

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

Pr**FROVA**®

Frovatriptan tablets

Tablets, 2.5 mg frovatriptan (as frovatriptan succinate), oral  
Migraine Therapy

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## RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES

Section	Date
None	N/A

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Sections or subsections that are not applicable at the time of authorization are not listed.

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## **PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION**

### **1 INDICATIONS**

FROVA (frovatriptan tablets) is indicated for the acute treatment of migraine attacks with or without aura in adults.

FROVA is not intended for the prophylactic therapy of migraine or for the use in the management of hemiplegic, ophthalmoplegic or basilar migraine (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)).

The safety and effectiveness of FROVA have not been established for cluster headache, which is present in an older, predominantly male, population.

#### **1.1 Pediatrics**

Pediatrics (< 18 years old): No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use (see [8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions](#)).

#### **1.2 Geriatrics**

Geriatrics (≥ 65 years old): Because migraine occurs infrequently in the elderly, clinical experience with FROVA is limited in such patients. Limited evidence from clinical studies and experience suggests that the use of FROVA in the geriatric population may be associated with slight differences in safety or effectiveness (see [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment](#); [7.1.4 Geriatrics](#); [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Special Populations and Conditions, Geriatrics](#)).

### **2 CONTRAINDICATIONS**

FROVA is contraindicated:

- In patients who are hypersensitive to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation, including any non-medicinal ingredient, or component of the container. For a complete listing, see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).
- In patients with history, symptoms, or signs of ischemic cardiac syndromes such as angina pectoris of any type (e.g., stable angina of effort and vasospasm forms of angina such as the Prinzmetal's variant, all forms of myocardial infarction, and silent myocardial ischemia);
- In patients with history, symptoms, or signs of valvular heart disease or cardiac arrhythmias (especially tachycardia);
- In patients with history, symptoms, or signs of cerebrovascular syndromes (e.g., stroke and transient ischemic attack (TIA));
- In patients with history, symptoms, or signs of peripheral vascular syndromes (e.g., ischemic bowel disease and Raynaud's syndrome);
- In patients with other significant underlying cardiovascular diseases (e.g., atherosclerotic disease, congenital heart disease);

- In patients with severe or uncontrolled hypertension as FROVA may increase blood pressure;
- In patients with hemiplegic, ophthalmoplegic or basilar migraine;
- Within 24 hours of treatment with another 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonist, or an ergot-type medication like dihydroergotamine;
- In patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh grade C) as there are no data available.

## 4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 Dosing Considerations

- FROVA is recommended only for the acute treatment of migraine attacks, and should not be used prophylactically.
- FROVA should be administered with caution to patients with diseases that may alter the absorption, metabolism, or excretion of drugs (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).
- The safety of treating an average of more than 4 migraine attacks in a 30-day period has not been established.
- In patients with mild to moderate controlled hypertension, patients should be treated cautiously (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular, Effects on Blood Pressure](#)).

### 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

#### General

The recommended dosage of FROVA is a single tablet for migraine headache with or without aura.

The total daily dose of FROVA should not exceed 2 tablets (2 x 2.5 mg per day).

If the headache recurs after initial relief, a second dose may be taken between 4 and 24 hours after the first dose.

For a given attack, if a patient has no response to the first dose of FROVA, the diagnosis of migraine should be reconsidered before administration of a second dose. There is no evidence that a second dose of frovatriptan is effective in patients who do not respond to a first dose of the drug for the same headache (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Neurologic, Cerebrovascular Events and Fatalities with 5-HT<sub>1</sub> Agonists](#)).

#### Pediatrics (< 18 years old)

Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

### **Geriatrics (≥ 65 years old)**

Although some changes in the pharmacokinetics of FROVA have been observed in geriatric patients during clinical trials, no dosage adjustment is required for this population (see [7.1.4 Geriatrics](#) and [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

### **Hepatic impairment**

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

FROVA is contraindicated in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh grade C) due to the absence of clinical data (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)).

### **Renal impairment**

No dosage adjustment is required in patients with renal impairment (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

## **4.4 Administration**

It is recommended that FROVA be taken orally with fluids.

Patients should be advised to read the Patient Medication Information before taking FROVA.

## **5 OVERDOSAGE**

There is no direct experience of any patient taking an overdose of FROVA. The maximum single dose of frovatriptan given to male and female patients with migraine was 40 mg (16 times the clinical dose) and the maximum single dose given to healthy male subjects was 100 mg (40 times the clinical dose) without significant adverse events.

As with other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> receptor agonists, there is no specific antidote for frovatriptan. The elimination half-life of frovatriptan is 26 hours. Therefore, if an overdose occurs, the patient should be monitored closely for at least 48 hours and be given any necessary symptomatic treatment.

The effects of hemo- or peritoneal dialysis on blood concentrations of frovatriptan are unknown.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional poison control centre.

## 6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

Table 1 – Dosage Forms, Strengths, Composition and Packaging

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength/Composition	Non-medicinal Ingredients
Oral	Tablet 2.5 mg (as 3.91 mg frovatriptan succinate)	Colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, lactose, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyethylene glycol 3000, sodium starch glycolate, titanium dioxide, triacetin

FROVA tablets are available as round, white, film-coated tablets debossed with 2.5 on one side and “E” on the other side.

FROVA tablets are available in blister cards of 7 tablets, 1 blister card per carton.

## 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### General

FROVA should only be used where a clear diagnosis of migraine has been established.

### Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

See [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#).

### Cardiovascular

Discomfort in the chest, neck, throat and jaw (including pain, tightness, pressure and heaviness) have been reported after treatment with FROVA. Because 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists may cause coronary vasospasm, patients who experience signs or symptoms suggestive of angina following dosing should be evaluated for the presence of CAD or a predisposition to variant angina before receiving additional doses, and should be monitored electrocardiographically if dosing is resumed and similar symptoms recur. Similarly, patients who experience other symptoms or signs suggestive of decreased arterial flow, such as ischemic bowel syndrome or Raynaud’s syndrome following FROVA administration should be evaluated for atherosclerosis or predisposition to vasospasm (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)).

**Non-Coronary Vasospastic Events:** 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists may cause vasospastic reactions other than coronary artery vasospasm. Extensive post-market experience has shown the use of another 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonist to be associated with rare occurrences of peripheral vascular ischemia and colonic ischemia with abdominal pain and bloody diarrhea.

