

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

◆ **FOQUEST™**

methylphenidate hydrochloride

Controlled Release Capsules
25, 35, 45, 55, 70, 85 and 100 mg

Professed Standard

Central Nervous System Stimulant

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◆ FOQUEST™

methylphenidate hydrochloride
Controlled Release Capsules

PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength	Non-medicinal Ingredients
Oral	Controlled Release Capsules 25, 35, 45, 55, 70, 85 and 100 mg	ammonio methacrylate copolymer dispersion (type B), anionic copolymer (consisting of methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate and methacrylic acid), glyceryl monostearate, hypromellose, polyethylene glycol, polysorbate, silicon dioxide, sodium hydroxide, sodium lauryl sulfate, sorbic acid, sugar spheres, triethyl citrate

INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

FOQUEST™ (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) is indicated for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in:

- Adults (≥18 years of age)

Geriatrics (>65 years of age):

FOQUEST has not been studied in the geriatric population (>65 years of age).

Pediatrics (<18 years of age):

FOQUEST should not be used in patients under 18 years of age, since the safety and efficacy in this age group have not been established.

A diagnosis of ADHD (DSM-5) requires the presence of hyperactive-impulsive or inattentive symptoms that caused impairment and that were present before the age of twelve. The symptoms must be persistent, must be more severe than is typically observed in individuals at a comparable level of development, must cause clinically significant impairment, e.g. in social, academic, or occupational functioning, and must be present in two or more settings, e.g. school (or work) and at home. The symptoms must not be better accounted for by another mental disorder.

For the Inattentive Presentation, at least 6 of the following symptoms (5 for adult ADHD patients) must have persisted for at least 6-months: lack of attention to details or careless mistakes, lack of sustained attention, poor listener, failure to follow through on instructions and tasks, poor organization, avoids tasks requiring sustained mental effort, loses things, easily distracted, forgetful.

For the Hyperactive-Impulsive Presentation, at least 6 of the following symptoms (5 for adult ADHD patients) must have persisted for at least 6-months: fidgeting or squirming, leaving seat, inappropriate running or climbing, difficulty with quiet activities, "on the go," excessive talking, blurting answers, can't wait turn, intrusive.

For a Combined Presentation diagnosis, both inattentive and hyperactive-impulsive criteria must be met.

Special Diagnostic Considerations:

The specific etiology of ADHD is unknown, and there is no single diagnostic test. Adequate diagnosis requires the use not only of medical but of special psychological, educational, and social resources. Learning may or may not be impaired. The diagnosis must be based upon a complete history and evaluation of the patient and not solely on the presence of the required number of DSM-5 characteristics.

Need for Comprehensive Treatment Program:

FOQUEST is indicated as an integral part of a total treatment program for ADHD that may include other measures (psychological, educational and/or social) for patients with this syndrome. Drug treatment may not be indicated for all patients with this syndrome. Drug treatment is not intended for use in the patient who exhibits symptoms secondary to environmental factors and/or other primary psychiatric disorders, including psychosis. Appropriate educational placement is essential in patients with this diagnosis and psychosocial intervention is often helpful. When remedial measures alone are insufficient, the decision to prescribe drug treatment will depend upon the physician's assessment of the chronicity and severity of the patient's symptoms and on the level of functional impairment.

Long-Term Use:

The effectiveness of **FOQUEST** has been evaluated for more than four weeks in placebo-controlled clinical trials (see **CLINICAL TRIALS**). If electing to use **FOQUEST** for extended periods, the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient should be periodically re-evaluated (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Known hypersensitivity to methylphenidate hydrochloride or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container. For a complete listing of excipients, see **DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING**
- Known hypersensitivity or idiosyncrasy to the sympathomimetic amines
- Patients with anxiety, tension, agitation
- Thyrotoxicosis
- Advanced arteriosclerosis
- Symptomatic cardiovascular disease
- Moderate to severe hypertension
- Glaucoma
- Patients with a history of drug abuse

- Patients with motor tics or with a family history or diagnosis of Tourette’s syndrome (verbal tics)
- During or within 14-days following the administration of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (hypertensive crises may result) (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Serious Warnings and Precautions

Drug Dependence (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Dependence/Tolerance**)

General

Drug treatment is not indicated in all cases of ADHD and should be considered only in light of the complete history and evaluation. The decision to prescribe **FOQUEST** should depend on the physician’s assessment of the chronicity and severity of the patient’s symptoms. Treatment should not depend solely on the presence of one or more abnormal behavioural characteristics. Where these symptoms are associated with acute stress reactions, treatment with methylphenidate is usually not indicated.

All drugs with sympathomimetic effects prescribed in the management of ADHD should be used with caution in patients who: a) are involved in strenuous exercise or activities, b) use other stimulants, or c) have a family history of sudden/cardiac death. Prior to the initiation of treatment, a personal and family history (including assessment for a family history sudden death or ventricular arrhythmia) and physical exam should be obtained to assess for the presence of cardiac disease. In patients with relevant risk factors and based on the clinician’s judgement, further cardiovascular evaluation may be considered (e.g., electrocardiogram and echocardiogram). Patients who develop symptoms such as exertional chest pain, unexplained syncope, or other symptoms suggestive of cardiac disease during ADHD treatment should undergo a prompt cardiac evaluation.

Plasma Concentration of FOQUEST:

Pharmacokinetic studies show that after dosing **FOQUEST** 100 mg, there is approximately 9-20% residual methylphenidate in the blood at 24 hours.

Fatigue:

FOQUEST should not be used for the prevention or treatment of normal fatigue states.

Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

See **TOXICOLOGY** section.

Cardiovascular

Sudden Death and Pre-existing Structural Cardiac Abnormalities or Other Serious Heart Problems:

Adolescents: Sudden death has been reported in association with stimulant drugs used for ADHD treatment at usual doses in children and adolescents with structural cardiac abnormalities or other serious cardiac problems. Although some serious heart problems alone carry an increased risk of sudden death, **FOQUEST** is not approved in children or adolescents and generally should not be used in children or adolescents with known serious structural cardiac abnormalities, cardiomyopathy, serious heart rhythm abnormalities, or other serious cardiac problems that may place them at increased vulnerability to the sympathomimetic effects of a stimulant drug (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Adults: Sudden death, stroke, and myocardial infarction have been reported in adults taking stimulant drugs at usual doses for ADHD. Although the role of stimulants in these adult cases is also unknown, adults have a greater likelihood than children of having serious structural cardiac abnormalities, cardiomyopathy, serious heart rhythm abnormalities, coronary artery disease, or other serious cardiac problems. Adults with such abnormalities should also generally not be treated with stimulant drugs (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Pre-existing Cardiovascular and Cerebral Vascular Conditions:

Central Nervous System (CNS) stimulants should be used with caution in patients with a condition of the cardiovascular or cerebrovascular system, taking into account risk predictors for these conditions. Patients should be screened for pre-existing or underlying cardiovascular or cerebrovascular conditions before initiation of treatment with stimulants and monitored for new conditions of the heart or brain during the course of treatment.

Hypertension and Other Cardiovascular Conditions:

Hypertension may occur during methylphenidate treatment in some patients. Caution is particularly indicated in treating patients whose underlying medical conditions might be compromised by increases in blood pressure or heart rate, e.g., those with pre-existing hypertension, heart failure, recent myocardial infarction or hyperthyroidism.

Blood pressure should be monitored at appropriate intervals in patients receiving stimulants, especially in patients with pre-existing conditions that may result in hypertension.

Sympathomimetic medications cause a modest mean increase in blood pressure (about 2-4 mmHg) and heart rate (about 3-6 bpm) but individuals may have larger increases. In a 4-week double-blind, placebo-controlled study of **FOQUEST** up to 100 mg/day in adults, changes in mean systolic blood pressure (range of mean increase: 0.29 to 1.60 mmHg), diastolic blood pressure (range of mean increase: 0.123 to 1.75 mmHg) and heart rate (range of mean increase: 1.04 to 4.98 bpm) were observed. While the mean changes alone would not be expected to have short-term consequences, all patients should be monitored for larger changes in heart rate and blood pressure (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS** and **DRUG INTERACTIONS**).

Dependence/Tolerance

FOQUEST should be given cautiously to emotionally unstable patients, such as those with a history of drug dependence or alcoholism, because such patients may increase dosage on their own initiative.

Chronic abuse can lead to marked tolerance and psychological dependence with varying degrees of abnormal behaviour. Frank psychotic episodes can occur, especially with parenteral abuse.

