

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

SCHEDULING STATUS

S4

1. NAME OF MEDICINE

MELNOC XR 2 mg (Prolonged Release Tablets)

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each prolonged release tablet contains 2 mg melatonin.

Excipient with known effect:

Contains 90,00 mg of lactose monohydrate per tablet.

For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Prolonged Release Tablets.
White to off-white, round, biconvex shaped tablets.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

MELNOC XR 2 mg is indicated for the short term (3 weeks) treatment of primary insomnia characterised by poor quality of sleep in patients who are aged 55 years or over.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology
The recommended dose in patients 55 years and older is 2 mg once daily, 1 - 2 hours before bedtime and after food. The dosage may be continued for 3 weeks. Efficacy in patients younger than 55 years has not been demonstrated.

Paediatric use

MELNOC XR 2 mg is not recommended for use in children and adolescents below age 18 due to insufficient data on safety and efficacy.

Renal insufficiency

The effect of any stage of renal insufficiency on melatonin pharmacokinetics has not been studied.

Hepatic impairment

There is no experience with MELNOC XR 2 mg in patients with liver impairment. Data demonstrates markedly elevated endogenous melatonin levels during daytime hours due to decreased clearance in patients with hepatic impairment. Therefore, MELNOC XR 2 mg is not recommended for use in patients with hepatic impairment.

Method of administration

For oral use.
Tablets should be swallowed whole to maintain prolonged release properties. The tablet should not be crushed or chewed to facilitate swallowing. Tablets should be taken after a meal.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to melatonin or any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Autoimmune disease

No clinical data exist concerning the use of MELNOC XR 2 mg in individuals with autoimmune diseases. Therefore, MELNOC XR 2 mg is not recommended for use in patients with autoimmune diseases.

Excipients

MELNOC XR 2 mg contains lactose monohydrate. Patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp-lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take MELNOC XR 2 mg.

Paediatric population

MELNOC XR 2 mg is not recommended for use in children and adolescents below age 18 due to insufficient data on safety and efficacy.

4.5 Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

Interaction studies have only been performed in adults.

Pharmacokinetic interactions

Melatonin has been observed to induce CYP3A *in vitro* at supra-therapeutic concentrations. The clinical relevance of this finding is unknown. If induction occurs, this can give rise to reduced plasma concentrations of concomitantly administered medicines.

Melatonin does not induce CYP1A enzymes *in vitro* at supra-therapeutic concentrations. Therefore, interactions between melatonin and other active substances as a consequence of melatonin's effect on CYP1A enzymes are not likely to be significant.

Melatonin's metabolism is mainly mediated by CYP1A enzymes. Therefore, interactions between melatonin and other active substances as a consequence of their effect on CYP1A enzymes is possible.

Caution should be exercised in patients on fluvoxamine, which increases melatonin levels (17-fold higher AUC and a 12-fold higher serum C_{max}) by inhibiting its metabolism by hepatic cytochrome P450 (CYP) isoenzymes CYP1A2 and CYP2C19. The combination should be avoided.

Caution should be exercised in patients on 5- or 6-methoxypsoralen (5-MOP and 6-MOP), which increases melatonin levels, by inhibiting its metabolism.

Caution should be exercised in patients on cimetidine, a CYP2D inhibitor, which increases melatonin levels by inhibiting its metabolism.

Cigarette smoking may decrease melatonin levels due to induction of CYP1A2.

Melatonin should be exercised in patients on oestrogens (e.g., contraceptives or hormone replacement therapy), which increase melatonin levels by inhibiting its metabolism by CYP1A1 and CYP1A2.

CYP1A2 inhibitors such as quinolones may give rise to increased melatonin exposure.

CYP1A2 inducers such as carbamazepine and rifampicin may give rise to reduced plasma concentrations of melatonin.

There is a large amount of data available in the literature regarding the effect of adrenergic agonists/antagonists, opiate agonists/antagonists, antidepressants, prostaglandin inhibitors, benzodiazepines, tryptophan and alcohol, on endogenous melatonin secretion. Whether or not these active substances interfere with the dynamic or kinetic effects of MELNOC XR 2 mg or vice versa has not been studied.

Pharmacodynamic interactions

Alcohol should not be taken with MELNOC XR 2 mg, because it reduces the effectiveness of MELNOC XR 2 mg on sleep.