**Cardiac Events and Fatalities with 5-HT<sub>1</sub> Agonists:** Serious adverse cardiac events including acute myocardial infarction, life-threatening disturbances of cardiac rhythm and death have been reported within a few hours following the administration of 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists. Considering the extent of use of 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists in patients with migraine, the incidence of these events is extremely low. FROVA should be discontinued if any cardiac disturbances occur.

**Risk of Myocardial Ischemia and/or Infarction and other Adverse Cardiac Events:** FROVA has been associated with transient chest and/or neck pain and tightness which may resemble angina pectoris. Following the use of other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, in rare cases, these symptoms have been identified as being the likely result of coronary vasospasm or myocardial ischemia. Rare cases of serious coronary events or arrhythmia have occurred following use of other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, and may therefore also occur with FROVA.

Because of the potential of this class of compounds (5-HT<sub>1B/1D</sub> agonists) to cause coronary vasospasm, FROVA is contraindicated in patients with documented ischemic or vasospastic coronary artery disease (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). It is strongly recommended that 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists (including FROVA) not be given to patients in whom unrecognized coronary artery disease (CAD) is predicted by the presence of risk factors such as: hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, smoker, obesity, diabetes, strong family history of CAD, female with surgical or physiological menopause, or male over 40 years of age, unless a cardiovascular examination provides satisfactory clinical evidence that the patient is reasonably free of coronary artery and ischemic myocardial disease or other significant underlying cardiovascular disease. The sensitivity of cardiac diagnostic procedures to detect cardiovascular diseases or predisposition to coronary artery vasospasm is modest at best. If, during the cardiovascular evaluation, the patient's medical history, electrocardiogram (ECG) or other evaluations reveal findings indicative of, or consistent with, coronary artery vasospasm, or myocardial ischemia, FROVA should not be administered (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)).

These evaluations, however, may not identify every patient who has cardiac disease, and in very rare cases, serious cardiac events, such as myocardial infarction or coronary ischemia have occurred in patients without evidence of underlying cardiovascular disease.

For patients with risk factors predictive of CAD, who are determined to have a satisfactory cardiovascular evaluation, it is strongly recommended that administration of the first dose of FROVA take place in a clinical setting, such as the physician's office or a similarly staffed medical facility, unless the patient has previously received frovatriptan. Because cardiac ischemia can occur in the absence of clinical symptoms, consideration should be given to obtaining an ECG during the interval immediately following the first use of FROVA in a patient with risk factors. However, an absence of drug-induced cardiovascular effects on the occasion of the initial dose does not preclude the possibility of such effects occurring with subsequent administrations.

If symptoms consistent with angina occur after the use of FROVA, ECG evaluation should be carried out to look for ischemic changes.

It is recommended that patients who are intermittent long-term users of FROVA and who have or acquire risk factors predictive of CAD as described above undergo periodic interval cardiovascular evaluation as they continue to use FROVA.

The systematic approach described above is intended to reduce the likelihood that patients with unrecognized cardiovascular disease are inadvertently exposed to FROVA.

**Effects on Blood Pressure:** Significant elevations in systemic blood pressure, including hypertensive crisis, have been reported on rare occasions in patients with and without a

history of hypertension treated with other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists. In young healthy subjects, there were statistically significant increases in systolic and diastolic blood pressure only at single doses of 80 mg frovatriptan (32 times the clinical dose) and above. These increases were transient, resolved spontaneously and were not clinically significant. FROVA is contraindicated in patients with severe or uncontrolled hypertension (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). In patients with controlled hypertension, FROVA should be administered with caution, as transient increases in blood pressure and peripheral vascular resistance have been observed in a small portion of patients.

**Cardiovascular Pharmacodynamics of Another 5-HT<sub>1</sub> Agonist:** In subjects (n=10) with suspected coronary artery disease undergoing angiography, a 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonist at a subcutaneous dose of 1.5 mg produced an 8% increase in aortic blood pressure, an 18% increase in pulmonary artery blood pressure, and an 8% increase in systemic vascular resistance. In addition, mild chest pain or tightness was reported by four subjects. Clinically significant increases in blood pressure were experienced by three of the subjects (two of whom also had chest pain/discomfort). Diagnostic angiogram results revealed that 9 subjects had normal coronary arteries and 1 had insignificant coronary artery disease.

In an additional study with the same drug, migraine patients (n=35) free of cardiovascular disease were subjected to assessments of myocardial perfusion by positron emission tomography while receiving a subcutaneous 1.5 mg dose in the absence of a migraine attack. Reduced coronary vasodilatory reserve (~10%), increased coronary resistance (~20%), and decreased hyperaemic myocardial blood flow (~10%) were noted. The relevance of these findings to the use of the recommended oral dose of this 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonist is not known.

Similar studies have not been done with FROVA. However, owing to the common pharmacodynamic actions of 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, the possibility of cardiovascular effects of the nature described above should be considered for any agent of this pharmacological class.

### **Dependence/Tolerance**

Although the abuse potential of FROVA has not been specifically assessed in clinical trials, no abuse of, tolerance to, withdrawal from, or drug-seeking behavior was observed in patients who received FROVA. The 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, as a class, have not been associated with drug abuse.

### **Driving and Operating Machinery**

Patients should be advised not to drive or operate a vehicle or potentially dangerous machinery until the effect of frovatriptan is known. FROVA may cause dizziness. Exercise caution when driving or operating a vehicle or potentially dangerous machinery (see [8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions](#)).

### **Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic**

Since there is no clinical or pharmacokinetic experience with FROVA in patients with severe hepatic impairment, it is contraindicated in this population (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). FROVA can be used in patients with mild to moderate hepatic impairment (see [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Hepatic Impairment](#) and [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Special Population and Conditions, Hepatic Insufficiency](#)).

## Immune

**Hypersensitivity:** Rare hypersensitivity (anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid) reactions have occurred in patients receiving 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, including FROVA. Such reactions can be life threatening or fatal. In general, hypersensitivity reactions to drugs are more likely to occur in individuals with a history of sensitivity to multiple allergens. Owing to the possibility of cross-reactive hypersensitivity reactions, FROVA should not be used in patients having a history of hypersensitivity to chemically-related 5-HT<sub>1</sub> receptor agonists (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). In case of serious allergic/hypersensitivity reactions, frovatriptan treatment should be discontinued immediately and should never be administered again.

## Monitoring and Laboratory Tests

No specific laboratory tests are recommended for monitoring patients prior to and/or after the treatment with FROVA.

