

# Rifaximin 200 mg, 400 mg & 550 mg Tablets RIFAXIGESS

# What is Rifaximin?

Rifaximin is a gut-selective antibiotic with negligible systemic absorption(less than 0.4%) and a broad spectrum of activity against gram positive and gram negative aerobes and anaerobes through the inhibition of bacterial RNA synthesis<sup>1</sup>.

# Mechanism of Action<sup>2</sup>:

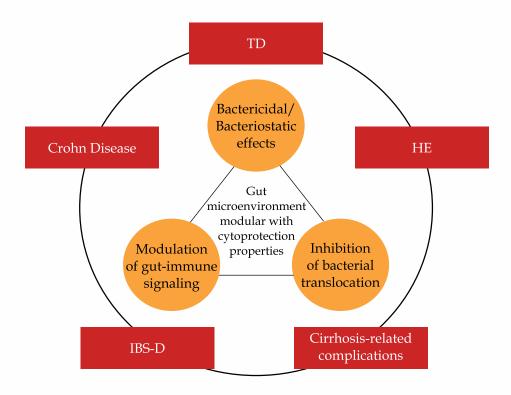
Rifaximin acts as a gut microenvironment modulator with cytoprotection properties and effects on various gastrointestinal conditions.

Rifaximin has direct antimicrobial effects that are exerted primarily within the small intestine.

It reduces bacterial virulence and pathogenicity by inhibiting bacterial translocation across the gut mucosal epithelia, which then reduces the release and absorption of endotoxin and bacterial metabolites, stabilize the gut mucosa, and render the mucosa resistant to bacterial inflammation.

Further it modulates gut-immune signalling, perhaps via alterations in gene transcription that reduce or reverse levels of pro inflammatory immune mediators and the chronic pro inflammatory response associated with many gastrointestinal diseases.

HE = hepatic encephalopathy; IBS-D = Diarrhoea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome; TD = Traveler's Diarrhea.



### Clinical Evidence:

Rifaximin Therapy for Patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome without Constipation<sup>1</sup>.

NEngl J Med 2011

# Background:

The aim of the study is to evaluate rifaximin, a minimally absorbed antibiotic, as treatment for IBS.

#### *Method:*

In two identically designed, phase 3, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials, patients who had IBS without constipation were randomly assigned to either rifaximin at a dose of 550 mg or placebo, three times daily for 2 weeks, and were followed for an additional 10 weeks. Adequate relief was defined as self-reported relief of symptoms for at least 2 of the first 4 weeks after treatment.

The secondary end points included the percentage of patients who had a response to treatment as assessed by daily self-ratings of global IBS symptoms and individual symptoms of bloating, abdominal pain, and stool consistency during the 4 weeks after treatment and during the entire 3 months of the study.

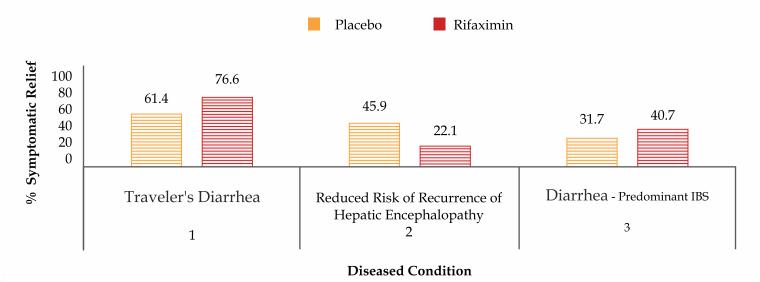
#### Results:

Significantly more patients in the Rifaximin group than in the placebo group had adequate relief of global IBS symptoms during the first 4 weeks after treatment. In addition, significantly more patients in the rifaximin group had a response to treatment as assessed by daily ratings of IBS symptoms, bloating, abdominal pain, and stool consistency.

### Conclusions:

Among patients who had IBS without constipation, treatment with rifaximin for 2 weeks provided significant relief of IBS symptoms, bloating, abdominal pain, and loose or watery stools.

# Efficacy of Rifaximin in Diseased Condition2:



#### References:

- 1. N Engl J Med 2011
- 2. Mayo Clin Proc; August 2015

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#### **Indication:**

- Diarrhea associated with IBD/IBS
- Hepatic Encephalopathy
- Traveler's Diarrhea
- Controls SIBO Growth
- Adjuvant Therapy in Chronic Treatment Resistant Pouchitis
- Cirrhotic infection
- Functional Dyspepsia

## Why Rifaxigress:

- Rifaximin is an oral, nonsystemic agent that exerts bactericidal and bacteriostatic effects by binding to the  $\beta$  subunit of bacterial DNA-dependent RNA polymerase and inhibiting bacterial RNA synthesis<sup>1</sup>.
- Rifaximin provides adequate relief of global IBS symptoms<sup>1</sup>.
- In Traveler's Diarrhea Rifaximin was as efficacious as ciprofloxacin in reducing the time to last unformed stool<sup>2</sup>.
- Rifaximin significantly reduced the risk of recurrence of hepatic encephalopathy<sup>2</sup>.
- Rifaximin was approved for the treatment of IBS-D in adults, studies support the efficacy and safety of rifaximin in the treatment of IBS-D<sup>2</sup>.
- Adjunctive Antibiotic Therapy with Rifaximin is associated with clinical improvement in patients with Crohn's disease<sup>2</sup>.
- Rifaximin treatment is effective and safe for the treatment of SIBO<sup>3</sup>.

# Dosage:

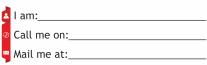
- Dosage for Travelers' Diarrhea: The recommended dose is one 200 mg tablet taken orally three times a day.
- Dosage for Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Diarrhea: The recommended dose of Rifaximin is one 550 mg tablet taken orally three times a day for 14 days. Patients who experience a recurrence of symptoms can be retreated up to two times with the same dosage regimen.
- Dosage for Hepatic Encephalopathy: The recommended dose of Rifaximin is one 550 mg tablet taken orally two times a day.

#### References:

- 1. N Engl J Med 2011
- 2. Mayo Clin Proc; August 2015
- 3. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2017

La Renon Healthcare Pvt. Ltd.

207-208 Iscon Elegance, Circle P, Prahlad Nagar Cross Roads, S.G. Highway, Ahmedabad-380015, Gujarat, India. Phone: +91-79-6616-8998 | Fax: +91-79-6616-8998 | E-mail: info@larenon.com | Web: www.larenon.com



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