MELNOC XR 2 mg may enhance the sedative properties of benzodiazepines and nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics, such as zaleplon, zolpidem and zopiclone. In a clinical trial, there was clear evidence for a transitory pharmacodynamic interaction between melatonin and zolpidem one hour following co-dosing. Concomitant administration resulted in increased impairment of attention, memory and co-ordination compared to zolpidem alone.

MELNOC XR 2 mg has been co-administered in studies with thioridazine and imipramine. No clinically significant pharmacokinetic interactions were found. However, melatonin co-administration resulted in increased feelings of tranquility and difficulty in performing tasks compared to imipramine alone, and increased feelings of "muzzy-headedness" compared to thioridazine alone.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

Safety in pregnancy and lactation has not been established. There are no clinical data available on use in pregnancy. In view of the lack of clinical data, use in pregnant women and by women intending to become pregnant is not recommended.

Breastfeeding

Endogenous melatonin was measured in breast milk, thus exogenous melatonin is probably secreted into human milk. Therefore, breastfeeding is not recommended in women under treatment with melatonin.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Melatonin may cause drowsiness. Patients should avoid engaging in hazardous activities (such as driving or operating machinery) after taking MELNOC XR 2 mg (see section 4.8).

4.8 Undesirable effects

The following adverse reactions were reported in clinical trials and from post-marketing spontaneous reporting. Within each frequency grouping, undesirable effects are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

a. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions

System Organ Class	Frequency	Undesirable effect
Infections and infestations	<i>Less frequent</i>	Herpes zoster.
Blood and lymphatic disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Leukopenia, Thrombocytopenia.
Immune system disorders	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Hypersensitivity reaction.
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Hypertiglyceridaemia, Hypocalcaemia, Hyponatraemia.
Psychiatric disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Irritability, Nervousness, Restlessness, Insomnia, Abnormal dreams, Nightmares, Anxiety, Altered mood, Aggression, Agitation, Crying, Stress symptoms, Disorientation, Early morning awakening, Increased libido, Depressed mood, Depression.
Nervous system disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Migraine, Headache, Lethargy, Psychomotor, Hyperactivity, Dizziness, Somnolence, Syncope, Memory impairment, Disturbance in attention, Dreamy state, Restless legs, Poor quality sleep, Paraesthesia.
Eye disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Reduced visual acuity, Blurred vision, Increased lacrimation
Ear and labyrinth disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Positional vertigo, Vertigo.
Cardiac disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Angina pectoris, Palpitations.
Vascular disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Hypertension, Hot flushes.
Gastrointestinal disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Abdominal pain (upper), Abdominal discomfort, Gastritis, Dyspepsia, Mouth ulceration, Nausea, Constipation, Dry mouth, Gastrointestinal upset, Gastro-oesophageal reflux, Oral mucosal blistering, Tongue ulceration, Vomiting, Abnormal bowel sounds, Flatulence, Salivary hypersecretion, Halitosis.
Hepatobiliary disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Hyperbilirubinaemia.
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Dermatitis, Night sweats, Hyperhidrosis, Eczema, Erythema, Pruritic rash, Pruritus, Dry skin, Nail disorder, Night sweats, Hand dermatitis, Psoriasis.
	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Angioedema, Oedema of mouth, Tongue oedema.
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Pain in extremities, Arthritis, Muscle cramp, Neck pain, Night cramps.
Renal and urinary disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Glycosuria, Proteinuria, Polyuria, Haematuria, Nocturia
Reproductive system and breast disorders	<i>Less frequent</i>	Menopausal symptoms, Priapism, Prostatitis.
	<i>Frequency unknown</i>	Galactorrhoea.
General disorders and administration site conditions	<i>Less frequent</i>	Asthenia, Chest pain, Fatigue, Pain, Thirst.
Investigations	<i>Less frequent</i>	Increased weight, Abnormal liver test, Hepatic enzyme increase, Abnormal blood electrolyte, Abnormal laboratory tests.

b. Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Health care providers are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to SAHPRA via the **6.04 Adverse Drug Reactions Reporting Form**, found online under SAHPRA's publications:

<https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8>

4.9 Overdose

No case of overdosage has been reported. If overdosage occurs, drowsiness is to be expected. Clearance of the active substance is expected within 12 hours after ingestion. No special treatment is required.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

A.2.2 Sedatives, Hypnotics

Pharmacotherapeutic Group: Psycholeptics, Melatonin Receptor Agonists.
ATC Code: N05CH01.

