

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **Volutsa 6 mg/0,4 mg tabletten met gereguleerde afgifte** solifenacin succinate/tamsulosin hydrochloride

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet**

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

#### **1. What Volutsa is and what it is used for**

Volutsa is a combination of two different medicines called solifenacin and tamsulosin in one tablet. Solifenacin belongs to a group of medicines called anticholinergics and tamsulosin belongs to a group of medicines called alpha-blockers.

Volutsa is used in men to treat both moderate to severe storage symptoms and voiding symptoms of the lower urinary tract which are caused by bladder problems and an enlarged prostate (benign prostatic hyperplasia). Volutsa is used when previous treatment with a monoprodukt for this condition did not relieve symptoms adequately.

As the prostate grows, it can lead to urinary problems (voiding symptoms) such as hesitancy (difficulty to start urinating), difficulty urinating (poor stream), dribbling and feeling of incomplete bladder emptying. At the same time, the bladder is also affected and contracts spontaneously at times you do not want to void. This causes storage symptoms such as changes in bladder sensation, urgency (having a strong, sudden desire to urinate without prior warning), and having to urinate more frequently.

Solifenacin reduces the undesired contractions of your bladder and increases the amount of urine that your bladder can hold. Therefore you can wait longer before you have to go to the toilet. Tamsulosin enables urine to pass more readily through the urethra and facilitates urination.

#### **2. What you need to know before you use Volutsa**

##### **Do not use Volutsa if:**

- you are allergic to solifenacin or tamsulosin or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

- you are undergoing kidney dialysis.
- you have a severe liver disease.
- you suffer from severe kidney disease AND if, at the same time, you are being treated with medicines that may decrease the removal of Volutsa from the body (for example ketoconazole, ritonavir, nelfinavir, itraconazole). Your doctor or pharmacist will have informed you if this is the case.
- you suffer from moderate liver disease AND if, at the same time, you are being treated with medicines that may decrease the removal of Volutsa from the body (for example ketoconazole, ritonavir, nelfinavir, itraconazole). Your doctor or pharmacist will have informed you if this is the case.
- you have a severe stomach or bowel condition (including toxic megacolon, a complication associated with ulcerative colitis).
- you suffer from a muscle disease called myasthenia gravis, which can cause an extreme weakness of certain muscles.
- you suffer from increased pressure in the eyes (glaucoma), with gradual loss of eye sight.
- you suffer from fainting due to reduced blood pressure when changing posture (going to sit up or stand up); this is called orthostatic hypotension.

Tell your doctor if you think that any of these conditions apply to you.

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Volutsa if:

- you have an inability to pass water (urinary retention).
- you have some obstruction of the digestive system.
- you are at risk of your digestive system slowing down (stomach and bowel movements). Your doctor will have informed you if this is the case.
- you have a stomach tear (hiatus hernia) or heartburn and/or if, at the same time, you are taking medicines that can cause or worsen oesophagitis.
- you suffer from a certain type of nervous disease (autonomic neuropathy).
- you suffer from severe kidney disease.
- you suffer from moderate liver disease.

Periodic medical examinations are necessary to monitor the development of the condition you are being treated for.

Volutsa can affect your blood pressure which can make you feel dizzy, light headed or rarely can make you faint (orthostatic hypotension). You should sit or lie down if you experience any of these symptoms until they disappear.

If you are undergoing or have been scheduled for eye surgery because of cloudiness of the lens (cataract) or increased pressure in the eyes (glaucoma), please inform your eye specialist that you have previously used, are using or are planning to use Volutsa. The specialist can then take appropriate precautions with respect to medication and surgical techniques to be used. Ask your doctor whether or not you should postpone or temporarily stop taking this medicine when undergoing eye surgery because of a cloudy lens (cataract) or increased pressure in the eye (glaucoma).

### **Children and adolescents**

Do not give this medicine to children and adolescents.

### **Other medicines and Volutsa**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

It is especially important to inform your doctor if you are using:

- medicines like ketoconazole, erythromycin, ritonavir, nelfinavir, itraconazole, verapamil, diltiazem, and paroxetine which decrease the rate at which Volutsa is removed from the body.
- other anticholinergic medicines, as effects and side effects of both medications can be enhanced if you are taking two medicines of the same type.
- cholinergics, as they can reduce the effect of Volutsa.
- medicines like metoclopramide and cisapride, which make the digestive system work faster. Volutsa can reduce their effect.
- other alpha-blockers, as this may cause an unwanted decrease in blood pressure.
- medicines such as bisphosphonates, that can cause or exacerbate inflammation of the gullet (oesophagitis).

### **Volutsa with food and drink**

Volutsa can be taken with or without food, according to your preference.

### **Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**

Volutsa is not indicated for use by women.

In men, abnormal ejaculation has been reported (ejaculation disorder). This means that the semen does not leave the body via the urethra, but instead goes into the bladder (retrograde ejaculation) or the ejaculation volume is reduced or absent (ejaculation failure). This phenomenon is harmless.

### **Driving and using machines**

Volutsa might cause dizziness, blurred vision, tiredness and, uncommonly, sleepiness. If you suffer from these side effects, do not drive or operate machinery.

## **3. How to use Volutsa**

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

The maximum daily dose is one tablet containing 6 mg of solifenacin and 0.4 mg of tamsulosin, taken by mouth. It can be taken with or without food, according to your preference. Do not crush or chew the tablet.