Careful supervision is required during withdrawal from abuse since severe depression may occur. Withdrawal following chronic therapeutic use may unmask symptoms of an underlying disorder that may require follow-up.

Alcohol Interaction Studies

Patients should be advised not to take alcohol with FOQUEST (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**).

Endocrine and Metabolism

Long-Term Suppression of Growth:

Sufficient data on the safety of long-term use of methylphenidate in children and adolescents are not yet available. Although a causal relationship has not been established, suppression of growth (i.e., weight gain, and/or height) has been reported with the long-term use of stimulants.

Therefore, patients requiring long-term therapy should be carefully monitored. Patients who are not growing or gaining weight as expected should have their treatment interrupted.

Neurologic

Seizures:

There is some clinical evidence that methylphenidate may lower the convulsive threshold in patients with prior history of seizures, in patients with prior EEG abnormalities in the absence of seizures and, very rarely, in patients with no prior EEG evidence or history of seizures. Clinical experience has shown that a small number of patients may experience an increase in seizure frequency when treated with methylphenidate. In the presence of seizures or suspected seizures, the drug should be discontinued.

Motor and Verbal Tics, and Worsening of Tourette's Syndrome:

CNS stimulants, including methylphenidate, have been associated with the onset or exacerbation of motor and verbal tics. Worsening of Tourette's syndrome has also been reported with other CNS stimulants. It is recommended that the family history be assessed, and that the patient is clinically evaluated for tics or Tourette's syndrome before initiating methylphenidate. Regular monitoring for the emergence or worsening of tics or Tourette's syndrome during treatment with methylphenidate is recommended at every dose adjustment and every visit, and treatment discontinued if clinically appropriate.

Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines:

Stimulants may impair the ability of the patient to operate potentially hazardous machinery or vehicles. Patients should be cautioned accordingly until they are reasonably certain that FOQUEST does not adversely affect their ability to engage in such activities.

Ophthalmologic

Visual Disturbance:

Symptoms of visual disturbances have been encountered in rare cases. Difficulties with accommodation and blurring of vision have been reported (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

Psychiatric

Pre-Existing Psychosis:

Administration of stimulants may exacerbate symptoms of behaviour disturbance and thought disorder in patients with a pre-existing psychotic disorder.

Screening Patients for Bipolar Disorder:

Particular care should be taken in using stimulants to treat ADHD in patients with comorbid bipolar disorder because of concern for possible induction of a mixed or manic episode in such patients. Prior to initiating treatment with a stimulant, patients with comorbid depressive symptoms should be adequately screened to determine if they are at risk for bipolar disorder; such screening should include a detailed psychiatric history, including a family history of suicide, bipolar disorder and depression.

Emergence of New Psychotic or Manic Symptoms:

Treatment-emergent psychotic or manic symptoms, e.g., hallucinations, delusional thinking, or mania, in children and adolescents without a prior history of psychotic illness or mania can be caused by stimulants at usual doses. If such symptoms occur, consideration should be given to a possible causal role of the stimulant, and discontinuation of treatment may be appropriate. In a pooled analysis of multiple short-term, placebo-controlled studies, such symptoms occurred in about 0.1% (4 patients with events out of 3482 patients exposed to methylphenidate or amphetamine for several weeks at usual doses) of stimulant-treated patients compared to 0 in placebo-treated patients.

Aggression:

Aggressive behaviour or hostility is often observed in patients with ADHD, and has been reported in clinical trials and the post-marketing experience of some medications indicated for the treatment of ADHD. Although there is no systematic evidence that stimulants cause aggressive behaviour or hostility, patients beginning treatment for ADHD should be monitored for the appearance of or worsening of aggressive behaviour or hostility.

Suicidal Behaviour and Ideation:

There have been post-marketing reports of suicide-related events in patients treated with ADHD drugs, including cases of ideation, attempts, and very rarely, completed suicide. The mechanism of this risk is not known. ADHD and its related co-morbidities may be associated with increased risk of suicidal ideation and/or behaviour.

Therefore, it is recommended for patients treated with ADHD drugs that caregivers and physicians monitor for signs of suicide-related behaviour, including at dose initiation/optimization and drug discontinuation. Patients should be encouraged to report any distressing thoughts or feelings at any time to their healthcare professional. Patients with emergent suicidal ideation and behaviour should be evaluated immediately. The physician should initiate

appropriate treatment of the underlying psychiatric condition and consider a possible change in the ADHD treatment regimen (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS, Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions**).

Depression:

FOQUEST should not be used to treat severe exogenous or endogenous depression.

Serotonin Syndrome:

Serotonin syndrome is a rare but potentially life-threatening condition resulting from concomitant administration of serotonergic drugs. Serotonin syndrome has been reported when methylphenidate was co-administered with serotonergic drugs such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs). Other common serotonergic drugs include: tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs), monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), serotonin 5-HT₁ receptor agonists (triptans), and 5-HT₃ receptor antagonist antiemetics. The concomitant use of methylphenidate and serotonergic drugs is not recommended as this may lead to the development of serotonin syndrome. The symptoms of serotonin syndrome may include mental status changes (e.g., agitation, hallucinations, delirium, and coma), autonomic instability (e.g., tachycardia, labile blood pressure, dizziness, diaphoresis, flushing, hyperthermia), neuromuscular symptoms (e.g., tremor, rigidity, myoclonus, hyperreflexia, incoordination), seizures, and/or gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea). Prompt recognition of these symptoms is important so that treatment with methylphenidate and serotonergic drugs can be immediately discontinued and appropriate treatment instituted (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS**).

Sexual Function/Reproduction

Priapism:

Prolonged and painful erections requiring immediate medical attention (sometimes including surgical intervention), have been reported with methylphenidate products in both pediatric and adult patients (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS, Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions**).

Priapism can develop after some time on methylphenidate, often subsequent to an increase in dose. Priapism has also appeared during a period of methylphenidate withdrawal (drug holidays or during discontinuation). Patients who develop abnormally sustained erections or frequent and painful erections should seek immediate medical attention.

Vascular

Peripheral Vasculopathy, Including Raynaud's Phenomenon:

Stimulants used to treat ADHD, including methylphenidate products, are associated with peripheral vasculopathy, including Raynaud's phenomenon. Signs and symptoms are usually intermittent and mild; however, very rare sequelae include digital ulceration and/or soft tissue breakdown. Effects of peripheral vasculopathy, including Raynaud's phenomenon, were observed in post-marketing reports at different times and at therapeutic doses in all age groups throughout the course of treatment. Signs and symptoms generally improve after reduction in dose or discontinuation of drug. Careful observation for digital changes is necessary during treatment with ADHD stimulants. Further clinical evaluation (e.g., rheumatology referral) may be appropriate for certain patients.

Special Populations

Pregnant Women:

Methylphenidate hydrochloride has been shown to have teratogenic effects in rabbits when given in doses of 200 mg/kg/day, which is approximately 100 times and 40 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/kg and mg/m² basis, respectively.

Studies to establish safe use of methylphenidate in pregnant women have not been conducted. Therefore, **FOQUEST** should not be given to pregnant women unless the potential benefit outweighs the risk to the fetus.

Nursing Women:

A study conducted in rats indicated that the distribution profiles of methylphenidate in milk and plasma are similar. Case reports showed that methylphenidate was distributed into breast milk reaching a milk-to-plasma ratio of approximately 2.7 (see **ACTIONS AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Nursing Women**).

There is one case report of an infant who experienced an unspecified decrease in weight during the period of exposure but recovered and gained weight after the mother discontinued treatment with methylphenidate. A risk to the suckling child cannot be excluded. A decision should be made whether to abstain from breast-feeding or to abstain from **FOQUEST** therapy, taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding to the child and the benefit of therapy to the woman.

Pediatrics (<18 years of age):

FOQUEST should not be used in patients under eighteen years of age, since the safety and efficacy in this age group have not been established. Long-term effects of methylphenidate in children have not been well established.

Geriatrics (>65 years of age):

FOQUEST has not been studied in the geriatric population (>65 years of age).

Monitoring and Laboratory Tests

Periodic laboratory tests are advised during prolonged therapy. The tests should include, but not be limited to, haematological parameters, including complete blood count, differential and platelet counts, and liver enzymes.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions

Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse drug reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.

The pre-marketing development program for **FOQUEST** (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) included exposures in a total of 297 (≥ 18 years of age) participants in a 4-week parallel group double-blind clinical trial, with adult ADHD patients. Of these patients, 185 adults were further evaluated in a 6-month open-label trial.