Melatonin is a naturally occurring hormone produced by the pineal gland and is structurally related to serotonin. The activity of melatonin at the melatonin 1 (MT1), melatonin 2 (MT2) and melatonin 3 (MT3) receptors is believed to contribute to its sleep promoting properties, as these receptors (mainly MT1 and MT2) are involved in the regulation of circadian rhythms and sleep regulation.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

The absorption of orally ingested melatonin is complete in adults and may be decreased by up to 50 % in the elderly. The kinetics of melatonin is linear over the range of 2 - 8 mg.

Bioavailability is in the order of 15 %. There is a significant first pass effect with an estimated first pass metabolism of 85 %. T_{max} occurs after 3 hours in a fed state. The rate of melatonin absorption and C_{max} following oral administration is affected by food. The presence of food delayed the absorption of the melatonin resulting in a later ($T_{max} = 3,0$ h versus $T_{max} = 0,75$ h) and lower peak plasma concentration in the fed state ($C_{max} = 1020$ pg/mL versus $C_{max} = 1176$ pg/mL).

Distribution

The *in vitro* plasma protein binding of melatonin is approximately 60 %. Melatonin is mainly bound to albumin, alpha1-acid glycoprotein and high-density lipoprotein.

Biotransformation

Experimental data suggest that isoenzymes CYP1A1, CYP1A2 and possibly CYP2C19 of the cytochrome P450 system are involved in melatonin metabolism. The principal metabolite, 6-sulphatoxy-melatonin (6-S-MT), is inactive. The site of biotransformation is the liver. The excretion of the metabolite is completed within 12 hours after ingestion.

Elimination

Terminal half-life ($t_{1/2}$) is 3.5 - 4 hours. Elimination is by renal excretion of metabolites, 89 % as sulphated and glucuronide conjugates of 6-hydroxymelatonin and 2 % is excreted as unchanged melatonin.

Gender

A 3- to 4-fold increase in C_{max} is apparent for women compared to men. A five-fold variability in C_{max} between different members of the same gender has also been observed. No pharmacodynamic differences between males and females were found despite differences in blood levels.

Special populations

Elderly
Melatonin metabolism is known to decline with age. Across a range of doses, higher AUC and C_{max} levels have been reported in older subjects compared to younger subjects, reflecting lower metabolism of melatonin in the elderly. C_{max} levels around 500 pg/mL in adults (18 - 45) versus 1200 pg/mL in the elderly (55 - 69); AUC levels around 3000 pg/h/mL in adults versus 5000 pg/h/mL in the elderly.

Renal impairment

There is no accumulation after repeated dosing. This finding is compatible with the short half-life in humans. The levels assessed in the blood of patients with end stage renal disease on chronic haemodialysis, at 23:00 (2 32:0) and 43:0 (2 32:0) respectively and are similar to those found in healthy volunteers following a single dose of 2 mg melatonin.

Hepatic impairment

The liver is the primary site of melatonin metabolism and therefore, hepatic impairment results in higher endogenous melatonin levels. Plasma melatonin levels in patients with cirrhosis were significantly increased during daylight hours. Patients had a significantly decreased total excretion of 6-sulphatoxymelatonin compared with controls.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Lactose monohydrate
Calcium hydrogen phosphate dehydrate
Ammonio methacrylate copolymer (Type B)
Purified talc

Colloidal anhydrous silica
Magnesium stearate

6.2 Incompatibilities

Unknown.

6.3 Shelf life

3 years.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store at or below 25°C.
Protect from light.
Keep out of reach of children.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Tablets are packed in PVC/PVDC/Al or Alu/Alu blister packs of 21, 30 or 7 tablets.
The blisters are then packed in cardboard boxes.
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

No special requirements for disposal. Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. HOLDERS OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Trinity Pharma (Pty) Ltd.
106 16th Road
Midrand
South Africa
1686

8. REGISTRATION NUMBER(S)

MELNOC XR 2 MG: 52/2.2/0994

9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION / RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

24 May 2022

10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

N.A

PROFESIONELE INLIGTING

SKEDULERINGSTATUS

S4

1. NAAM VAN DIE MEDISYNE

MELNOC XR 2 mg (Verlengde-vrystellingstablette)

2. KWALITATIEWE EN KWANTITATIEWE SAMESTELLING

Elke verlengde-vrystellingstablet bevat 2 mg melatonin.

Hulpstowwe met bekende effek:

Bevat 90,00 mg laktosemonohidraat per tablet.

Vir die volledige lys van hulpstowwe, sien afdeling 6.1.

