty in speaking, dry skin, migraine, visual disturbances or double vision, ringing in the ears, dizziness on standing up (especially when getting up from a sitting or lying position), increased need to pass water at night, pain, 'flu-like' symptoms, sleepiness, widening of blood vessels, inflammation of the large bowel (signs include: diarrhoea, usually with blood and mucus, stomach pain, fever), inflammation of the stomach (signs include: pain, nausea, vomiting), area of abnormal density in the lung, increased creatinine level in blood tests, which may be a sign of kidney problems.

**The following side effects have been reported but it is not known exactly how often they occur:**

- potentially life-threatening, irregular heart beat (torsade de pointes)
- inflammation of the liver, symptoms include nausea, vomiting, itching, yellowing of the skin and eyes, discolouration of stool and urine (hepatitis)
- lung inflammation (signs include fever, coughing, difficulty breathing, wheezing; which causes scarring of the lungs) (allergic alveolitis, including interstitial lung disease, pneumonitis)
- inflammation of the kidneys (tubulointerstitial nephritis).

**Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

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

**5. How to store Anagrelide Hard Capsules**

**Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.**

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and bottle after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 30°C.

Store in the original package in order to protect from light and moisture.

If your doctor stops your medicine, do not keep any leftover capsules unless your doctor tells you to. Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Anagrelide Hard Capsules contains**

The active substance is anagrelide. Each capsule contains 0.5 mg of anagrelide (as anagrelide hydrochloride monohydrate).

### **The other ingredients are:**

Capsule contents: lactose monohydrate; croscarmellose sodium; povidone K 29/32; lactose; cellulose, microcrystalline and magnesium stearate (see section 2, "Anagrelide Hard Capsules contains lactose").  
Capsule shell: gelatin and titanium dioxide (E171).

### **What Anagrelide Hard Capsules looks like and contents of the pack**

Anagrelide is supplied as opaque white hard capsules which are approximately 14.3 mm in length. The capsules are provided in bottles containing 42 and 100 hard capsules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

TEVA UK Limited, Eastbourne, BN22 9AG, UK

### **Manufacturer**

Synthon Hispania, S.L., C/ Castelló, nº1, Pol. Las Salinas, Sant Boi de Llobregat, Barcelona 08830, Spain

OR\*

Synthon B.V., Microweg 22, Nijmegen 6545CM, Netherlands

**This leaflet was last revised in April 2022.**

PL 00289/2091

*\*Only the actual site of batch release will appear on the printed version of the leaflet.*