The information included in this section is based on data from these studies. Adverse reactions were assessed by collecting adverse events, results of physical examinations, vital signs, weights, laboratory analyses, and ECGs.

The stated frequencies of adverse events represent the proportion of individuals who experienced, at least once, a treatment-emergent adverse event (TEAE) of the type listed. An event was considered treatment-emergent if it occurred for the first time or worsened while receiving therapy following baseline evaluation.

Adverse events observed with **FOQUEST** treatment mainly reflect side effects commonly associated with methylphenidate use. Very common adverse events reported by patients treated with **FOQUEST** in this adult clinical trial were: headache, insomnia, and decreased appetite. Most of the events were mild or moderate in severity.

Adverse Events Leading to Discontinuation of Treatment:

Placebo-controlled Trial

In a controlled adult (≥ 18 years of age) trial, 2.7% (8/297) of **FOQUEST**-treated patients discontinued treatment due to adverse events compared to 2.6% (2/78) who received placebo. Adverse events that led to discontinuation included: anxiety 0.7% (2/297), insomnia 0.7% (2/297), lip swelling 0.3% (1/297), affect lability 0.3% (1/297), emotional disorder 0.3% (1/297) and irritability 0.3% (1/297).

Serious Adverse Events:

Serious adverse events reported in adults included: uterine cancer (n=1), tendon rupture (n=1), breast cancer (n=1), dizziness (n=1) and viith nerve paralysis (n=1).

Open-label 6-Month Trial:

In an open-label, long-term safety trial in adults (≥ 18 years of age), 4.9% (9/185) of **FOQUEST**-treated adult patients discontinued treatment due to adverse events. Adverse events leading to discontinuation in the open-label trial included: insomnia 1.1% (2/185), weight decreased 0.5% (1/185), balance disorder 0.5% (1/185), viith nerve paralysis 0.5% (1/185), anxiety 0.5% (1/185), depression 0.5% (1/185), irritability 0.5% (1/185) and nervousness 0.5% (1/185).

Adverse Events Occurring in a 4-week Controlled Trial:

TEAEs reported in the 4-week controlled trial in adult patients (≥ 18 years of age) with ADHD treated with **FOQUEST** with an incidence greater or equal to 1% are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Treatment Emergent Adverse Events Reported by ≥1% of Adult Patients (≥18 years of age) with ADHD Treated with FOQUEST

System Organ Class	Preferred Term	FOQUEST N = 297 (%)	Placebo N = 78 (%)
Cardiac disorders	Palpitations	4 (1.3)	1 (1.3)
	Tachycardia	4 (1.3)	0
Eye disorders	Vision blurred	4 (1.3)	0
Gastrointestinal disorders	Abdominal pain	4 (1.3)	0
	Abdominal pain upper	6 (2.0)	0
	Diarrhea	12 (4.0)	1 (1.3)
	Dry mouth	27 (9.1)	3 (3.8)
	Dyspepsia	5 (1.7)	2 (2.6)
	Nausea	18 (6.1)	2 (2.6)
	Vomiting	4 (1.3)	1 (1.3)
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fatigue	13 (4.4)	4 (5.1)
	Feeling jittery	12 (4.0)	1 (1.3)
	Thirst	4 (1.3)	0
Infections and infestations	Sinusitis	3 (1.0)	1 (1.3)
	Upper respiratory tract infection	7 (2.4)	1 (1.3)
	Urinary tract infection	3 (1.0)	0
Investigations	Blood pressure increased	3 (1.0)	0
	Weight decreased	11 (3.7)	1 (1.3)
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	Decreased appetite	33 (11.1)	2 (2.6)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Back pain	3 (1.0)	0
	Muscle tightness	3 (1.0)	0
Nervous system disorders	Dizziness	5 (1.7)	0
	Headache	52 (17.5)	9 (11.5)
	Paraesthesia	3 (1.0)	0
	Somnolence	6 (2.0)	3 (3.8)
	Tension headache	4 (1.3)	0
Psychiatric disorders	Agitation	5 (1.7)	0
	Anxiety	6 (2.0)	1 (1.3)
	Bruxism	5 (1.7)	0
	Emotional disorder	4 (1.3)	0
	Insomnia ^a	67 (22.6)	4 (5.1)
	Irritability	16 (5.4)	4 (5.1)
	Restlessness	5 (1.7)	0
	Sleep disorder	3 (1.0)	0
Reproductive system and breast disorders	Dysmenorrhea	3 (1.0)	0
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Oropharyngeal pain	3 (1.0)	0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Hyperhidrosis	4 (1.3)	0

^a Insomnia includes ADRs reported for “insomnia”, “initial insomnia”, and “middle insomnia”

Uncommon TEAEs (incidence less than 1%) reported by adult patients (≥ 18 years of age) with ADHD in the controlled trial:

Cardiac disorders:	Conduction disorder, supraventricular extrasystoles
Ear and labyrinth disorders:	Ear discomfort, ear pain
Eye disorders:	Blepharospasm, dry eye, eye pain
Gastrointestinal disorders:	Constipation, defecation urgency, hematochezia, hemorrhoids, irritable bowel syndrome, lip dry, lip swelling, toothache
General disorders and administration site conditions:	Chest discomfort, energy increased, facial pain, non-cardiac chest pain, pain, pyrexia
Immune system disorders:	Allergy to arthropod sting, drug hypersensitivity, seasonal allergy
Infections and infestations:	Bacterial vaginosis, bronchitis, cellulitis, gastroenteritis, gastroenteritis viral, influenza, nasopharyngitis, oral herpes, pharyngitis streptococcal
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:	Arthropod bite, exposure to communicable disease, foot fracture, ligament sprain, muscle strain, venomous sting
Investigations:	Blood pressure diastolic increased, gamma-glutamyltransferase increased, heart rate increased, weight increased
Metabolism and nutrition disorders:	Increased appetite
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:	Arthralgia, muscle spasms, muscle twitching, myalgia, osteoarthritis, pain in extremity, temporomandibular joint syndrome
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (include cysts and polyps):	Uterine cancer
Nervous system disorders:	Balance disorder, disturbance in attention, dysesthesia, hyperreflexia, hypoesthesia, lethargy, mental impairment, restless legs syndrome, sedation, sensory disturbance

Psychiatric disorders:	Abnormal dreams, affect lability, confusional state, depressed mood, dermatillomania, mood altered, mood swings, orgasm abnormal, psychotic disorder, terminal insomnia
Renal and urinary disorders:	Calculus urinary, nephrolithiasis, pollakiuria, polyuria
Reproductive system and breast disorders:	Metrorrhagia, vaginal hemorrhage
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:	Cough, dyspnea, dyspnea exertional, nasal dryness, rhinorrhea
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:	Acne, pruritus, rash, rosacea
Vascular disorders:	Flushing, hot flush, hypertension

Adverse Events Occurring in a Long-Term Safety Trial:

A 6-month open-label clinical trial was performed to evaluate the long-term safety of **FOQUEST** in adults. One hundred and eighty five adults who completed the double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III study (063-010) also participated in a 6-month open-label trial. TEAEs reported in this trial are provided in Table 2. Overall, treatment with **FOQUEST** was well tolerated and the safety profile was consistent with other methylphenidate products. The majority of TEAEs (98%) were mild to moderate in intensity, with 9 (4.9 %) patients withdrawing early due to an adverse event. In addition, there were no clinically significant laboratory, vital signs, ECG or sleep quality [Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI)] findings. The adverse event profile seen is similar to that observed in a shorter term trial.