## Neurologic

**Cerebrovascular Events and Fatalities with 5-HT<sub>1</sub> Agonists:** Cerebral hemorrhage, subarachnoid hemorrhage, stroke and other cerebrovascular events have been reported in patients treated with other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists, and some have resulted in fatalities. In a number of cases, it appears possible that the cerebrovascular events were primary, the agonist having been administered in the belief that the symptoms experienced were a consequence of migraine, when they were not.

Before treating migraine headaches with FROVA in patients not previously diagnosed as migraineurs, and in migraineurs who present with atypical symptoms, care should be taken to exclude other potentially serious neurological conditions. If a patient does not respond to the first dose, the opportunity should be taken to review the diagnosis before a second dose is given. It should be noted, however, that patients who suffer from migraine may have an increased risk of certain cerebrovascular events such as stroke, hemorrhage or transient ischemic attack.

**Medication Overuse Headache:** Overuse of acute migraine treatments has been associated with the exacerbation of headache (medication overuse headache, MOH) in susceptible patients. Withdrawal of the treatment may be necessary.

**Neurological Conditions:** Care should be taken to exclude other potentially serious neurologic conditions before treating headache in patients not previously diagnosed with migraine or who experience a headache that is atypical for them. There have been rare reports where patients received 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists for severe headache that were subsequently shown to have been secondary to an evolving neurological lesion. For newly diagnosed patients or patients presenting with atypical symptoms, the diagnosis of migraine should be reconsidered if no response is seen after the first dose of FROVA.

**Seizures:** Caution should be observed if FROVA is to be used in patients with a history of epilepsy or structural brain lesions which lower the convulsion threshold.

**Serotonin Toxicity / Serotonin Syndrome:** Serotonin toxicity also known as serotonin syndrome is a potentially life-threatening condition and has been reported with triptans,

including FROVA, particularly during combined use with other serotonergic drugs (see [9.2 Drug Interactions Overview](#); [9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions](#)).

Serotonin toxicity is characterised by neuromuscular excitation, autonomic stimulation (e.g., tachycardia, flushing) and altered mental state (e.g., anxiety, agitation, hypomania). In accordance with the Hunter Criteria, serotonin toxicity diagnosis is likely when, in the presence of at least one serotonergic agent, one of the following is observed:

- Spontaneous clonus
- Inducible clonus or ocular clonus with agitation or diaphoresis
- Tremor and hyperreflexia
- Hypertonia and body temperature >38°C and ocular clonus or inducible clonus.

If concomitant treatment with FROVA and other serotonergic agents is clinically warranted, careful observation of the patient is advised, particularly during treatment initiation and dose increases. If serotonin toxicity is suspected, discontinuation of the serotonergic agents should be considered.

### **Ophthalmologic**

**Binding to Melanin-Containing Tissues:** Because there could be accumulation of frovatriptan and/or its metabolites in melanin rich tissues over time, this raises the possibility that frovatriptan could cause toxicity in these tissues after extended use. However, no effects on the retina related to treatment with frovatriptan were noted in toxicity studies. Although no systemic monitoring of ophthalmologic function was undertaken in clinical trials, and no specific recommendations for ophthalmological monitoring are made, prescribers should be aware of the possibility of long-term ophthalmologic effects (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY, Special Toxicology, Binding to Melanin Containing Tissues](#)).

### **Reproductive Health: Female and Male Potential**

#### • **Fertility**

Non-clinical studies on male and female rats revealed an increase in the number of females that mated on the first day of pairing compared to control animals, a prolongation of the estrous cycle and a decrease in the mean number of corpora lutea in females, thus resulting in a lower number of live fetuses per litter. This suggested a partial impairment of ovulation. There were no other fertility-related effects (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

#### • **Teratogenic Risk**

Non-clinical studies on pregnant rats, at doses greater than MRHD, reported dose-related increases in incidences of both litters and total numbers of fetuses with a syndrome of related effects on a specific organ in the developing embryo in all treated groups, which is consistent with a slight delay in fetal maturation. Although not statistically significant compared to control, slightly lower fetal weights and an increased incidence of early embryonic deaths in treated rats were observed. There was no evidence of this latter effect at the lowest dose level studied. When pregnant rabbits were dosed throughout organogenesis, no effects on fetal development were observed (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

## 7.1 Special Populations

### 7.1.1 Pregnant Women

There are no adequate and well-controlled trials in pregnant women. In animal studies, frovatriptan produced developmental toxicity (embryofetal lethality, fetal abnormalities, and decreased embryofetal growth) when administered to pregnant rats at doses greater than those used clinically (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

FROVA should be used during pregnancy only if the benefits to the mother and her fetus outweigh the risks.

### 7.1.2 Breast-feeding

It is not known whether frovatriptan is excreted in human milk. Frovatriptan and/or its metabolites are excreted in the milk of lactating rats with the maximum concentration being four-fold higher than that seen in plasma. Therefore, caution should be exercised when considering the administration of FROVA to a nursing woman.

### 7.1.3 Pediatrics

**Pediatrics (< 18 years old):** No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use (see [8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions](#)).

### 7.1.4 Geriatrics

**Geriatrics (≥ 65 years old):** Because migraine occurs infrequently in the elderly, clinical experience with FROVA is limited in such patients.

Limited evidence from clinical studies and experience suggests that use of FROVA in the geriatric population is associated with differences in pharmacokinetics (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

## 8 ADVERSE REACTIONS

### 8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview

Serious cardiac events, including some that have been fatal, have occurred following the use of other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists. These events are extremely rare and most have been reported in patients with risk factors predictive of CAD. Events reported have included coronary artery vasospasm, transient myocardial ischemia, myocardial infarction, ventricular tachycardia and ventricular fibrillation (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#) and [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular](#)).

Among more than 3000 patients with migraine who participated in premarketing clinical trials of FROVA, no deaths or serious cardiac events related to the use of FROVA were reported.

## 8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions

Clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions. The adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials; therefore, may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse reaction information from clinical trials may be useful in identifying and approximating rates of adverse drug reactions in real-world use.

Among 1554 patients treated with FROVA in four placebo-controlled studies (Trials 1, 3, 4 and 5 in Table 2), only 1% (16) of the patients withdrew because of the treatment-emergent adverse events.

Table 2 lists treatment-emergent adverse events reported within 48 hours of drug administration that occurred with frovatriptan 2.5 mg at an incidence rate of  $\geq 1\%$  and more than 1% more often than placebo, in the first attack in the four placebo-controlled trials.