3. FARMASEUTIESE VORM

Verlengde-vrystellingstablette.
Wit tot naaswit, ronde, bikonvex gevormde tablette.

4. KLINIENSE BESONDERHEDE

4.1 Terapeutiese indikasies

MELNOC XR 2 mg word aangedui vir die korttermyn (3 weke) behandeling van primêre slaapprobleid gekenmerk deur swak kwaliteit slaap by pasiënte wat 55 jaar of ouer is.

4.2 Posologie en metode van toediening

Posologie
Die aanbevole dosis by pasiënte van 55 jaar en ouer is 2 mg een maal per dag, 1 - 2 uur voor slapenstyd en na voedsel. Die dosis mag vir 3 weke voortgesit word. Effektiwiteit by pasiënte jonger as 55 jaar is nie vasgestel nie.

Pediatriese gebruik

MELNOC XR 2 mg word nie aanbeveel vir gebruik by kinders en adolessente onder die ouderdom van 18 nie as gevolg van onvoldoende data oor die veiligheid en effektiwiteit.

Renale ontoereikendheid

Die effek van enige stadium van renale ontoereikendheid op die farmakokinetika van melatonien is nie bestudeer nie.

Hepatiiese inkorting

Daar is geen ervaring met MELNOC XR 2 mg by pasiënte met lewerinkorting nie. Data toon merkwaardig verhoogde endogene melatonienvlakke gedurende dagure as gevolg van verminderde opruiming by pasiënte met hepatiiese inkorting. Daarom word MELNOC XR 2 mg nie aanbeveel vir gebruik by pasiënte met hepatiiese inkorting nie.

Metode van toediening

Vir orale gebruik.
Tablette behoort heel ingesluk te word om die langdurig-vrystellende eienskappe te handhaaf. Die tablet moet nie vergruis of gekou word om sluk te vergemaklik nie. Tablette moet na 'n maaltyd geneem word.

4.3 Kontraïndikasies

Hipersensitiwiteit vir melatonien of enige van die hulpstowwe gelys in afdeling 6.1.

4.4 Spesiale waarskuwings en voorsorgmaatreëls vir gebruik

Outo-immuun siekte
Geen kliniese data bestaan rakende die gebruik van MELNOC XR 2 mg by individue met outo-immuun siektes nie. Daarom word MELNOC XR 2 mg nie aanbeveel vir gebruik by pasiënte met outo-immuun siektes nie.

Hulpstowwe

MELNOC XR 2 mg bevat laktosemonohidraat. Pasiënte met seldsame oorerlike probleme van galaktose-onverdraagsaamheid, die Lapp-laktase-tekort of glukose-galaktose-wanabsorpsie moet nie MELNOC XR 2 mg neem nie.

Pediatriese populasie

MELNOC XR 2 mg word nie aanbeveel vir gebruik by kinders en adolessente onder die ouderdom van 18 nie as gevolg van onvoldoende data oor die veiligheid en effektiwiteit.

4.5 Interaksie met ander medisyne en ander vorms van interaksie

Interaksiestudies is slegs by volwassenes uitgevoer.

Farmakokinetiese interaksies

Daar is waargeneem dat melatonien CYP3A *in vitro* indueer teen supra-terapeutiese konsentrasies. Die kliniese relevansie van hierdie bevinding is onbekend. Indien induksie plaasvind, kan dit lei tot verminderde plasmakonsentrasies van medisyne wat gelyktydig toegedien word.

Melatonien indueer nie CYP1A-ensieme *in vitro* teen supra-terapeutiese konsentrasies nie. Interaksies tussen melatonien en ander aktiewe stowwe as gevolg van die effek van melatonien se effek op CYP1A-ensieme sal waarskynlik nie beduidend wees nie.

Melatonien se metabolisme word hoofsaaklik bemiddel deur CYP1A ensieme. Interaksies tussen melatonien en ander aktiewe stowwe as gevolg van die effek daarvan op CYP1A ensieme is dus moontlik.

Omstighheid behoort uitgeoefen te word by pasiënte op fluvoxsamen, wat melatonienvlakke verhoog (17-voudige hoër AOK en 'n 12-voudige hoër serum C_{max}) deur die metabolisme daarvan deur hepatiiese sitochroom P450 (CYP) isoënsieme CYP1A2 en CYP2C19 te inhibeer. Die kombinasie behoort vermy te word.

Omstighheid behoort uitgeoefen te word by pasiënte op 5- of 6-metoksiporsaleen (5-MOP en 6-MOP), wat melatonienvlakke verhoog deur die metabolisme daarvan te inhibeer.