Table 2: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events Reported by Adult Patients in a 6-month Open-label Clinical Trial with FOQUEST

System Organ Class	Very Common >10%	5 – 10%	Common <5% and ≥1%	Less Common <1%
Cardiac disorders			Palpitations, tachycardia	
Ear and labyrinth disorders				Ear pain, hyperacusis
Eye disorders			Blepharospasm, vision blurred	Dry eye, orbital edema
Gastrointestinal disorders		Nausea, dry mouth	Abdominal discomfort, abdominal pain, abdominal pain upper, diarrhea, dyspepsia, gastroesophageal reflux disease, toothache, vomiting	Constipation, food poisoning, hemorrhoids, rectal hemorrhage, tongue disorder, tooth impacted

Table 2: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events Reported by Adult Patients in a 6-month Open-label Clinical Trial with FOQUEST

System Organ Class	Very Common >10%	5 – 10%	Common <5% and ≥1%	Less Common <1%
General disorders and administration site condition		Feeling jittery	Chest discomfort, energy increased, fatigue, edema peripheral, thirst	Facial pain, feeling cold, feeling hot, pain
Immune system disorders			Seasonal allergy	Hypersensitivity
Infections and infestations		Sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection	Bronchitis, gastroenteritis viral, pharyngitis, influenza, nasopharyngitis, oral herpes pharyngitis streptococcal, skin infection, tooth abscess	Abscess sweat gland, bronchiolitis, cellulitis, chlamydial infection, gastritis viral, gastroenteritis, hordeolum, rash pustular, staphylococcal skin infection, tinea infection, tooth infection, urinary tract infection, viral upper respiratory tract infection
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications			Contusion, fall, maternal exposure during pregnancy	Animal bite, arthropod bite, back injury, epicondylitis, exposure to communicable disease, foot fracture, laceration, limb injury, muscle strain, procedural pain, tendon rupture
Investigations			Electrocardiogram QT prolonged, heart rate increased, weight decreased, weight increased	Gamma-glutamyltransferase increased, influenza B virus test positive
Metabolism and nutrition disorders		Decreased appetite		Increased appetite, vitamin B12 deficiency
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders			Arthralgia, back pain, muscle spasms, muscle tightness, musculoskeletal chest pain, myalgia	Joint effusion, neck pain, pain in extremity
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (Incl cysts and polyps)				Breast cancer, squamous cell carcinoma of skin
Nervous system disorders	Headache		Dizziness, psychomotor hyperactivity, sedation, somnolence	Balance disorder, disturbance in attention, hypersomnia, loss of consciousness, migraine, paraesthesia, sinus headache, tension headache, VII th nerve paralysis

Table 2: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events Reported by Adult Patients in a 6-month Open-label Clinical Trial with FOQUEST

System Organ Class	Very Common >10%	5 – 10%	Common <5% and ≥1%	Less Common <1%
Psychiatric disorders	Insomnia, initial insomnia	Anxiety, irritability	Abnormal dreams, bruxism, compulsions, dysphoria, middle insomnia, nervousness, restlessness, tachyphrenia	Agitation, apathy, depression, dysthymic disorder, elevated mood, mental disorder, nightmare, premature ejaculation, psychogenic tremor, sleep disorder, suicidal ideation, tearfulness, terminal insomnia, trichotillomania
Renal and urinary disorders			Nephrolithiasis	
Reproductive system and breast disorders			Dysmenorrhea	Sexual dysfunction
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			Dyspnea	Oropharyngeal pain, rhinitis allergic, throat tightness
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders			Hyperhidrosis, rash papular	Acne, blister, eczema, rash, rash maculo-papular, yellow skin
Vascular disorders			Hot flush	

Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions

Suicidal Behaviour and Ideation:

There have been post-marketing reports of suicide-related events, including completed suicide, suicide attempt, and suicidal ideation in patients treated with ADHD drugs. In some of these reports, comorbid conditions may have contributed to the event (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Psychiatric, Suicidal Behaviour and Ideation**).

Adverse Events Reported with Other Methylphenidate Hydrochloride Products:

Nervousness and insomnia are the most common adverse reactions reported with other methylphenidate products. Other reactions include skin rash, fever, exfoliative dermatitis, erythema multiforme with histopathological findings of necrotizing vasculitis, thrombocytopenic purpura, angioedema and anaphylactic reaction, photosensitivity reaction, skin discoloration, skin odor abnormal, anorexia, muscle cramps, convulsions, choreoathetoid movements, dyskinesia, malaise, rebound effect, akathisia, presyncope, somnambulism, speech disorder, syncope, dysphemia, euphoric mood, visual impairment, visual disturbance, difficulties in accommodation, ear disorder, drowsiness, pulse changes, peripheral vascular disease, vasodilation, cardiac arrhythmias, sudden cardiac death, angina, electrocardiogram QT prolongation, anger, change in sustained attention, crying, depersonalization, dermatilomania, hallucination (sometimes visual, auditory and/or tactile), impulsive behaviour, logorrhea, obsessive-compulsive disorder, neurosis, onychophagia, oppositional defiant disorder, self-injurious behaviour, suicide attempt, completed suicide, stereotypy, thinking abnormal, accidental injury, anemia, aplastic anemia and pancytopenia, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, and

hypoglycemia. There have been rare reports of Tourette's syndrome. Toxic psychosis has been reported.

Although a definite causal relationship has not been established, the following have been reported in patients taking other methylphenidate products: instances of abnormal liver function, e.g., hepatic coma; isolated cases of cerebral arteritis and/or occlusion; leukopenia and/or anemia; transient depressed mood; a few instances of scalp hair loss. Very rare reports of Stevens-Johnson syndrome and neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS) have been received. In most of the NMS cases, patients were concurrently receiving therapies associated with NMS. In a single report, a ten-year-old boy who had been taking methylphenidate for approximately 18-months experienced an NMS-like event within 45 minutes of ingesting his first dose of venlafaxine. It is uncertain whether this case represented a drug-drug interaction, a response to either drug alone, or some other cause.

Priapism and Raynaud's phenomenon have also been reported with methylphenidate products.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Overview

Alcohol may exacerbate the CNS adverse effect of psychoactive drugs. Therefore, patients undergoing **FOQUEST** (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) therapy should be advised to avoid alcohol during treatment.

In an *in vitro* dissolution study, there was no increase in the rate of release of methylphenidate from **FOQUEST** 70 mg capsules with an alcohol concentration of 20% and there was a 71% release of methylphenidate with a 40% alcohol concentration in 2 hours.

However, in an *in vivo* alcohol interaction study, in fasted healthy adults, **FOQUEST** 70 mg capsules with 40% alcohol concentration resulted in a 1.4-fold increase in the peak plasma methylphenidate concentration and a 1.3-fold increase in the extent of absorption.

Because of possible increases in blood pressure and heart rate, **FOQUEST** should be used cautiously with drugs with similar pharmacological actions.

Drug-Drug Interactions

Inhibition of Drug Metabolism by Methylphenidate:

Human pharmacologic studies have shown that methylphenidate may inhibit the metabolism of coumarin anticoagulants (e.g., warfarin), anticonvulsants (e.g., phenobarbital, phenytoin, primidone) and some antidepressants (tricyclics and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors). Downward dose adjustment of these drugs may be required when given concomitantly with methylphenidate. It may be necessary to adjust the dosage and monitor plasma drug concentrations (or, in the case of coumarin, coagulation times) when initiating or discontinuing concomitant methylphenidate.

Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors:

Methylphenidate is contraindicated during treatment with monoamine oxidase inhibitors, and also within a minimum of 14 days following discontinuation of a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (hypertensive crises may result). The same precautions apply to **FOQUEST** (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Clonidine:

Serious adverse events including sudden death have been reported in concomitant use with clonidine. In these cases, no causality for the combination could be established because of insufficient data.

Anti-Hypertensive Drugs:

Methylphenidate products may decrease the effectiveness of drugs used to treat hypertension.

Drug-Food Interactions

A pharmacokinetic study demonstrated no significant differences in the rate and extent of absorption in patients under fed or fasted conditions (see **ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Pharmacokinetics, Absorption**).

Drug-Herb Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

Drug-Laboratory Interactions

Interactions with laboratory tests have not been established.

Drug-Lifestyle Interactions

The concomitant use of alcohol should be avoided (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Dependence/Tolerance** and **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Drug-Drug Interactions**).

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**Dosing Considerations**

FOQUEST should be administered starting at the lowest possible dose. Dosage should then be individually and slowly adjusted to the lowest effective dosage since individual patient response to **FOQUEST** varies widely.

FOQUEST should not be used in patients with symptomatic cardiovascular disease and should generally not be used in patients with known structural cardiac abnormalities (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS** and **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular**).

Theoretically, there exists a pharmacological potential for all ADHD drugs to increase the risk of sudden/cardiac death. Although confirmation of an incremental risk for adverse cardiac events arising from treatment with ADHD medications is lacking, prescribers should consider this potential risk.

Patients who are considered to need extended treatment with **FOQUEST** should undergo periodic evaluation of their cardiovascular status (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular**).

Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

General:

FOQUEST controlled release capsules are for oral administration once daily in the morning, with or without food.

The effect of **FOQUEST** might last into the evening, take as soon as possible in the morning to avoid any potential effect on sleep.

Patients New to Methylphenidate:

The usual initial dose should be 25 mg once-daily in the morning. If a dose increase is warranted in the judgment of the physician, the daily dose may be adjusted to the lowest effective dose in intervals of no less than 5 days. The maximum daily dose for adults is 100 mg.