FROVA is generally well tolerated. The incidence of adverse events in clinical trials did not increase when up to 2 doses were used within 24 hours. The majority of adverse events were mild or moderate and transient. The incidence of adverse events in the four placebo-controlled clinical trials was not affected by gender, age or concomitant medications commonly used by migraine patients. There were insufficient data to assess the impact of race on the incidence of adverse events.

**Table 2 – Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events (Incidence  $\geq 1\%$  and 1% Greater Than Placebo) of Patients in Four Placebo-Controlled Migraine Trials**

	Frovatriptan 2.5 mg n = 1554 (%)	Frovatriptan 5 mg n=99 (%)	Placebo n = 838 (%)
<b>Cardiac disorders</b>			
Chest pain	2	3	1
Throat tightness	2	1	0
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>			
Mouth dry	3	NR	1
Dyspepsia	2	3	1
<b>General disorders</b>			
Fatigue	5	4	2
Asthenia	NR	4	1
Hot or cold sensation*	3	NR	2
Rigors	NR	2	1
Dysesthesia	1	NR	0
<b>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</b>			
Skeletal pain	3	NR	2
<b>Nervous system disorders</b>			
Dizziness	8	NR	5

	<b>Frovatriptan 2.5 mg</b> n = 1554 (%)	<b>Frovatriptan 5 mg</b> n=99 (%)	<b>Placebo</b> n = 838 (%)
Headache	4	NR	3
Paresthesia	4	NR	2
Hypertonia	NR	4	0
<b>Psychiatric disorders</b>			
Euphoria	NR	2	0
<b>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</b>			
Rhinitis	NR	3	1
<b>Vascular disorders</b>			
Flushing	4	NR	2

\* The term “sensation” encompasses adverse events described as pain, discomfort, pressure, constriction, numbness and tingling.

NR= No incidence rates of  $\geq 1\%$  and 1% greater than placebo.

### **Other Frequently Observed Events in Association with FROVA**

In the list that follows, the incidence of other reported adverse events (frequent, minimum 1/100 patients) in the four placebo-controlled trials are presented. The incidence of each adverse event is calculated as the number of patients reporting the event at least once divided by the number of patients who used FROVA. All adverse events reported within 48 hours of drug administration in the first attack in the four placebo-controlled trials are included, except those already listed in Table 2, those too general to be informative, those not reasonably associated with the use of the drug and those which occurred at the same or a greater incidence in the placebo group. Events are further classified within system organ classes and enumerated in order of decreasing frequency.

**Cardiac disorders:** palpitation

**Ear and labyrinth disorders:** tinnitus

**Eye disorders:** abnormal vision

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** pain

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea

**Nervous system disorders:** hypoesthesia

**Psychiatric disorders:** insomnia, anxiety

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** sinusitis, rhinitis

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** sweating increased

### **Long-Term Safety**

In a long-term, open-label study where patients were allowed to treat multiple migraine attacks with FROVA for up to 1 year, 5% (26/496) patients discontinued due to treatment-

emergent adverse events.

The adverse events which occurred within 48 hours of drug administration in this long-term open-label safety study were similar to those that occurred in the placebo-controlled trials. The most frequent adverse events were: nausea, dizziness, fatigue, somnolence, headache, dyspepsia, skeletal pain, flushing and paresthesia.

### 8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions

In the list that follows, the incidence of infrequent (between 1/1000 and 1/100 patients) and rare (less than 1/1000 patients) reported adverse events in the four placebo-controlled trials are presented. All adverse events reported within 48 hours of drug administration in the first attack in the four placebo-controlled trials are included, except those already listed in Table 2, those too general to be informative, those not reasonably associated with the use of the drug and those which occurred at the same or a greater incidence in the placebo group. Events are further classified within system organ classes and enumerated in order of decreasing frequency.

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** Infrequent: epistaxis; Rare: purpura

**Cardiac disorders:** Infrequent: tachycardia, abnormal ECG; Rare: bradycardia

**Ear and labyrinth disorders:** Infrequent: ear ache, hyperacusis

**Eye disorders:** Infrequent: eye pain, conjunctivitis, abnormal lacrimation

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** Infrequent: dysphagia, flatulence, constipation, anorexia, esophagospasm, increased salivation, taste perversion; Rare: change in bowel habits, cheilitis, eructation, gastroesophageal reflux, hiccup, peptic ulcer, salivary gland pain, stomatitis, toothache

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** Infrequent: asthenia, rigors, fever, hot flashes, malaise; Rare: feeling of relaxation, leg pain, edema mouth

**Metabolism and nutrition disorders:** Infrequent: thirst and dehydration; Rare: hypocalcemia, hypoglycemia

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** Infrequent: myalgia, back pain, arthralgia, arthrosis, leg cramps, muscle weakness

**Nervous system disorders:** Infrequent: tremor, hyperesthesia, migraine aggravated, involuntary muscle contractions, vertigo, ataxia, abnormal gait, speech disorder; Rare: hypertonia, hypotonia, abnormal reflexes, tongue paralysis, syncope

**Psychiatric disorders:** Infrequent: confusion, nervousness, agitation, euphoria, impaired concentration, depression, emotional lability, amnesia, thinking abnormal, depersonalization; Rare: depression aggravated, abnormal dreaming, personality disorder

**Renal and urinary disorders:** Infrequent: micturition frequency, polyuria; Rare: nocturia, renal pain, abnormal urine

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** Infrequent: pharyngitis, dyspnea, hyperventilation, laryngitis

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** Infrequent: pruritus, bullous eruption

### 8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions

Rare reports of serious cardiovascular events have been reported in association with the use of FROVA, this includes chest tightness and tachycardia. There have also been rare reports of serious allergic type reactions, including anaphylactic reactions. The uncontrolled nature of post-marketing surveillance, however, makes it impossible to definitely determine the proportion of the reported cases that were actually caused by frovatriptan or to reliably assess causation in individual cases.

**Pediatrics (< 18 years of age):** Post-marketing experience with other triptans includes a limited number of reports that describe pediatric patients who have experienced clinically serious adverse events that are similar in nature to those reported rarely in adults.

