

Charcodote®

(Activated Charcoal)

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- 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 Charcodote is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you are given Charcodote
3. How Charcodote is given to you
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Charcodote
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1 What Charcodote is and what it is used for

Charcodote is suspension containing the active ingredient activated charcoal.

Charcodote is used as an emergency treatment for acute oral poisoning or drug overdose. It works by absorbing the drugs or toxic substances so reducing their absorption into the blood or helping to eliminate them from the body. Charcodote itself is not absorbed into the blood and passes through the gut unchanged.

Charcodote is usually taken under medical supervision.

2 What you need to know before you are given Charcodote

Do not take Charcodote:

Charcodote should not be used unless the patient is fully conscious.

Other medicines and Charcodote

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

If you know what poison has been taken, tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse immediately. Charcodote is effective in most cases, but not generally used if the poison is one of the following:

- Alcohol
- Turpentine
- Corrosives such as alkalis, bleach and strong acids
- Petrol
- Paint thinner and other solvents
- Cleaning fluid
- Furniture polish
- Iron salts
- Insecticides such as malathion and DDT

You should not take Charcodote if you have taken a medicine to make you sick or an oral antidote such as methionine as they will be absorbed by Charcodote.

Charcodote may obscure endoscopic visualisation of oesophageal and gastric lesions produced by the toxin and so will render difficult any immediate endoscopy that may be required.

A laxative is often administered with Charcodote to hasten the removal of the poison and charcoal, which may result in diarrhoea.

Charcodote may stain if spilt.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant, breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking this medicine.

Driving and using machines

Charcodote should not affect your ability to drive or operate machines.

3 How Charcodote is given to you

If a doctor has prescribed Charcodote for you, you should follow his/her instructions. Charcodote can be taken after vomiting or after having a stomach pump. It may be given by tube into the stomach, under medical supervision only.

Adults and Children over 12 years of age:

The usual adult dose is 50g (one standard treatment pack), taken as soon as possible after ingestion of poison, repeated if necessary. For multiple dose therapy, 25-50 grams of activated charcoal every 4-6 hours.

Children between 1-12 years of age:

Children between 1-12 years should be given 25g (half the contents of the 50g bottle after it

has been made up with water) unless there is a risk to life, in which case a dose of 50g is recommended, taken as soon as possible after ingestion of the poison, repeated if necessary. The dose is given usually under medical supervision. For multiple dose therapy, the dose may be repeated every 4-6 hours.

Children under 1 year of age:

Dose is calculated according to body weight. For single dose therapy, 1g or 5ml per kg bodyweight taken as soon as possible after ingestion of poison. For multiple dose therapy, the dose may be repeated every 4-6 hours.

If the poison has diuretic properties (i.e. increases urine output) or has been taken with alcohol, plenty of fluid should be drunk after taking Charcodote.

Method of Administration

Charcodote should be swallowed as a suspension. Charcodote should be taken as soon as possible after the potential poison has been swallowed. It is important to take the whole dose.

Do not exceed the recommended dose.

Remember to tell any doctor or pharmacist who is giving you advice about other medical conditions that you have taken Charcodote. If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4 Possible side effects

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

The following side effects have been reported:

- constipation
- vomiting
- diarrhoea.

Rarely, patients may experience

- blockage or perforation of the intestine have been associated with multiple dosing with activated charcoal.

Activated charcoal will usually produce black stools.

Accidental inhalation of the medicine into the lungs, can cause lung damage/produce airways obstruction.

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 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 Charcodote

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. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 25 °C. Do not freeze. Use immediately upon opening.

Any remaining unused Charcodote should be discarded after the first use.

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 Charcodote contains

The active substance is activated charcoal 200 mg/ml

The other ingredient is purified water.

What Charcodote looks like and contents of the pack

Plastic bottles with screw cap. Each bottle contains 250 ml (50 g activated charcoal).

Marketing Authorisation Holder:

Teva UK Limited, Ridings Point, Whistler Drive, Castleford, WF10 5HX, United Kingdom

Manufacturer:

Norit Nederland B.V., Mr. Ovingkanaal O.Z.3, 7891 EV Klazienaveen, The Netherlands.

This leaflet was last revised in June 2023.

PL 00289/1489

103393_S1

The logo for Teva, featuring the word "teva" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'v' is stylized with a green leaf-like shape integrated into its right side.