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Sentrane A c i t r e t i n

Sentrane Acitretin

SENTRANE® (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules is a second-generation retinoid. It is taken orally, and is typically used for psoriasis.

* A retinoid (similar to vitamin A)

Used for: Severe psoriasis and some other skin conditions

SENTRANE® (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules is used to treat severe skin conditions, such as psoriasis, where the surface of the skin has become thick and scaly. Normally, as new skin cells are produced, older ones are lost. With psoriasis, the skin cells in the outer layer of your skin multiply faster than normal and the old skin cells build up on the surface of your skin, causing red, scaly patches.

SENTRANE® (Acitretin) is a retinoid, which means that it is related to vitamin A. Our bodies use vitamin A to maintain a healthy skin. SENTRANE® (Acitretin) helps to control psoriasis by making your skin grow more normally.

It is a metabolite of etretinate, which was used prior to the **introduction of SENTRANE®** (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules. Etretinate was discontinued because it had a narrow therapeutic index as well as a long elimination half-life (t1/2=120 days), making dosing difficult. In contrast, acitretin's half-life is approximately 2 days. However, because SENTRANE® (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules can be reverse metabolised into etretinate which has an extremely long half-life, women must avoid becoming pregnant for at least 3 years after discontinuing acitretin.

Therefore, acitretin is generally not recommended for women of child-bearing age with a risk of becoming pregnant.

SENTRANE® (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules is an oral retinoid used in the treatment of severe resistant psoriasis. Because of the potential for problems and severe side effects it is generally used in only very severe cases of psoriasis that have been unresponsive to other treatments. It binds to nuclear receptors that regulates gene transcription. They induce keratinocyte differentiation and reduce epidermal hyperplasia, leading to the slowing of cell reproduction. **SENTRANE®** (Acitretin) 25 mg Capsules is readily absorbed and widely distributed after oral administration.

A therapeutic effect occurs after 2 to 4 weeks or longer.

Patients that have received the medication are advised against giving blood for at least 3 years due to the risk of birth defects.