## 9 DRUG INTERACTIONS

### 9.1 Serious Drug Interactions

#### Serious Drug Interactions

The following drugs or class of drugs may interact with FROVA and cause serious and life-threatening adverse reactions if administered within 24 hours of each other (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#) and [9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions](#)):

- Ergot-containing drugs (e.g., dihydroergotamine)
- Other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists

### 9.2 Drug Interactions Overview

Frovatriptan is not an inhibitor of human monoamine oxidase (MAO) enzymes or cytochrome P450 (isozymes 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 2E1, 3A4) *in vitro* at concentrations up to 250 to 500-fold higher than the highest blood concentrations observed in man at a dose of 2.5 mg. No induction of drug metabolizing enzymes was observed following multiple dosing of frovatriptan to rats or on addition to human hepatocytes *in vitro*. Although no clinical studies have been performed, it is unlikely that frovatriptan will affect the metabolism of co-administered drugs metabolized by these mechanisms.

The pharmacokinetic profile of frovatriptan was unaffected when a single oral dose of frovatriptan 2.5 mg was administered to healthy female subjects receiving the MAO-A inhibitor, moclobemide, at an oral dose of 150 mg bid for 8 days.

### 9.3 Drug-Behavioral Interactions

Interactions with individual behaviour risks such as alcohol consumption, sexual activity and smoking have not been established.

## 9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions

The drugs listed in this table are based on either drug interaction case reports or studies, or potential interactions due to the expected magnitude and seriousness of the interaction (i.e., those identified as contraindicated).

**Table 3 – Established or Potential Drug-Drug Interactions**

Proper/Common name	Source of Evidence	Effect	Clinical comment
Ergot-containing drugs (e.g., dihydroergotamine)	CT, T	The AUC and $C_{max}$ of frovatriptan (2 x 2.5 mg dose) were reduced by approximately 25% when co-administered with ergotamine tartrate.  Possibility of additive vasospastic effects.	Due to the theoretical risk of a pharmacodynamic interaction, use of ergot-type medications and FROVA within 24 hours of each other is contraindicated (see <a href="#">2 CONTRAINDICATIONS</a> ).
Oral contraceptives	CT	Retrospective analysis of pharmacokinetic data from females across trials indicated that the mean $C_{max}$ and AUC of frovatriptan are 30% higher in those subjects taking oral contraceptives compared to those not taking oral contraceptives.  The effect of FROVA on the pharmacokinetics of oral contraceptives has not been studied.	Caution is warranted when FROVA is administered in patients taking oral contraceptives.
Propranolol	CT	Propranolol increased the AUC of frovatriptan 2.5 mg in males by 60% and in females by 29%. The $C_{max}$ of frovatriptan was increased by 23% in males and by 16% in females in the presence of propranolol. The $t_{max}$ as well as half-life of	Caution is warranted when FROVA is administered in patient taking propranolol.

		frovatriptan, though slightly longer in the females, were not affected by concomitant administration of propranolol.	
Serotonergic Drugs (SSRIs, SNRIs, other triptans)	C	Cases of life-threatening serotonin syndrome have been reported with combined use.	See <a href="#">7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Neurologic, Serotonin Syndrome / Serotonin Toxicity</a> .
Other 5-HT <sub>1</sub> agonists	T	The administration of FROVA with other 5-HT <sub>1</sub> agonists has not been evaluated in migraine patients.	Because their vasospastic effects may be additive, co-administration of FROVA and other 5-HT <sub>1</sub> agonists within 24 hours of each other is contraindicated (see <a href="#">2 CONTRAINDICATIONS</a> ).

Legend: AUC = Area under the curve; C<sub>max</sub> = maximum concentration; C = Case Study; CT = Clinical trial; T = Theoretical; T<sub>max</sub> = time when maximum concentration is reached

## 9.5 Drug-Food Interactions

No significant interaction with food is expected (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Absorption](#)).

## 9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

## 9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions

FROVA is not known to interfere with commonly employed clinical laboratory tests.

# 10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

## 10.1 Mechanism of Action

FROVA is a 5-HT receptor agonist that binds with high affinity for 5-HT<sub>1B</sub> and 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptors. Frovatriptan has no significant effects on GABA<sub>A</sub> mediated channel activity and has no significant affinity for benzodiazepine binding sites.

Frovatriptan is believed to act on extracerebral, intracranial arteries and to inhibit excessive dilation of these vessels in migraine.

## 10.2 Pharmacodynamics

### Non-Clinical Studies

Non-clinical pharmacology studies of frovatriptan investigated its primary activity as well as general activity (i.e., safety). The primary vasoconstrictor activity was examined in several *in vitro* studies with human and other mammalian arteries and in the cat and dog *in vivo*. The safety pharmacology was examined using *in vivo* models that included the mouse, cat, and dog.

The primary activity studies show that frovatriptan is a potent vasoconstrictor in isolated cerebral arteries, as well as a potent, but low efficacy, vasoconstrictor in isolated coronary arteries. By virtue of its apparent partial agonist activity in human isolated coronary arteries, frovatriptan demonstrates a functional selectivity for cerebral arteries over coronary arteries. In cell-based assays *in vitro*, frovatriptan is a potent, full agonist at human recombinant 5-HT<sub>1B</sub> and 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptors and a moderately potent, partial agonist at 5-HT<sub>1F</sub> receptors. Unlike sumatriptan, frovatriptan is a moderately potent, full agonist at 5-HT<sub>7</sub> receptors. The desmethyl metabolite of frovatriptan (SB 205555-A) exhibits affinity for 5-HT<sub>1A</sub>, 5-HT<sub>1B</sub>, 5-HT<sub>1D</sub>, 5-HT<sub>1E</sub>, 5-HT<sub>1F</sub> and 5-HT<sub>7</sub> binding sites with pKi values approximately 0.5 units lower than those for frovatriptan, whereas the N-acetyl desmethyl metabolite (SB 210199) exhibits no significant affinity at these sites.

In terms of general pharmacological effects, frovatriptan is a consistent and potent constrictor of the carotid vascular bed in the cat and dog *in vivo*. It is devoid of pronounced or dose-related gross behavioral effects in the mouse. Frovatriptan attenuates carrageenan-induced thermal hyperalgesia but does not possess anti-nociceptive activity in the mouse.

## 10.3 Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics of frovatriptan are similar in migraine patients and healthy subjects.

### Absorption

Mean maximum blood concentrations ( $C_{max}$ ) in patients are achieved approximately 2 - 4 hours after administration of a single oral dose of frovatriptan 2.5 mg. The absolute bioavailability of an oral dose of frovatriptan 2.5 mg in healthy subjects is about 20% in males and 30% in females. Food has no significant effect on the bioavailability of frovatriptan, but delays  $t_{max}$  by one hour.

