

to radioiodine administration for thyroid carcinoma to ensure adequate uptake. The administration of recombinant human thyrotropin (rhTSH) is possible, for the same purpose.

Similarly, the administration of antithyroid drugs should be stopped during the treatment of hyperthyroidism with sodium iodide (¹³¹I).

After the procedure

Patients exposed to high therapeutic doses of ¹³¹I need to be hospitalized because of high radiological risk. The necessity of hospitalization is regulated by specified national law.

In order to reduce the absorbed radiation dose to the bladder walls (after high doses used e.g. in thyroid tumours treatment), the patient should be encouraged to increase oral fluid intake and to frequent bladder emptying.

Contraception for at least 4 months is recommended for both sexes after sodium iodide [¹³¹I] therapy.

For radioprotection reasons following therapeutic doses, it is recommended to avoid close contact between patient and other people (especially children and pregnant women) for the period defined in appropriate regulations.

Specific warnings

This medicinal product contains from 1.2 to 1.3 mg of sodium per milliliter. This should be taken into account in patients on a low sodium diet.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Many pharmacological agents are known to interact with iodide. These may do so by a variety of mechanisms which can affect the protein binding, the pharmacokinetics or influence the dynamic effects of labelled iodide. It is therefore necessary to take a full drug history and ascertain whether any medications are required to be withheld prior to the administration of sodium iodide [¹³¹I].

For example, the treatment with the following substances should be discontinued:

Active substances	Period of rest before administration of sodium iodide [¹³¹ I]
Antithyroid agents (e.g. carbimazole, methimazole, propyluracil), perchlorate	2 – 5 days before starting diagnosis or treatment
Salicylates (large doses), steroids, sodium nitroprusside, nitrates, sodium sulfobromophthalein, oral anticoagulants, antihistamines, antiparasitics, penicillins, sulphonamides, tolbutamide, thiocyanate, thiopental	1 week
Phenylbutazone	1 – 2 weeks
Iodine-containing expectorants and vitamins	4 weeks
Liothyronine	2 weeks
Levothyroxine	4 weeks
Amiodarone	3 – 6 months
Iodine-containing preparations for topical use	1 – 9 months
Water-soluble iodine-containing contrast media	1– 2 months
Lipophilic iodine-containing contrast media	3 – 6 months

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Women of childbearing potential

When an administration of radiopharmaceuticals to a woman of childbearing potential is intended, it is important to determine whether or not she is pregnant. Any woman who has missed a period should be assumed to be pregnant until proven otherwise. If in doubt about her potential pregnancy (if the woman has missed a period, if the period is very irregular, etc.), alternative techniques not using ionising radiation (if there are any) should be offered to the patient.

Contraception for at least 4 months is recommended for both sexes after sodium iodide [¹³¹I] therapy. After the administration of higher activity of the sodium iodide [¹³¹I] for diagnostic purposes in patients with differentiated thyroid carcinoma, the contraception can also be considered for a similar period of time.

Pregnancy

Sodium iodide [¹³¹I] is contraindicated during established or suspected pregnancy or when pregnancy has not been excluded. The absorbed dose to the uterus is likely to be in the range 11 - 511 mGy, and the foetal thyroid gland avidly concentrates iodine during the second and third trimesters.

Should differentiated thyroid carcinoma be diagnosed during pregnancy, radioiodine treatment should be postponed until after the pregnancy.

Breastfeeding

Before administering a radioactive medicinal product to a mother who is breastfeeding consideration should be given to the possibility of delaying the

administration of radionuclide until the mother has ceased breastfeeding and as to whether the most appropriate choice of radiopharmaceutical has been made. If the administration is considered necessary, breastfeeding should be interrupted indefinitely after sodium iodide [¹³¹I] administration.

Fertility

Treatment of thyroid cancer with radioiodine may cause impairment of fertility in men and women.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No data.

4.8. Undesirable effects

For each patient, the radiation exposure must be justifiable by the likely benefit. The frequencies of undesirable effects presented in the table below are defined as follows:

Very common (≥ 1/10), common (≥ 1/100 to < 1/10), uncommon (≥ 1/1,000 to < 1/100), rare (≥ 1/10,000 to < 1/1,000), very rare (< 1/10,000) and frequency not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

Undesirable effects after diagnostic doses:

Immune system disorders: Frequency not known	Hypersensitivity reactions
Gastrointestinal disorders: Frequency not known	Nausea, vomiting
Congenital, familial and genetic disorders: Frequency not known	Congenital thyroid disorders

Exposure to ionising radiation is linked with cancer induction and a potential for development of hereditary defects. For diagnostic nuclear medicine investigations the current statistical evidence suggests that these adverse events are expected to occur with a low probability.

Undesirable effects after therapeutic doses:

Blood and the lymphatic system disorders Frequency not known:	Bone marrow suppression, including serious thrombocytopenia, erythrocytopenia and/or leukopenia
Eye disorders Uncommon:	Sicca syndrome, acquired dacryostenosis
Frequency not known:	Endocrine opthalmopathy
Gastrointestinal disorders Very common:	Transient or persistent sialadenitis, including dry mouth, nausea
Rare:	Vomiting
Endocrine disorders Very common:	Hypothyroidism
Frequency not known:	Aggravated hyperthyroidism, Basedow's (Graves') disease, hypoparathyroidism, hyperparathyroidism
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts and polyps) Uncommon:	Leukaemia
Frequency not known:	Gastric cancer, bladder and breast cancer
Immune system disorders Frequency not known:	Hypersensitivity
Reproductive system and breast disorders Frequency not known:	Impairment of fertility in men and women
Congenital, familial and genetic disorders Frequency not known:	Congenital thyroid disorders
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications Very common:	Radiation injury, including radiation thyroiditis, radiation associated pain
Rare:	Tracheal obstruction

Early consequences

Occurrence of radiation caused pneumonia and lung fibrosis has been described in patients with lung metastases.

