Prescribing Information
Diamox SR 250mg Capsules

Presentation: Each capsule contains 250mg Acetazolamide.
Indication: Glaucoma. Dosage and Administration: Adults: One or two capsules a day. Children: Not intended to be used in children. Caution in the elderly, those with potential urinary tract obstruction, liver dysfunction or with electrolyte balance disorders. In moderate to severe renal impairment, dose should not exceed 250mg /day or increase dosage interval to every 12 hours.

Contraindications: When sodium and/or potassium blood levels are depressed, marked renal impairment or dysfunction, suprarenal gland failure, hyperchloremic acidosis, liver disease or impaired liver function including cirrhosis as this may increase the risk of hepatic encephalopathy. Long-term administration is contra-indicated in patients with chronic non-congestive angle-closure glaucoma. Hypersensitivity to sulphonamides or other sulphonamide derivatives or to any of the excipients.

Precautions and Warnings: Dose increase leads to the incidence of drowsiness and/or paraesthesia. Suicidal ideation and behaviour have been reported in patients treated with anti-epileptic agents. Rare fatalities have occurred due to severe reactions, such as Steven-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis, fulminant hepatic necrosis, agranulocytosis, aplastic anaemia and other blood dyscrasias and anaphylaxis. Stop drug when a precipitous drop in blood cell elements occurs or toxic skin manifestations or hypersensitivity reactions appear. Caution and periodic monitoring of serum is advised as Acetazolamide treatment may cause electrolyte imbalances, including hyponatraemia transient hypokalaemia, and metabolic acidosis, increased and decreased blood glucose levels have been seen so this should be considered in patients with impaired glucose tolerance or diabetes mellitus.

Interactions: Folic acid antagonists, hypoglycaemics, oral anti-coagulants, acetylsalicylic acid, phenytoin, carbamazepine. A possible additive effect occurs with carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, anti-diabetic agents, cyclosporine, amphetamine, quinidine lithium and sodium bicarbonate.

Pregnancy and Lactation: It should not be used in pregnancy, especially during the first trimester. Caution should be exercised when Diamox SR is administered to lactating women.

Undesirable Effects: Short term therapy non-serious side-effects: paraesthesia; some loss of appetite; taste disturbance, polyuria, flushing, thirst, headache, dizziness, fatigue, irritability, excitement, ataxia, depression, reduced libido and occasional instances of drowsiness, confusion and rarely photosensitivity. Long-term therapy side-effects: nephrolithiasis, metabolic acidosis and electrolyte imbalance, hypokalaemia, hyperkalaemia, osteomalacia, hyperglycaemia, hypoglycaemia, and transient myopia. Other side-effects: fever, agranulocytosis, thrombocytopenia, thrombocytic purpura, leukopenia, and aplastic anaemia, bone marrow depression, pancytopenia, rash, anaphylaxis, crystalluria, calculus formation, renal and ureteral colic, renal lesions, fulminant hepatic necrosis, urticaria, melena, haematuria, glycosuria, impaired hearing and tinnitus, abnormal liver function, renal failure and rarely; hepatitis or cholestatic jaundice, fisscoid paralysis, and convulsions. Please refer Summary of Product Characteristics for detailed information

Overdose: No specific antidote. Usually supportive management. Acidosis can be corrected with administration of bicarbonate. Acetazolamide is dialyzable.

Legal Category: POM
Basic NHS Cost: £16.66 for 30 tablets
Marketing Authorization Number: PL 12762/0145
Authorisation Holder: Amipharm Mercury Company Limited, NLA Tower, Croydon, CR0 0XT, Trading as Mercury Pharmaceuticals
Date of Preparation: August 2012
Date of Revision: June 2013

Adverse events should be reported to the local regulatory authority.
Reporting forms and information can be found at www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard
Adverse events should also be reported to Amipharm Mercury Medical Information at 08700 70 30 33 or via e-mail to medicalinformation@amcolimited.com