### Distribution

Binding of frovatriptan to serum proteins is low (approximately 15%). Reversible binding to blood cells at equilibrium is approximately 60%, resulting in a blood:plasma ratio of about 2:1 in both males and females. The mean steady state volume of distribution of frovatriptan following intravenous administration of 0.8 mg is 4.2 L/kg in males and 3.0 L/kg in females.

### Metabolism

*In vitro*, cytochrome P450 1A2 appears to be the principal enzyme involved in the metabolism of frovatriptan. Following administration of a single dose of radiolabeled frovatriptan 2.5 mg to

healthy male and female subjects, 32% of the dose was recovered in urine and 62% in feces. Radiolabeled compounds excreted in the urine were unchanged frovatriptan, hydroxylated frovatriptan, N-acetyl desmethyl frovatriptan, hydroxylated N-acetyl desmethyl frovatriptan and desmethyl frovatriptan, together with several other minor metabolites. Desmethyl frovatriptan has lower affinity for 5-HT<sub>1B/1D</sub> receptors compared to the parent compound. The N-acetyl desmethyl metabolite has no significant affinity for 5-HT receptors. The activity of the other metabolites is unknown.

### Elimination

After an intravenous dose, mean clearance of frovatriptan was 220 and 130 mL/min in males and females, respectively. Renal clearance accounted for about 40% (82 mL/min) and 45% (60 mL/min) of total clearance in males and females, respectively. The mean terminal elimination half-life of frovatriptan in both males and females is approximately 26 hours.

### Special Populations and Conditions

- **Pediatrics:** No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.
- **Geriatrics:** Mean AUC of frovatriptan was 1.5- to 2-fold higher in healthy elderly subjects (age 65 - 77 years) compared to those in healthy younger subjects (age 21 - 37 years). There was no difference in  $t_{max}$  or  $t_{1/2}$  between the two populations.
- **Sex:** There was no difference in the mean terminal elimination half-life of frovatriptan in males and females. Bioavailability was higher, and systemic exposure to frovatriptan was approximately 2-fold greater, in females than males, irrespective of age.
- **Race:** The effect of race on the pharmacokinetics of frovatriptan has not been examined.
- **Hepatic Insufficiency:** There is no clinical or pharmacokinetic experience with FROVA in patients with severe hepatic impairment (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). The AUC in subjects with mild (Child-Pugh 5 - 6) to moderate (Child-Pugh 7 - 9) hepatic impairment is about twice as high as the AUC in young, healthy subjects, but within the range found among normal elderly subjects.
- **Renal Insufficiency:** Since less than 10% of FROVA is excreted in urine after an oral dose, it is unlikely that the exposure to frovatriptan will be affected by renal impairment. The pharmacokinetics of frovatriptan following a single oral dose of 2.5 mg was not different in patients with renal impairment (5 males and 6 females, creatinine clearance 16 - 73 mL/min) and in subjects with normal renal function.

## 11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL

Store between 15°C and 30°C. Protect from moisture.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

## 12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

Not Applicable

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

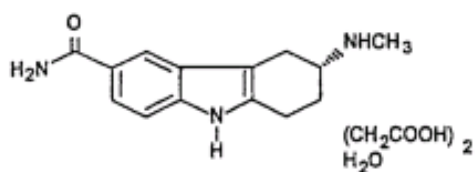
#### Drug Substance

Proper name: Frovatriptan as frovatriptan succinate

Chemical name: (+) 3-methylamino-6-carboxamido-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole monosuccinate monohydrate

Molecular formula and molecular mass:  $C_{14}H_{17}N_3O \cdot C_4H_6O_4 \cdot H_2O$ , 379.4 g/mol

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties:

Solubility: frovatriptan monosuccinate monohydrate is water-soluble, i.e., its aqueous solubility is more than 100 mg/mL at pH 3 or above

Melting point: 165°- 172°C

pKa: 9.93

Hygroscopy: not hygroscopic

Polymorphism: no evidence of polymorphism has been detected

### 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

#### 14.1 Clinical Trials by Indication

##### Migraine with or without aura

**Summary of patient demographics:** The efficacy of FROVA (frovatriptan tablets) in the acute treatment of migraine headaches was demonstrated in five randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, outpatient trials. Two of these were dose-finding studies in which patients were randomized to receive doses of frovatriptan ranging from 0.5-40 mg. The three studies evaluating only one dose studied 2.5 mg. In these controlled short-term studies combined, patients were predominately female (88%) and Caucasian (94%) with a mean age of 42 years (range 18-69). Patients were instructed to treat a moderate or severe headache. Headache response, defined as a reduction in headache severity from moderate or severe pain to mild or no pain, was assessed for 24 hours after dosing. The associated symptoms nausea, vomiting, photophobia and phonophobia were also assessed. Maintenance of response was assessed

for up to 24 hours post-dose. In two of the trials a second dose of FROVA was provided after the initial treatment, to treat recurrence of headache within 24 hours. Other medication, excluding other 5-HT<sub>1</sub> agonists and ergotamine-containing compounds was permitted from 2 hours after the first dose of FROVA. The frequency and time to use of additional medications were also recorded.

**Study Results:** Comparisons of drug performance based upon results obtained in different clinical trials are never reliable. Because trials are conducted at different times, with different samples of patients, by different investigators, employing different criteria and/or different interpretations of the same criteria, under different conditions (dose, dosing regimen, etc.), quantitative estimates of treatment response and the timing of the response may be expected to vary considerably from study to study.

In all five placebo-controlled trials, the percentage of patients achieving a headache response 2 and 4 hours after treatment was significantly greater for those taking FROVA compared with those taking placebo (Table 4).

Lower doses of frovatriptan (1 mg or 0.5 mg) were not effective at 2 hours. Higher doses (5 mg to 40 mg) of frovatriptan showed no added benefit over 2.5 mg but did cause a greater incidence of adverse events.

**Table 4 – Headache Response (Mild or No Headache) in studies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in migraine with or without aura<sup>a</sup>**

Trial	FROVA (frovatriptan 2.5 mg)		Placebo	
	2 hours	4 hours	2 hours	4 hours
1	42%* (n=90)	64%** (n=85)	22% (n=91)	38% (n=81)
2	38%* (n=121)	68%** (n=117)	25% (n=115)	33% (n=106)
3	39%* (n=187)	56%** (n=156)	21% (n=99)	31% (n=81)
4	46%** (n=672)	65%** (n=586)	27% (n=347)	38% (n=305)
5	37%** (n=438)	62%** (n=388)	23% (n=225)	32% (n=202)

<sup>a</sup> ITT observed data, excludes patients who had missing data or were asleep; \*0.001 ≤ p ≤ 0.050, \*\*p < 0.001 in comparison with placebo

Following the treatment of migraine with FROVA tablets in controlled clinical trials, there was low recurrence of migraine headaches (7%-25%). This is postulated to be due to the long half-life of frovatriptan.