Omstighheid behoort uitgeoefen te word by pasiënte op simetidine, 'n CYP2D-inhibeerder, wat melatonienvlakke verhoog deur die metabolisme daarvan te inhibeer.

Die rook van sigarette mag melatonienvlakke verlaag as gevolg van die induksie van CYP1A2.

Omstighheid behoort uitgeoefen te word by pasiënte op oestrogene (bv. kontraseptiewe of hormoonvervangingsterapie), wat melatonienvlakke verhoog deur die metabolisme daarvan deur CYP1A1 en CYP1A2 te inhibeer.

CYP1A2 inhibeerders soos kinolone kan lei tot verhoogde melatonien blootstelling.

CYP1A2 indueerders soos karbamazepien en rifampisien kan lei tot verlaagde plasmakonsentrasies van melatonien.

Daar is 'n groot hoeveelheid data in die literatuur beskikbaar rakende die effek van adrenergiese agoniste/antagoniste, opiatagoniste/-antagoniste, antidepressante, prostaglandieninhibeerders, bensodiasepiene, triptofaan en alkohol, op endogene melatonienafskieding. Of hierdie aktiewe stowwe met die dinamiese of kinetiese effekte van MELNOC XR 2 mg of andersom inmeng, al dan nie, is nie bestudeer nie.

Farmakodinamiese interaksies

Alkohol behoort nie saam met MELNOC XR 2 mg geneem te word nie, omdat dit die effektiwiteit van MELNOC XR 2 mg ten opsigte van slaap, verminder.

MELNOC XR 2 mg mag die sedatiewe eienskappe van bensodiasepiene en nie-bensodiasepien-hipnotika, soos zaleplon, solpidem en sopikloon, versterk. In 'n kliniese proef was daar 'n duidelike bewys van 'n kortstonidige farmakodinamiese interaksie tussen melatonien en solpidem een uur na gesamentlike dosering. Gelyktydige toediening het gelei tot verhoogde inkorting van aandag, geheue en koördinasie in vergelyking met solpidem alleen.

MELNOC XR 2 mg is in studies saam met liordiasien en imipramien toegedien. Geen klinies beduidende farmakokinetiese interaksies is gevind nie. Die mede-toediening van melatonien het egter gelei tot verhoogde kalmerende gevoelens en probleme om take uit te voer in vergelyking met imipramien alleen, asook verhoogde gevoelens van deurmaakbaarheid in vergelyking met liordiasien alleen.

4.6 Vrugbaarheid, swangerskap en laktasie

Swangerskap

Veiligheid tydens swangerskap en laktasie is nie vasgestel nie. Daar is geen kliniese data beskikbaar oor gebruik tydens swangerskap nie. Weens die onbekende data, word gebruik by swanger vroue en by vroue wat van plan is om swanger te raak nie aanbeveel nie.

Borsvoeding

Endogene melatonien is in borsmelk geneem, en dus word eksogene melatonien waarskynlik in menslike melk uitgeskei. Daarom word borsvoeding nie aanbeveel by vroue wat met melatonien behandel word nie.

4.7 Uitwerking op die vermoë om te bestuur en masjiene te gebruik

Melatonien kan lomerigheid veroorsaak. Pasiënte moet vermy om gevaarlike aktiwiteite (soos bestuur of hantering van masjinerie) te onderneem na die neem van MELNOC XR 2 mg (sien afdeling 4.8).

4.8 Nwe-effekte

Die volgende nwe-effekte is in kliniese studies en spontane na-bemarkingsverslae aangemeld. Binne elke frekwensiegroepering word die ongewenste effekte aangebied in volgorde van afnemende erns.

a. Gebatuleerde opsomming van nwe-effekte

Sisteem-orgaanklas	Frekwensie	Ongewenste effek
Infeksies en infestaties	<i>Minder gereeld</i>	Herpes zoster.
Bloed- en limfatiese sisteemversteurings	<i>Minder gereeld</i>	Leukopenie, Trombositopenie.
Immuunstelselversteurings	<i>Frekwensie onbekend</i>	Hipersensitiwiteitsreaksie.
Metabolisme- en voedingsversteurings	<i>Minder gereeld</i>	Hipertiglyceridemie, Hipokalsemie, Hiponatremie.
Psigiatriese versteurings	<i>Minder gereeld</i>	Prikkelbaarheid, Senuweeagtigheid, Rusteloos