In the treatment of metastasizing thyroid carcinomas with central nervous system (CNS) involvement, the possibility of local cerebral oedema and/or an increasing of existing cerebral oedema must also be borne in mind.

Late consequences

Dose dependent hypothyroidism may occur as a late consequence of radioiodine treatment of hyperthyroidism. This may manifest itself weeks or years after treatment, requiring suitable timed measurement of thyroid function and appropriate thyroid replacement therapy. Hypothyroidism generally is not seen until 6 - 12 weeks after therapy.

Malfunction of the salivary and/or lacrimal glands with resulting sicca syndrome may also appear with a delay of several months and up to two years after radioiodine therapy. Epiphora due to nasolacrimal duct obstruction is mostly appearing 3 - 16 months after the radioiodine treatment. In a literature report, carcinoma of the salivary glands has been described following radioiodine-induced sialadenitis.

As a late consequence, reversible or in very rare cases irreversible bone marrow depression may develop, presenting with isolated thrombocytopenia or erythrocytopenia, which may be fatal. Bone marrow depression is more likely to occur after one single administration of more than 5000 MBq or after repeat administration in intervals below 6 months.

Radiotherapy of thyroid carcinoma can lead to an impairment of fertility in men and women. A dose-dependent, reversible impairment of spermatogenesis has been proven starting at doses of 1850 MBq; clinically relevant effects including oligospermia and azoospermia, and increased serum FSH values have been described after use of more than 3700 MBq of iodine-131.

The radiation dose resulting from therapeutic exposure may result in higher incidence of cancer and mutations. In all cases it is necessary to ensure that the risk of the radiation is less than from the disease itself.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system. Adverse reactions may be reported to Marketing Authorisation Holder.

4.9. Overdose

This product is supplied as a solution of known radioactivity, what facilitates control of the dose administered to the patient. In the event of administration of a radiation overdose, the absorbed dose to the patient should be reduced where possible by increasing the elimination of the radionuclide from the body by forced diuresis and frequent bladder voiding. High radiation exposure through sodium iodide [¹³¹I] overdose can be also reduced by the use of emetics and by the administration of thyroid blocking agents, such as potassium perchlorate.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: various thyroid diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals, sodium iodide [¹³¹I]
ATC code: V09FX03
Pharmacotherapeutic group: therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals, Iodine [¹³¹I] compounds
ATC code: V 10X A01
Sodium iodide [¹³¹I], in the amount used for both diagnostic or therapeutic indications, is not known to have any pharmacological effect.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

After injection, about 20% of blood iodine is extracted in a single passage through the thyroid gland. Peak thyroid accumulation occurs within 24 - 48 hours of administration with about 50% of the maximum at 5 hours. This kinetic profile provides the rationale for the diagnostics procedures at 24 and 72 hours after administration.

Small amounts of sodium iodide [¹³¹I] are taken up by salivary glands, gastric mucosa and would also be localised in the placenta and choroid plexus and secreted in breast milk. The effective half-life of radioiodine in plasma is about 12 hours whereas that for radioiodine taken by the thyroid gland is about 6 days. Thus, after administration of sodium iodide [¹³¹I], approximately 40% of the activity has an effective half-life of 0.4 days and the remaining 60%, 8 days. Urinary excretion is 37 - 75%; faecal excretion is about 10% with almost negligible excretion in sweat.

The ¹³¹I⁻ ion accumulates in the thyroid due to active transportation through the gland's cell membranes. Iodide is then oxidized in the thyroid into iodine

and incorporated into thyroglobulin tyrosyl residues. Under normal conditions, every hour approximately 2% of free circulating radioactive iodine is absorbed in the thyroid gland.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Because of the small quantities of substance administered compared with the normal food intake of iodine (40 - 500 µg/day) no acute toxicity is expected or observed.

There are no data available neither on the toxicity of repeated doses of sodium iodide [¹³¹I] or on its effects on reproduction in animals or its mutagenic or carcinogenic potential.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Sodium carbonate
Sodium hydrogen carbonate
Sodium thiosulphate pentahydrate
Sodium chloride
Water for injections

6.2 Incompatibilities

In the absence of compatibility studies, this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

6.3 Shelf life

28 days from the production date.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 25°C.

Store in original lead shielding container.

Storage of radiopharmaceuticals should be in accordance with national regulations on radioactive materials.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

The 10 ml glass vial (type I) closed with a rubber stopper and aluminum cap and placed in a shielding lead container.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

Radiopharmaceuticals should be received, used and administered only by authorized persons in designated clinical settings. Their receipt, storage, use, transfer and disposal are subject to the regulations and/or appropriate licenses of the competent official organization.

Radiopharmaceuticals should be prepared in a manner which satisfies both radiation safety and pharmaceutical quality requirements. Appropriate aseptic precautions should be taken.

The administration of radiopharmaceuticals creates risks for other persons from external radiation or contamination from spill of urine, vomiting, etc. Radiation protection precautions in accordance with national regulations must therefore be taken.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

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8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

R/3271

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 09.01.1978

Date of latest renewal: 29.07.2013

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

08.02.2018

11. DOSIMETRY

Iodine ¹³¹I decays by emitting beta radiation of maximum energy of 606 keV and gamma radiation with the most significant gamma photon of energy 365 keV. Iodine-131 has a half-life of 8.02 days.

The radioactive dose absorbed by a patient depends on the ability of the thyroid gland to take up iodine.

For a 55% thyroid uptake of ¹³¹I, the effects of circulating organic iodine and recycled iodide are to increase the self doses to body organs other than thyroid, GI tract and bladder.