In patients with migraine-associated nausea, photophobia and phonophobia at baseline there was a decreased incidence of these symptoms in FROVA-treated patients compared to placebo.

Efficacy was unaffected by a history of aura, gender, age, or concomitant medications commonly used by migraine patients.

## 15 MICROBIOLOGY

No microbiological information is required for this drug product.

## 16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

### General Toxicology

**Acute and Long-Term Studies:** Single dose toxicity studies in rats and mice indicate that frovatriptan has low acute oral toxicity with a lethal dose in excess of 2000 mg/kg. Toxicity studies with frovatriptan up to the maximum tolerated dose in several species give no indication of adverse effects (including mutagenic or carcinogenic effects) likely to be relevant to the proposed clinical use of frovatriptan.

In rodents, repeat dose oral studies in mice, demonstrated a no-observed-adverse-effect-level (NOAEL) of 40 mg/kg/day for 84 weeks, giving a 140- to 400-fold safety margin based upon human exposure (AUC) to frovatriptan in blood at the proposed dose of 2.5 mg (0.04 mg/kg). Repeat dose oral studies in rats, demonstrated a NOAEL of 10 mg/kg/day for 26 weeks, giving a 30- to 50-fold safety margin based upon human exposure to frovatriptan in blood at the proposed dose of 2.5 mg (0.04 mg/kg). Effects that were observed in rats included peripheral vasodilation as well as renal, adrenal and thyroid histopathological lesions. These effects, which only occurred at high doses are not considered to be relevant to man at the proposed clinical dose.

In dogs, repeat dose oral studies demonstrated no histopathological changes attributable to frovatriptan administration at blood exposures up to 130-fold higher than those anticipated in man. Dose levels were limited by the pharmacological effects of frovatriptan on the central nervous and cardiovascular systems. No evidence of any ocular toxicity has been noted in long term oral studies at blood exposures 50- to 130-fold higher than those anticipated in man. Tachycardia, a compensatory response to peripheral vasodilatation and a consequence of the pharmacological effects of frovatriptan, was observed in dogs but is not anticipated to be a problem with the much lower dose levels used clinically.

### Carcinogenicity

The carcinogenic potential of frovatriptan was evaluated in an 84-week study in mice (4, 13 and 40 mg/kg/day), a 104-week study in rats (8.5, 27 and 85 mg/kg/day), and a 26-week study in p53(+/-) transgenic mice (20, 62.5, 200, and 400 mg/kg/day). Although the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) was not achieved in the 84-week mouse study and in female rats, exposures at the highest doses studied were many fold greater than those achieved at the maximum recommended daily human dose (MRHD) of 7.5 mg. There were no increases in tumor incidence in the 84-week mouse study at doses producing 140 times the exposure achieved at the MRHD based on blood AUC comparisons. In the rat study, there was a statistically significant increase in the incidence of pituitary adenomas in males only at 85 mg/kg/day, a dose that produced 250 times the exposure achieved at the MRHD based on AUC comparisons. In the 26-week p53 (+/-) transgenic mouse study, there was an increased incidence of subcutaneous sarcomas in females dosed at 200 and 400 mg/kg/day, or 390 and 630 times the human exposure based on AUC comparisons. The incidence of sarcomas was not increased at lower doses that achieved exposure 180 and 60 times the human exposure. These sarcomas were physically associated with subcutaneously implanted animal identification transponders. There were no other increases in tumor incidence of any type in

any dose group. The relevance of these sarcomas to humans is unknown.

### **Genotoxicity**

Frovatriptan was clastogenic in human lymphocyte cultures, in the absence of metabolic activation. In the bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames test), frovatriptan produced an equivocal response in the absence of metabolic activation. No mutagenic or clastogenic activity were seen in an *in vitro* mouse lymphoma assay, an *in vivo* mouse bone marrow micronucleus test, or an *ex vivo* assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver.

### **Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology**

**Impairment of Fertility:** Male and female rats were dosed prior to and during mating, and up to implantation, at doses of 100, 500, and 1000 mg/kg/day (equivalent to approximately 130, 650 and 1300 times the MRHD on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). At all dose levels, there was an increase in the number of females that mated on the first day of pairing compared to control animals. This occurred in conjunction with a prolongation of the estrous cycle. In addition, females had a decreased mean number of corpora lutea, and consequently a lower number of live fetuses per litter, which suggested a partial impairment of ovulation. There were no other fertility-related effects.

When pregnant rats were administered frovatriptan during the period of organogenesis at oral doses of 100, 500 and 1000 mg/kg/day (equivalent to 130, 650 and 1300 times the MRHD) on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) there were dose related increases in incidences of both litters and total numbers of fetuses with dilated ureters, unilateral and bilateral pelvic cavitation, hydronephrosis, and hydroureters. A no-effect dose for renal effects was not established. This signifies a syndrome of related effects on a specific organ in the developing embryo in all treated groups, which is consistent with a slight delay in fetal maturation. This delay was also indicated by a treatment related increased incidence of incomplete ossification of the sternebrae, skull and nasal bones in all treated groups. Slightly lower fetal weights and an increased incidence of early embryonic deaths in treated rats were observed; although not statistically significant compared to control, the latter effect occurred in both the embryo-fetal developmental study and in the prenatal-postnatal developmental study. There was no evidence of this latter effect at the lowest dose level studied, 100 mg/kg/day (equivalent to 130 times the MRHD on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). When pregnant rabbits were dosed throughout organogenesis at doses up to 80 mg/kg/day (equivalent to 210 times the MRHD on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) no effects on fetal development were observed.

### **Special Toxicology**

**Binding to Melanin Containing Tissues:** When pigmented rats were given a single oral dose of 5 mg/kg of radiolabelled frovatriptan, the radioactivity in the eye after 28 days was 87% of the value measured after 8 hours. This suggests that frovatriptan and/or its metabolites may bind to the melanin of the eye. Because there could be accumulation in melanin rich tissues over time, this raises the possibility that frovatriptan could cause toxicity in these tissues after extended use. However, no effects on the retina related to treatment with frovatriptan were noted in toxicity studies.