### **If you take more Volutsa than you should**

If you have taken more tablets than you have been told to take, or if someone else accidentally takes your tablets, contact your doctor, pharmacist or hospital immediately for advice.

In case of an overdose your doctor may treat you with activated charcoal; emergency stomach washout may be useful if performed within 1 hour of overdose. Do not induce vomiting.

Symptoms of overdose may include: dry mouth, dizziness, and blurred vision, perceiving things that are not there (hallucinations), over-excitability, seizures (convulsions), difficulty breathing, increased heart rate (tachycardia), inability to completely or partially empty the bladder or pass urine (urinary retention) and/or an unwanted decrease in blood pressure.

**If you forget to take Volutsa**

Take your next tablet of Volutsa as normal. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

**If you stop taking Volutsa**

If you stop taking Volutsa, your original complaints may return or worsen. Always consult your doctor, if you are considering stopping the treatment.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**4. Possible side effects**

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

The most serious side effect that has uncommonly (may affect up to 1 in 100 men) been observed during treatment with Volutsa in clinical studies is acute urinary retention, which is a sudden inability to pass urine. If you think you may have this, see a doctor straight away. You may need to stop taking Volutsa.

Allergic reactions could occur with Volutsa:

- Uncommon signs of allergic reactions can include skin rash (which can be itchy) or hives (urticaria).
- Rare symptoms include swelling of the face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing (angioedema). Angioedema has been reported rarely on tamsulosin and very rarely with solifenacin. If angioedema occurs, Volutsa should be stopped immediately and not started again.

If you experience an allergic attack, or a severe skin reaction (e.g. blistering and peeling of the skin), you must inform your doctor immediately, and stop using Volutsa. Appropriate therapy and/or measures should be taken.

**Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 men)**

- Dry mouth
- Constipation
- Indigestion (dyspepsia)
- Dizziness
- Blurred vision
- Tiredness (fatigue)
- Abnormal ejaculation (ejaculation disorder). This means that semen does not leave the body via the urethra, but instead goes into the bladder (retrograde ejaculation) or the ejaculation volume is reduced or absent (ejaculation failure) This phenomenon is harmless.
- Feeling sick (nausea)
- Abdominal pain

**Other uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 men)**

- Sleepiness (somnolence)
- Itching (pruritus)
- Urinary tract infection, bladder infection (cystitis)

- Impaired sense of taste (dysgeusia)
- Dry eyes
- Dry nose
- Reflux disease (gastro-oesophageal reflux)
- Dry throat
- Dry skin
- Difficulty in passing urine
- Accumulation of fluid in the lower legs (oedema)
- Headache
- Fast or uneven heartbeat (palpitations)
- Feeling dizzy or weak especially when you stand up (orthostatic hypotension)
- Runny or blocked nose (rhinitis)
- Diarrhoea
- Being sick (vomiting)
- Tiredness (asthenia)

**Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 men)**

- Lodging of a large amount of hardened stool in the large intestine (faecal impaction)
- Feeling faint (syncope)
- Skin allergy that results in the swelling that occurs in the tissue just below the surface of the skin (angioedema)

**Very rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 men)**

- Hallucinations, confusion
- Allergic skin reaction (Erythema multiforme)
- Long-lasting and painful erection (usually not during sexual activity) (priapism)
- Rash, inflammation and blistering of the skin and/or mucous membranes of the lips, eyes, mouth, nasal passages or genitals (Stevens-Johnson syndrome)

**Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)**

- Decreased appetite
- High levels of blood potassium (hyperkalaemia) which can cause abnormal heart rhythm
- Increased pressure in the eyes (glaucoma)
- Irregular or unusual heart beat (QT prolongation, Torsade de Pointes, atrial fibrillation, arrhythmia)
- Faster heartbeat (tachycardia)
- Shortness of breath (dyspnoea)
- During an operation of the eye for cloudiness of the lens (cataract) or for increased pressure in the eye (glaucoma) the pupil (the black circle in the middle of your eye) may not increase in size as needed. Also, the iris (the coloured part of the eye) may become floppy during surgery.
- Voice disorder
- Liver disorder
- Muscle weakness
- Renal disorder
- Impaired vision
- Nose bleeds (epistaxis)

**Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system](#)

listed in Appendix V. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Volutsa**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton or blister after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Volutsa contains**

- The active substances are 6 mg solifenacin succinate and 0.4 mg tamsulosin hydrochloride.
- The other ingredients are mannitol (E421), maltose, macrogol, magnesium stearate (E470b), butylhydroxytoluene (E321), colloidal silica anhydrous (E551), hypromellose (E464), iron oxide red (E172).

### **What Volutsa looks like and contents of the pack**

Volutsa 6 mg/0.4 mg tablets are round, red film-coated tablets, debossed with “6/0.4”.

Volutsa modified release tablets are available in aluminium blister packs containing 10, 14, 20, 28, 30, 50, 56, 60, 90, 100 or 200 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be available in your country.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

Astellas Pharma Europe BV  
Sylviusweg 62  
2333 BE Leiden  
Nederland

### **In het register ingeschreven onder nummer**

RVG 114181

**Deze bijsluiter is voor het laatst goedgekeurd in november 2017**

### **Other sources of information**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the web site of the Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board (<http://www.cbg-meb.nl/cbg/nl>).