Patients Currently Taking Methylphenidate:

The recommended starting dose of **FOQUEST** is the next lower strength based on the total methylphenidate daily dose. If a dose increase is warranted in the judgment of the physician, the daily dose may be adjusted to the lowest effective dose in intervals of no less than 5 days. The maximum daily dose for adults is 100 mg.

Do not substitute for immediate release methylphenidate tablets or other controlled release methylphenidate products on a milligram for milligram basis because of differing pharmacokinetic profiles.

Long-term Use:

There is no evidence available from controlled trials to indicate how long a patient with ADHD should be treated. Pharmacological treatment of ADHD may be needed for extended periods. The safety and efficacy of **FOQUEST** in adults with ADHD was studied in a 4-week, placebo-controlled randomized trial. The safety of **FOQUEST** was further evaluated in a 6-month open-label trial (see **CLINICAL TRIALS**).

The clinician who elects to use **FOQUEST** for extended periods should periodically re-evaluate the long-term usefulness of the drug for the individual patient. Where possible, drug administration should be interrupted occasionally to determine if there is a recurrence of behavioral symptoms sufficient to require continued therapy.

Dose Reduction and Discontinuation:

If paradoxical aggravation of symptoms or other adverse effects occur, reduce dosage, or if necessary, discontinue the drug. If little or no improvement is observed after appropriate dosage adjustment over a one-month period, the drug should be discontinued.

Missed Dose

If a dose of **FOQUEST** is missed, the patient should be instructed to take the next dose in the usual amount at the usual time the next morning. Patients should be instructed not to take an afternoon dose and not to double the dose.

Administration

FOQUEST capsules should be swallowed whole and must never be crushed or chewed.

For patients unable to swallow the capsule, the capsule may be opened and the entire contents sprinkled onto a tablespoon of applesauce, ice cream or yogurt. Do not sprinkle in liquids. The entire mixture should be consumed **immediately or within 10 minutes** without chewing and should be discarded if not consumed. The dose of a single capsule should not be divided. The contents of the entire capsule should be taken, and patients should not take anything less than one capsule per day. Ingestion should be followed by rinsing the mouth with water to ensure that the entire contents are swallowed.

Disposal

FOQUEST should be kept in a safe place, such as under lock and out of the sight and reach of children before, during and after use. **FOQUEST** should not be used in front of children, since they may copy these actions.

Unused or expired **FOQUEST** should be properly disposed of as soon as it is no longer needed to prevent accidental exposure to others, including children or pets. **FOQUEST** should not be shared with others and steps should be taken to protect it from theft or misuse. The patient should speak to their pharmacist about temporary storage options, if required, until the medication can be returned to the pharmacy for safe disposal.

FOQUEST should never be disposed of in household trash. Disposal via a pharmacy take back program is recommended.

OVERDOSAGE

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

Signs and Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of acute overdose, resulting principally from overstimulation of the central nervous system and from excessive sympathomimetic effects, may include the following: agitation, cardiac arrhythmias, confusion, convulsions (may be followed by coma), delirium, euphoria, flushing, hallucinations, headache, hyperpyrexia, hyperreflexia, hypertension, muscle twitching, mydriasis and dryness of mucus membranes, palpitations, sweating, tachycardia, tremors and vomiting.

Recommended Treatment

Management consists of providing supportive measures. The patient must be protected against self-injury and against external stimuli that would exacerbate overstimulation already present. Intensive care must be provided to maintain adequate circulation and respiratory exchange. External cooling procedures may be required to reduce hyperpyrexia.

Efficacy of peritoneal dialysis or extracorporeal hemodialysis for methylphenidate overdosage has not been established. The prolonged release of methylphenidate from **FOQUEST** capsules should be considered when treating patients with overdose. Alcohol may induce the production of ethylphenidate. The amount of ethylphenidate production is proportional to the blood alcohol concentration (see **DRUG INTERACTIONS, Overview**). As with the management of all overdosage, the possibility of multiple drug ingestion, including alcohol, should be considered.

ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action

Methylphenidate is a central nervous system (CNS) stimulant. The pharmacological properties of methylphenidate are similar to those of the amphetamines. However in contrast to amphetamines, methylphenidate has more prominent effects on mental than motor activities.

Methylphenidate increases extracellular concentrations of dopamine and norepinephrine by inhibiting their neuronal reuptake, and is also an inhibitor of monoamine oxidase.

The behavioural and cognitive symptoms in ADHD and their response to stimulants are considered to reflect activity of dopaminergic and noradrenergic systems. Dopamine transporter binding sites are increased in the brains of ADHD patients and there is evidence for a genetic basis for this finding. Methylphenidate has been shown to both increase extracellular dopamine in the human brain and to reduce the number of dopamine transporter binding sites in patients with ADHD.

Pharmacodynamics

Methylphenidate exists as erythro and threo isomers but only the threo isomer possesses motor stimulant effects. Since both isomers inhibit monoamine oxidase, this suggests that this activity is not a primary mechanism of action of the *dl*-threo isomer when used clinically in ADHD.

dl-threo methylphenidate displays enantioselective pharmacokinetics. After administration of *dl*-methylphenidate, plasma concentrations of *d*-methylphenidate are greater than those of *l*-methylphenidate, due to preferential pre-systemic metabolism of the *l*-enantiomer to *l*-ritalinic acid. In addition, presence of the *d*-enantiomer inhibits the conversion of the *l*-enantiomer to ritalinic acid.

Pharmacokinetics

Absorption: **FOQUEST** (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) contains beads consisting of multiple layers of drug and drug release-controlling excipients. Each bead consists of multiple concentric layers of drug with 20% of the total methylphenidate dose

contained in an immediate release layer and 80% contained in delayed controlled release layers. Methylphenidate is readily absorbed. Under fasted conditions, plasma methylphenidate concentration reaches an initial peak at about 1.6 hours (range 1 to 4 hours), followed by a decrease and then a gradual ascending concentrations resulting in a second peak at about 12.5 hours (range 11 to 16 hours). **FOQUEST** once daily reduces the fluctuations between peak and trough concentrations associated with multiple doses of immediate release methylphenidate treatments. **FOQUEST** has an onset of action within 1 hour and a 16 hour duration of action.

A 4-way, single dose, crossover study of **FOQUEST** controlled release capsules (100 mg once daily) and immediate release methylphenidate tablets (20 mg t.i.d, given at 0, 4, and 8 hours) in healthy adults (≥ 18 years of age) under fed and fasted conditions was completed. Results demonstrated that the rate and extent of absorption of methylphenidate were lower for **FOQUEST** when dose-normalized and compared to immediate release methylphenidate tablets.

Results demonstrate that food does not significantly affect the observed AUC and C_{max} of methylphenidate in healthy adults after single dose oral administration of 100 mg of **FOQUEST**. The pharmacokinetic data are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of FOQUEST Pharmacokinetic Parameters for d-Methylphenidate in Healthy Adults (≥ 18 years of age) Following Single Dose Administration under Fasted and Fed Conditions (Mean \pm SD)