## **PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

### **READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

**FROVA<sup>®</sup>**

#### **frovatriptan tablets**

Read this carefully before you start taking **FROVA** 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 **FROVA**.

#### **What is FROVA used for?**

FROVA is used in adults to relieve migraine headaches. These migraine headaches may or may not be accompanied by an aura (this is when you may see black spots, flashes of light or shimmering spots or stars). FROVA should not be used to prevent or reduce the number of headaches you experience. Only use FROVA to treat an actual migraine headache attack.

#### **How does FROVA work?**

Migraine headache is believed to be caused by a widening of the blood vessels in the head. FROVA narrows the vessels and relieves the symptoms of migraine headaches.

#### **What are the ingredients in FROVA?**

Medicinal ingredient: frovatriptan (as frovatriptan succinate)

Non-medicinal ingredients: colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, lactose, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyethylene glycol 3000, sodium starch glycollate, titanium dioxide, and triacetin.

#### **FROVA comes in the following dosage forms:**

Tablets: 2.5 mg frovatriptan (as frovatriptan succinate)

#### **Do not use FROVA if:**

- you are allergic to frovatriptan, or to any other ingredients in FROVA.
- you have other specific types of migraines. If you are not sure if you have had these types of migraines, ask your healthcare professional:
  - hemiplegic migraines (migraines where you have weakness on one side of your body).
  - ophthalmoplegic migraines (migraines where you have pain around the eyes).
  - basilar migraines (migraines that start in the lower part of the brain).
- you have uncontrolled or severe high blood pressure.
- you have or have a history of chest pain (angina), or have had a heart attack.
- you have any type of heart disease, or an irregular heartbeat.
- you have had a stroke or mini-stroke (transient ischemic attack).

- you have a history, symptoms, or signs of peripheral vascular disease. This is when you have poor blood flow to your limbs and organs other than the heart and brain. This may include ischemic bowel disease (when you have an injury to your bowel because of poor blood circulation), or Raynaud’s Syndrome.
- in the last 24 hours, you have taken another ‘triptan’ medication to treat migraine headaches, or a medication containing ergotamine.
- you have a severe liver problem.

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

- have controlled high blood pressure.
- have any risk factors for heart disease. These include high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, obesity, smoking, a family history of heart disease, are a female going through menopause or a male over 40 years of age.
- have any allergies or are allergic to any medications.
- have or have a history of epilepsy or seizures.
- are pregnant, think you are pregnant, or are planning to become pregnant.
- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.
- are using inadequate contraception.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

**Serotonin Toxicity (also known as Serotonin Syndrome):** FROVA can cause serotonin toxicity, a rare but potentially life-threatening condition. It can cause serious changes in how your brain, muscles and digestive system work. You may develop serotonin toxicity if you take FROVA with certain antidepressants or other migraine medications.

Serotonin toxicity symptoms include:

- fever, sweating, shivering, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting;
- muscle shakes, jerks, twitches or stiffness, overactive reflexes, loss of coordination;
- fast heartbeat, changes in blood pressure;
- confusion, agitation, restlessness, hallucinations, mood changes, unconsciousness, and coma.

**Driving and Using Machines:** FROVA may cause dizziness. Do not drive a car, use machinery, or do any task where you need to be alert until you know how FROVA affects you.

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

### **Serious Drug Interactions**

Do NOT take FROVA if you have taken any of the following medications in the last 24 hours. If you take FROVA with these medications, you may experience serious or life-threatening side effects:

- Medications that contain ergotamine, such as dihydroergotamine.
- Other medications like FROVA such as sumatriptan, naratriptan, zolmitriptan, almotriptan, rizatriptan or eletriptan.

### **The following may interact with FROVA:**

- Propranolol, a medication used to treat high blood pressure
- Oral contraceptives (birth control pills)
- Medications used to treat depression, known as serotonergic drugs. These include drugs called selective serotonin inhibitors (SSRIs), and serotonin noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs)

### **How to take FROVA:**

- Take FROVA exactly as your healthcare professional tells you.
- Take FROVA by mouth with liquids.
- If you are taking FROVA for the first time, your healthcare professional may require you to take your first dose in the doctor's office, or in a medical setting.

### **Usual dose:**

Take one FROVA tablet for your migraine.

If your headache is not relieved by the first tablet, do not take a second tablet for the same migraine without first talking to your healthcare professional. If your headache comes back after you take the first tablet and your healthcare professional agrees, a second tablet may be taken not sooner than 4 hours after the first dose.

Do NOT take more than 2 tablets a day. If your condition worsens, seek medical attention.

### **Overdose:**

If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have taken too much FROVA, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**What are possible side effects from using FROVA?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking FROVA. If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

The most common side effects of FROVA are:

- dizziness
- tiredness, lack of energy
- headache (other than migraine headache)
- tingling sensations
- flushing (redness of the skin lasting a short time)
- sensation of temperature change (feeling hot or cold)
- dry mouth
- indigestion or upset stomach
- bone or joint pain

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
<b>Symptom / effect</b>	<b>Talk to your healthcare professional</b>		<b>Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help</b>
	<b>Only if severe</b>	<b>In all cases</b>	
<b>COMMON</b>			
Sensations of numbness, tingling, feeling hot or cold, pain	✓		
Sensations of pain, pressure or tightness in the chest or throat			✓
<b>VERY RARE</b>			
<b>Serious heart problems:</b> stroke or increased blood pressure, pain, tightness, heaviness, or pressure in your chest, throat, neck or jaw, unusually slow or fast heartbeat			✓
<b>Allergic reaction:</b> difficulty swallowing or breathing, wheezing, feeling sick to your stomach and throwing up, hives or rash, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat			✓
<b>UNKNOWN FREQUENCY</b>			
<b>Serotonin toxicity:</b> a reaction which may cause feelings of agitation or restlessness, flushing, muscle twitching,			✓

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	
involuntary eye movements, heavy sweating, high body temperature (>38 °C), or rigid muscles			

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell 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 ([canada.ca/drug-device-reporting](http://canada.ca/drug-device-reporting)) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

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

### Storage:

Store between 15°C and 30°C. Protect from moisture. Do not use after the expiry date. If your doctor decides to stop your treatment, do not keep any left-over tablets. You should take all expired or unused medicines to your pharmacy for safe disposal.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

### If you want more information about FROVA:

- 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 (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website (<https://knighttx.com>), by emailing [medinfo@knighttx.com](mailto:medinfo@knighttx.com), or by calling 1-844-483-5636.

This leaflet was prepared by Knight Therapeutics Inc.

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