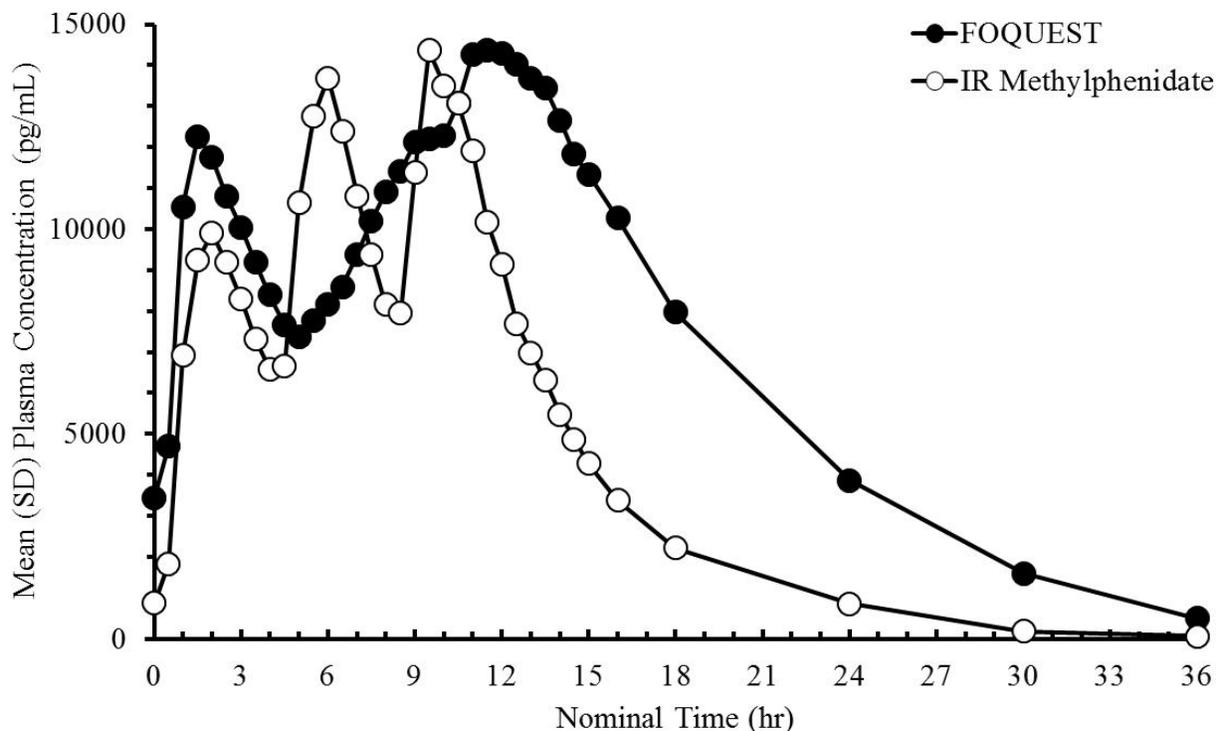
Parameters	Fasted	Fed
	FOQUEST (100 mg once daily) N=27	FOQUEST (100 mg once daily) N=27
AUC _{0-t} (h*pg/mL)	167783.86 \pm 46487.66	161271.48 \pm 40500.38
AUC _{0-inf} (h*pg/mL)	205610.43 \pm 61472.88	202964.28 \pm 57449.88
C_{max} (pg/mL)	12875.81 \pm 4590.85	11088.11 \pm 2699.06
T_{max} (hr)	11.5 ^a (1 – 14.5)	12.5 ^a (1.5 – 16.0)
$T_{1/2el}$ (hr)	6.95 \pm 3.25	7.03 \pm 2.28

^a Median (Range)

Steady State

A randomized, 2-way crossover study of **FOQUEST** controlled release capsules (100 mg once daily) and immediate release methylphenidate tablets (20 mg t.i.d, given at 0, 4, and 8 hours) under fasted conditions administered for 5 consecutive days was conducted in healthy subjects. Lack of statistically significant changes in pre-dose d-methylphenidate concentrations over time (Days 3, 4, and 5) suggest that steady-state conditions were reached. No further accumulation of methylphenidate was observed. Based on dose normalised results, the total drug exposure (AUC_{0-24h}) after dosing with **FOQUEST** is slightly lower (11.4%) to that obtained following dosing with Ritalin[®], with a 40.7% lower concentration peak (C_{max}) for **FOQUEST**. The lower fluctuation index (FI) leads to fewer peaks and troughs and a smaller difference in methylphenidate plasma concentrations between peaks and troughs for patients. The pharmacokinetic data are shown graphically in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Mean Steady State Plasma Concentration-Time Profile of d-Methylphenidate for FOQUEST (100 mg once daily) and Immediate Release Methylphenidate (20 mg t.i.d) at Day 5



Sprinkle

A 4-way crossover comparative study was completed to evaluate the rate and extent of methylphenidate absorption from **FOQUEST** (100 mg once daily) under fasting conditions when administered as an intact capsule versus when sprinkled on one tablespoon (15 mL) of soft foods under the following conditions: cold (4°C) applesauce, cold (4°C) yogurt, and frozen (-10°C) ice cream for up to 10 minutes. Results demonstrate that the rate and extent of absorption of methylphenidate are comparable when administered intact and sprinkled on food.

Distribution: In blood, methylphenidate and its metabolites are distributed between plasma (57%) and erythrocytes (43%). Methylphenidate and its metabolites exhibit low plasma protein binding (approximately 15%).

Metabolism and Excretion: The primary route of metabolism for methylphenidate is desterification to the inactive metabolite ritalinic acid (α -phenyl-2-piperidine acetic acid), which represents 60 to 81% of the administered dose, and 6-oxy- α -phenyl-2-piperidineacetic acid (9 to 12% of the administered dose). Unchanged drug accounts for less than 1% of the administered dose. First pass metabolism results in an absolute bioavailability of 30% with large inter-individual differences (11 to 52%).

Methylphenidate is excreted almost entirely in the urine. After oral dosing of radiolabeled methylphenidate in humans, about 90% of the radioactivity was recovered in urine. The main urinary metabolite was ritalinic acid, accounting for approximately 80% of the dose (see **ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Special Populations and Conditions, Renal Insufficiency**).

Special Populations and Conditions

Pediatrics: FOQUEST should not be used in patients under 18 years of age, since the safety and efficacy in this age group have not been established.

Geriatrics: Specific studies of FOQUEST in geriatric patients have not been conducted.

Hepatic Insufficiency: FOQUEST has not been studied in patients with hepatic insufficiency.

Renal Insufficiency: There is limited experience with the use of methylphenidate in patients with renal insufficiency. After oral administration of radiolabeled methylphenidate in humans, methylphenidate was extensively metabolized and approximately 80% of the radioactivity was excreted in the urine in the form of ritalinic acid metabolite. Since renal clearance is not a significant contributor to methylphenidate elimination, and ritalinic acid is an inactive metabolite, renal insufficiency is expected to have little effect on the pharmacokinetics of FOQUEST.

Nursing Women: Methylphenidate excretion into breast milk has been noted in two case reports, where the calculated relative infant dose was $\leq 0.2\%$ of the weight adjusted maternal dose.

STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C). Protect from moisture.

Keep in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children.

DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

Dosage Forms

FOQUEST (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) is a capsule formulation that uses MLR™ bead technology. Each bead consists of multiple concentric layers of drug and drug release-controlling excipients with 20% of the total methylphenidate dose contained in an immediate release layer and 80% contained in delayed controlled release layers for once daily oral administration.

FOQUEST is available in the following strengths (see Table 4):

Table 4: FOQUEST Capsule Colour by Strengths

Strength (mg)	Capsule Colour
25 mg	Blue
35 mg	Orange
45 mg	Yellow
55 mg	Light green
70 mg	Iron gray
85 mg	White
100 mg	Cream

Each capsule is imprinted with “MLR-02” and a number corresponding to the strength, in milligrams (mg), in black ink. All dosage strengths are supplied in bottles containing 60 capsules.

Composition

Non-medicinal Ingredients:

ammonio methacrylate copolymer dispersion (type B), anionic copolymer (consisting of methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate and methacrylic acid), glyceryl monostearate, hypromellose, polyethylene glycol, polysorbate, silicon dioxide, sodium hydroxide, sodium lauryl sulfate, sorbic acid, sugar spheres, triethyl citrate

Capsule Shells:

Additional capsule shell ingredients specific to each strength are presented in Table 5.

Table 5: FOQUEST Capsule Non-Medicinal Ingredients by Strengths

Strength (mg)	Non-Medicinal Ingredients
25 mg	FD&C Blue No. 1
35 mg	FD&C Yellow No. 6, Titanium Dioxide
45 mg	FD&C Yellow No. 5, Titanium Dioxide
55 mg	FD&C Blue No. 1, Yellow Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide
70 mg	Black Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide
85 mg	Titanium Dioxide
100 mg	Yellow Iron Oxide, Red Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide

PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

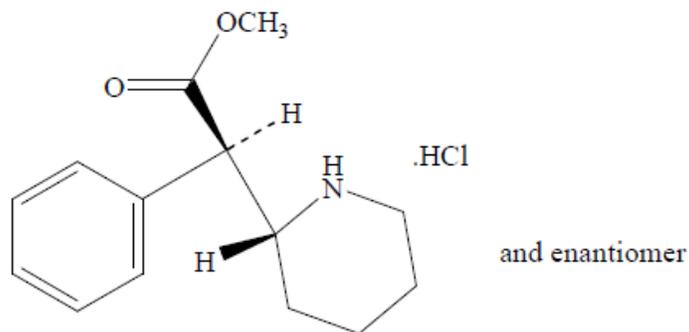
PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

Drug Substance

Proper name:	methylphenidate hydrochloride
Chemical name:	α -phenyl-2-piperidine acetic acid methyl ester hydrochloride
Molecular formula and molecular mass:	$C_{14}H_{19}NO_2 \cdot HCl / 269.77$

Structural formula:

Figure 2: Structural Formula – methylphenidate hydrochloride



Physicochemical properties:	Methylphenidate hydrochloride is a white to off-white, odourless crystalline powder. The pH of the aqueous solution is acidic to litmus, with a pKa of 8.8. It is freely soluble in water and in methanol, soluble in alcohol, and slightly soluble in chloroform and in acetone. It has a melting point in the range of 224 – 226°C.
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CLINICAL TRIALS

Study Demographics and Trial Design

Table 6: Summary of Patient Demographics for Clinical Trials in Specific Indication

Study #	Trial Design	Dosage, Route of Administration and Duration	Study Subjects	Mean Age (Range)	Gender	Primary Efficacy Endpoint
Pivotal Study in Adults						
063-010	Double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-arm, fixed dose, multi-centre study measuring efficacy and safety	Oral administration of placebo, 25 mg, 45 mg, 70 mg or 100 mg FOQUEST capsules once daily for up to 4-weeks	FOQUEST: n = 297 Placebo: n = 78	36.0 (18-72)	F = 198 M = 177	ADHD-5-RS

Abbreviations: ADHD-5-RS = Investigator ADHD Rating Scale

Study Results

Adults:

In a randomized, double-blind, multicentre, placebo-controlled trial involving 375 adult patients (18 to 72 years of age) who met the DSM-5 criteria for ADHD, **FOQUEST** (methylphenidate hydrochloride controlled release capsules) demonstrated to be safe and effective in the treatment of adults with ADHD. Following a one-week washout/baseline, patients were titrated to a randomized fixed dose over a two-week period in a double-blind manner and maintained on the assigned fixed dose for an additional two-week double-blind phase. At the end of the four week treatment, the mean investigator ADHD rating scale (ADHD-5-RS) score across all doses of **FOQUEST** was significantly improved relative to placebo. Improvement in ADHD symptomatology in the ADHD-5-RS total score demonstrated in the primary efficacy analysis (Table 7) was supported by the results of the ADHD-5-RS hyperactivity/impulsivity and inattentiveness subscale analyses, the clinician-rated global improvement (CGI-Improvement) score, the Weiss Functional Impairment Rating Scale (WFIRS-S), the Behaviour Rating Inventory of Executive Function – Adult (BRIEF-A) and the Adult ADHD Quality of Life Scale (AAQoL).

Table 7: Results of Study 063-010 in Adults (≥18 years of age) with ADHD

Endpoints	Associated Value and Statistical Significance		
		FOQUEST n=297	Placebo n=78
Primary Endpoint			
ADHD-5-RS	Mean Baseline:	36.3 ± 7.68	37.0 ± 7.94
	LS Mean Change from Baseline:	-14.49	-9.82
	Statistical Significance:	p=0.0026	

Abbreviations: LS = Least Square

ADHD-5-RS = Investigator ADHD Rating Scale

DETAILED PHARMACOLOGY

Animal Pharmacology

Pharmacodynamics:

Methylphenidate is a CNS stimulant. The mode of action of stimulants in ADHD is not completely understood, but they are thought to act primarily through indirect mechanisms, such as release of dopamine and norepinephrine from neuronal pools, and inhibition of neurotransmitter reuptake.

Methylphenidate is a racemic mixture comprised of the *d*- and *l*-threo stereoisomers. The *d*-isomer is pharmacologically active; the *l*-isomer has little pharmacologic activity. After administration of *dl*-methylphenidate, plasma concentrations of *d*-methylphenidate are greater than those of *l*-methylphenidate, due to preferential pre-systemic metabolism of the *l*-enantiomer to *l*-ritalinic acid. In addition, presence of the *d*-enantiomer inhibits the conversion of the *l*-enantiomer to ritalinic acid.

Safety Pharmacology:

An *in vivo* study conducted using conscious dogs showed no ECG changes (blood pressure and heart rate) in the cardiovascular system with orally administered doses of methylphenidate up to 10 mg/kg. Furthermore, in an *in vitro* study where methylphenidate was applied to either isolated guinea-pig papillary muscle or hERG transfected cells, it showed no effects on the electrophysiological parameters with concentrations of up to 1 µg/mL.

Pharmacokinetics

Studies in human, rats, mice, dogs, and monkeys demonstrated that methylphenidate is readily absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and eliminated. While some differences in the metabolic pathway were observed amongst different species, the overall metabolic rates were similar. Studies in rats and humans have shown that methylphenidate binds substantially to tissues and is mainly distributed in the striatum of the brain. Biotransformation in the gut or first-pass metabolism, or both, is common among the species studied. The primary metabolic pathway in humans is via deesterification by nonmicrosomal hydrolytic esterases, producing the inactive metabolite, ritalinic acid. Conversely, rats and dogs undergo methylphenidate microsomal oxidation and aromatic hydroxylation in addition to de-esterification. Across all species studied, methylphenidate is primarily excreted from the body via urinary excretion in the form of ritalinic acid.

TOXICOLOGY

Toxicology and carcinogenesis studies with methylphenidate hydrochloride were performed in rats and mice. Methylphenidate was administered for 2 years at doses of 0, 100, 500 or 1,000 ppm in the feed of rats and 0, 50, 250 and 500 ppm to mice. The average amount of methylphenidate consumed per day was estimated to be 4 to 47 mg/kg/day for rats and 5 to 67 mg/kg/day for mice. An increase of benign tumours of the liver, and increased liver weights, were observed in mice at the high dose. Increased incidences of neoplasms were not seen in the rats. Methylphenidate was not mutagenic in the Salmonella assay system.

A reproductive toxicity study in mice demonstrated that doses of 18, 75 and 160 mg/kg/day did not produce any changes in reproductive end points, despite changes in liver weights and male body weights.

In animal studies, no teratogenic effects were seen in rats when given at a dose of 75 mg/kg/day, which are 62.5 and 13.5 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/kg and mg/m² basis, respectively. In another study, however, methylphenidate was shown to be teratogenic in rabbits when given at a dose of 200 mg/kg/day, which are approximately 100 times and 40 times higher than the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/kg and mg/m² basis, respectively.

READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE

PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

◆ **FOQUEST™**
methylphenidate hydrochloride
Controlled Release Capsules

Read this carefully before you start taking **FOQUEST™** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **FOQUEST**.

Serious Warnings and Precautions

Drug Dependence

Abuse of **FOQUEST** can lead to dependence. Tell your healthcare professional if you have ever abused or been dependent on alcohol or drugs, or if you are now abusing or dependent on alcohol or drugs.

What is FOQUEST used for?

FOQUEST is used in adults to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

FOQUEST is one part of your treatment program. Your healthcare professional can help you find the counselling and support that you need for a complete treatment program.

How does FOQUEST work?

FOQUEST contains methylphenidate hydrochloride, which belongs to a group of medicines called central nervous system stimulants. It works by changing the levels of certain chemicals in the brain. This helps to increase attention and decrease impulsivity and hyperactivity in patients with ADHD.

What is Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)?

Patients with ADHD have problems with attention, hyperactivity and impulse control. These symptoms interfere with the patient's daily life. Some patients have symptoms related to hyperactivity and impulse control while others have symptoms related to inattention. Some patients have both types of symptoms. Many people have symptoms like these from time to time, but patients with ADHD have these symptoms more than others their age.

Symptoms of inattention include:

- Not paying attention
- Making careless mistakes
- Not listening
- Not finishing tasks
- Not following directions

- Having difficulty with organization
- Avoiding or disliking tasks that require a lot of thinking
- Losing things
- Being forgetful
- Being easily distracted

Symptoms of hyperactivity and impulsivity include:

- Fidgeting
- Having difficulty remaining seated
- Feeling restlessness
- Having difficulty with quiet activities
- Often being “on the go”
- Talking excessively
- Having difficulty waiting or taking turns
- Interrupting others

What are the ingredients in FOQUEST?

Medicinal ingredients: methylphenidate hydrochloride

Non-medicinal ingredients: ammonio methacrylate copolymer dispersion (type B), anionic copolymer (consisting of methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate and methacrylic acid), glyceryl monostearate, hypromellose, polyethylene glycol, polysorbate, silicon dioxide, sodium hydroxide, sodium lauryl sulfate, sorbic acid, sugar spheres, triethyl citrate

Strength (mg)	Non-Medicinal Ingredients
25 mg	FD&C Blue No. 1
35 mg	FD&C Yellow No. 6, Titanium Dioxide
45 mg	FD&C Yellow No. 5, Titanium Dioxide
55 mg	FD&C Blue No. 1, Yellow Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide
70 mg	Black Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide
85 mg	Titanium Dioxide
100 mg	Yellow Iron Oxide, Red Iron Oxide, Titanium Dioxide

FOQUEST comes in the following dosage forms:

Controlled release capsules: 25 mg (blue), 35 mg (orange), 45 mg (yellow), 55 mg (light green), 70 mg (iron gray), 85 mg (white), 100 mg (cream)

Do not use FOQUEST if you:

- are allergic to methylphenidate hydrochloride, any other central nervous system stimulants, or any of the other ingredients in **FOQUEST**.
- have ever had heart problems such as a heart attack, irregular heartbeat, chest pain, heart failure, heart disease or were born with a heart problem.
- have anxiety, tension or agitation.
- have glaucoma (increased eye pressure).

- have, or there is a family history of, motor tics (hard-to-control, repeated twitching of any parts of your body), verbal tics (hard-to-control repeating of sounds or words) or Tourette’s syndrome.
- have moderate to severe high blood pressure.
- have hardened arteries.
- have an overactive thyroid gland.
- are taking or have taken within the past 14-days medications from a group called monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors.
- have a history of drug abuse.

FOQUEST should not be used in patients less than 18 years old.

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take FOQUEST. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:

- have mild high blood pressure, heart problems or heart defects.
- have a family history of sudden cardiac death.
- have thyroid problems.
- have had seizures or abnormal EEGs (measure of brainwave activity).
- do high-intensity exercise or activities.
- have mental health problems or family history of mental health problems, including:
 - psychosis
 - mania
 - bipolar disorder
 - depression
 - aggression
 - suicide
- drink alcohol or have a history of alcohol abuse. You should not drink alcohol while taking **FOQUEST**.
- have circulation problems in fingers and toes, including numbness, feeling cold or pain (this is also known as Raynaud’s phenomenon).
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. **FOQUEST** should not be used during pregnancy.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **FOQUEST** can pass through your breast milk. You should consult with your healthcare professional to determine whether you should stop breast-feeding or discontinue **FOQUEST**.
- take other drugs for ADHD or depression.

Other warnings you should know about:

Driving and Using Machines

FOQUEST can affect your ability to drive and use potentially dangerous tools or machinery. You should not drive or use tools or machinery until you know how you respond to **FOQUEST**.

Dependence and Tolerance

FOQUEST has the potential to be abused if not taken correctly which can lead to dependence and tolerance. If you have a history of drug or alcohol abuse, discuss this with your healthcare professional. Do not change your dose or stop taking **FOQUEST** without first discussing this with your healthcare professional.

Heart Related Problems

The following heart related problems have been reported in people taking medicine to treat ADHD like **FOQUEST**:

- **Sudden death in patients who have heart problems or heart defects**
- **Stroke and heart attack**
- **Increased blood pressure**
- **Increased heart rate**

Your healthcare professional will check you carefully for heart problems before starting **FOQUEST** and will check your blood pressure and heart rate regularly during treatment with **FOQUEST**.

Seek immediate medical help if you have any signs of heart problems such as chest pain, difficulty breathing or fainting while taking FOQUEST.

Mental Health Problems

The following mental health problems have been reported in people taking medicine to treat ADHD like **FOQUEST**:

- **New or worse thoughts or feelings of suicide (thinking about or feeling like killing yourself) and suicide attempt**
- **New or worse bipolar disorder (extreme mood swings, with periods of excitement, switching between periods of sadness)**
- **New or worse aggressive behavior or hostility**
- **New psychotic symptoms (such as hearing voices, believing things that are not true, being suspicious)**

These new or worse mental health problems may be more likely to happen if you have mental health conditions. These symptoms can happen at any time during treatment but are more likely to occur when you first start taking **FOQUEST**, when your dose changes, or after stopping **FOQUEST** treatment.

Seek immediate medical help if you have any mental health symptoms while taking FOQUEST.

Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.

The following may interact with FOQUEST:

- Alcohol – you should avoid alcohol, including any medications containing alcohol, such as some cough syrups, while taking **FOQUEST**
- Clonidine used to treat ADHD
- Certain medicines used to treat or prevent blood clot, such as warfarin
- Certain medicines used to treat seizures, such as phenobarbital, phenytoin, or primidone
- Certain medicines for depression and mood disorders, such as Tricyclic Antidepressants (e.g. amitriptyline) and Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs). Do not take **FOQUEST** with monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors or if you have taken MAO inhibitors in the last 14-days before treatment with **FOQUEST**.
- Certain medicines used to treat high blood pressure

How to take FOQUEST:

- Your healthcare professional will decide the dose that is right for you. Always follow the directions of your healthcare professional and never change your dose or stop taking **FOQUEST** without first discussing it with your healthcare professional.
- **FOQUEST** should be taken once-a-day, with or without food, as soon as possible in the morning as the effects of **FOQUEST** can last late into the evening and may affect your sleep.
- **FOQUEST capsules should be swallowed whole with a full glass of water and must never be crushed or chewed.**
- For patients unable to swallow the capsule, the capsule may be opened and the entire contents sprinkled onto applesauce, ice cream or yogurt. Do not sprinkle in liquids.

To sprinkle FOQUEST onto food:

1. Measure a tablespoon of applesauce, ice cream or yogurt.
 2. Open the capsule.
 3. Sprinkle the entire contents (beads) onto the tablespoon.
 4. Take the entire mixture **immediately or within 10 minutes**.
- Do **not** chew the capsule contents (beads).
 - Rinse your mouth with water and swallow the water.
 - Do **not** keep any of the food/medicine mixture for another dose.
 - Throw out any food/medicine mixture if:
 - it has been more than 10 minutes since you sprinkled the capsule onto the food.
 - you do not remember when you sprinkled the capsule onto the food.
 - you do not remember which food you sprinkled the capsule onto.

Usual adult dose:

Take the dose prescribed by your healthcare professional. Your healthcare professional may adjust the amount of medicine until it is right for you. From time to time, your healthcare professional may interrupt your treatment with **FOQUEST** to check for symptoms while you are not taking the medicine.

Overdose:

If you think you have taken too much **FOQUEST**, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

Missed Dose:

If you forget to take your dose in the morning, wait until the next day and take the usual dose at the usual time in the morning. Do not take an afternoon dose. Do not double the dose to make up for the missed dose.

What are possible side effects from using FOQUEST?

These are not all the possible side effects that you may feel when taking **FOQUEST**. If you experience any side effects not listed here, contact your healthcare professional.

Side effects may include:

- Loss of appetite
- Headache
- Insomnia
- Upper abdominal pain
- Dry mouth
- Diarrhea, nausea
- Fatigue, drowsiness
- Feeling jittery
- Weight loss
- Sinus infection, common cold

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
Very Common			
Mental Health Problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paranoia, delusions • Hallucinations: seeing, feeling or hearing things that are not real • Mania: feeling unusually excited, or over-active • Depression • Agitation, irritability, anxiety, nervousness • Aggression, hostility • Compulsions 		✓	
Common			
Heart Problems: fast heartbeat, palpitations, chest pain, difficulty breathing, fainting			✓
Eye Problems: blurred vision, abnormal blinking or eyelid spasms		✓	

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
Unknown			
Suicidal Behaviour: thoughts or feelings about harming yourself			✓
Raynaud's Phenomenon: discoloration of the fingers and toes, pain, sensations of cold and/or numbness		✓	
Seizures or Convulsions: loss of consciousness with uncontrollable shaking (fit)			✓
Serious Allergic Reaction: itching, skin rash, swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue, trouble swallowing, trouble breathing			✓
Priapism: long-lasting (greater than 4 hours in duration) and painful erection of the penis			✓
Bladder Infection: increased need to urinate, pain when urinating, blood in the urine		✓	
Tourette's Syndrome: motor tics (hard-to-control, repeated twitching of any part of your body) and verbal tics (hard-to-control repeating of sounds or words)			✓
Edema: swollen hands, ankles or feet	✓		

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your healthcare professional.

Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

NOTE: Contact your healthcare professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.

Storage:

Keep unused or expired FOQUEST in a secure place to prevent theft, misuse or accidental exposure. Keep FOQUEST out of sight and reach of children and pets.

Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C). Protect from moisture.

Disposal:

FOQUEST should never be thrown into household trash, where children and pets may find it. It should be returned to a pharmacy for proper disposal.

If you want more information about FOQUEST:

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full Product Monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (www.healthcanada.gc.ca); the manufacturer's website <http://www.purdue.ca/products>, or by calling 1-800-387-4501

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