Ethiqa XR
Product Labeling

Opioid Analgesic
For subcutaneous use in mice and rats only.

WARNING: Due to serious human safety and abuse concerns read the entire product insert before using this drug, including the complete Boxed Warning.

Legally Marketed -- MIF # 900-014.
Extra-label use is prohibited.

Net contents: 3 mL

SHAKE WELL BEFORE USE.

Storage: 15°-25°C (59°-77°F)
Lot: XXXXXXX
Exp: MMM YYYY

CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

1-833-384-4729

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Lot: XXXXXXX
Exp: MMM YYYY

CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

1-833-384-4729
**Indications:** For the control of post-procedural pain in mice and rats.

**Warnings:** Not for use in humans. Keep out of the reach of children. Consult a physician in cases of accidental human exposure.

This product is not to be used in animals intended for use as food for humans or food-producing animals.

Dosage and Administration:
Due to serious human safety concerns, read the entire package insert before using this drug. **Shake vial well prior to use.**

Use a 0.5 or 1 mL syringe fitted with a 20- or 23-gauge needle for injections.

**Mouse Dose:** The dosage in mice is a single subcutaneous injection of 0.05 mL per 20-gram mouse (3.25 mg/kg body weight).

**Rat Dose:** The dosage in rats is a single subcutaneous injection of 0.1 mL per 200-gram rat (0.65 mg/kg body weight).

Therapeutic drug concentrations are maintained for 72 hours after injection. If needed, a single repeat dose may be administered 72 hours after the initial dose.

Each mL contains approximately 1.3 mg buprenorphine hydrochloride, cholesterol, and glyceryl tristearate suspended in MCT oil.

Storage: Store vial at temperatures between 15° and 25°C (59° and 77°F). Once broached, the multi-dose vial should be discarded after 28 days.

Lot: XXXXXXX
Expiration: MMM YYYY

**Ethiqa XR™**
(buprenorphine extended-release injectable suspension) 1.3 mg/mL

For subcutaneous use in mice and rats only. CAUTION: Federal Law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

Legally Marketed --
MIF # 900-014.
Extra-label use is prohibited.

**WARNING:** Due to serious human safety and abuse concerns, read the entire product insert before using this drug, including the complete Boxed Warning.

NDC 86084-100-30
Patent No: 8,461,173
Once the vial is broached, can be stored at 15° to 25°C (59° – 77°F) or refrigerated for 28 days. DO NOT FREEZE.

Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 25 gauge needle may be used. Do not use a 21 gauge needle (2.5 mL capacity). Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. Refrigerated drug should be brought to room temperature before use.

HUMAN SAFETY WARNINGS

Not for use in humans. Keep out of the reach of children.

HUMAN SAFETY WARNINGS

HUMAN SAFETY WARNINGS

In order to be legally marketed, a new animal drug intended for a minor species must be Approved, Conditionally Approved, or Indexed by the Food and Drug Administration. THIS PRODUCT IS REGISTERED - MFD 07-04-2021. Sale or use is prohibited in provinces. This product is not to be used in animals intended for use as food for human or for producing animals.

Abuse Potential

Ethiqa XR contains buprenorphine, a high concentration (1.3 mg/mL) opioid agonist and partial agonist with schedule III controlled substance status. The concentration of buprenorphine in Ethiqa XR is a single subcutaneous injection of 0.1 mL per 200 gram rat or 0.1 mL per 40 gram mouse. Because of the potential for abuse reactions associated with accidental exposure, at least 2 trained administrators or veterinary or laboratory staff trained in the handling of potent opioids must be present when administering Ethiqa XR.

Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 25 gauge needle may be used. Do not use a 21 gauge needle (2.5 mL capacity). Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. Refrigerated drug should be brought to room temperature before use.

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Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 25 gauge needle may be used. Do not use a 21 gauge needle (2.5 mL capacity). Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. Refrigerated drug should be brought to room temperature before use.

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Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 25 gauge needle may be used. Do not use a 21 gauge needle (2.5 mL capacity). Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. Refrigerated drug should be brought to room temperature before use.

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Abuse Potential

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**REFERENCES**

Significant blood levels were observed up to 72 hours after subcutaneous injection. Pharmacokinetic parameters of Mice were studied in 8 week old male and female Rats. Significant blood levels were observed up to 72 hours after subcutaneous injection. Un-metabolized drug excreted in the urine and feces one week after injection was 1.9 and 22.4% of the dose, respectively, and 92% of the dose was accounted for in one week.3

**STORAGE INFORMATION**

For technical assistance, or to report an adverse drug reaction, please call Fidelis Pharmaceuticals LLC at 1-833-384-4729.

**ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Weight loss has been observed in mice treated post-procedurally with Ethiqa XR. Mortality was seen in two male mice after the third surgical procedure and dose of Ethiqa XR after a single subcutaneous injection of Ethiqa XR at a dose 5 times the indicated dose. A surgical procedure was performed on the study mice prior to receiving each of the three doses. Studies have shown that glucuronide metabolites of buprenorphine and NBN are also metabically active, and can approximate or exceed the concentration of the parent drug. Studies with knockout mice have shown that the opioid receptors are possible underlying mechanisms for the ceiling effect and bell-shaped dose-response curve of buprenorphine. Agonism at the mu opioid receptor and, in some cases, antagonism at the kappa or delta receptor, is attenuated by the ability of the drug to activate the opioid receptor like (ORL-1) receptor, is attenuated by the ability of the drug to activate the opioid receptor like (ORL-1)

**SAFETY INFORMATION**

Immune-compromised mice. As with other opioids, buprenorphine may cause sedation, decreased blood pressure, decreased heart rate, decreased gastrointestinal mobility, and decreased immune function. Buprenorphine can act as an agonist and antagonist at different classes of opioid receptors. Coprophagy may lead to ingestion of buprenorphine or its metabolites by mice treated with Ethiqa XR following administration of Ethiqa XR. Use caution with concomitant administration of Ethiqa XR with drugs that cause respiratory depression. Use caution with concomitant administration of Ethiqa XR with drugs that cause respiratory depression.
Ethiqa XR®
(buprenorphine extended-release injectable suspension) 1.3 mg/mL
Opioid Analgesic III.

For subcutaneous use in mice and rats only.

CAUTION: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

LEGAL STATUS—In order to be legally marketed, a new animal drug intended for a minor species must be Approved, Conditionally Approved, or Indexed by the Food and Drug Administration. THIS PRODUCT IS INDEXED—MF # 900-014. Extra-label use is prohibited.

This product is not to be used in animals intended for use as food for humans or food-producing animals.

WARNING: ABUSE POTENTIAL, LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION, and ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE

Abuse Potential
Ethiqa XR contains buprenorphine, a high concentration (1.3 mg/mL) opioid agonist and Schedule III controlled substance with an abuse potential similar to other Schedule III opioids. The high concentration of Ethiqa XR may be a particular target for human abuse. Buprenorphine has opioid properties that in humans may lead to dependence of the morphine type. Abuse of buprenorphine may lead to low or moderate physical dependence or high psychological dependence. The risk of abuse by humans should be considered when storing, administering, and disposing of Ethiqa XR. Persons at increased risk for opioid abuse include those with a personal or family history of substance abuse (including drug or alcohol abuse or addiction) or mental illness (suicidal depression).

Because of human safety risks, this drug should be used only with veterinary supervision. Do not dispense Ethiqa XR.

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression
The concentration of buprenorphine in Ethiqa XR is 1.3 mg/mL. Respiratory depression, including fatal cases, may occur with abuse of Ethiqa XR.

Ethiqa XR has additive CNS depressant effects when used with alcohol, other opioids, or illicit drugs that cause central nervous system depression.

Because of the potential for adverse reactions associated with accidental injection, Ethiqa XR should only be administered by a veterinarian or laboratory staff trained in the handling of potent opioids.

DESCRIPTION
Ethiqa XR is an injectable suspension of extended-release buprenorphine. Buprenorphine hydrochloride, an opioid analgesic, is the active ingredient in Ethiqa XR. Lipid-bound buprenorphine hydrochloride is suspended in medium chain fatty acid triglyceride (MCT) oil. Lipids encapsulate the buprenorphine limiting diffusion which provides for larger doses and prolonged action.1,2 Ethiqa XR has a slightly yellow to white opaque appearance. Each mL contains approximately 1.3 mg buprenorphine hydrochloride. The sterile product contains cholesterol, glyceryl tristearate, and buprenorphine hydrochloride suspended in MCT oil.

Buprenorphine
Formula C29H41NO4

INDICATIONS
Ethiqa XR is indicated for the control of post-procedural pain in mice and rats.

MOUSE DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
Wear protective clothing when administering Ethiqa XR (see Human Safety Warnings).

Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. If stored refrigerated, bring to room temperature before use.

Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 23 gauge needle should be used for injections due to the viscosity of the drug suspension.

The dosage of Ethiqa XR is a single subcutaneous injection of 0.05 mL per 20 gram mouse (3.25 mg/kg body weight). Therapeutic drug concentrations are maintained for 72 hours after the initial dose. If needed, a single repeat dose may be administered 72 hours after the initial dose.

Secure the mouse in a scruff-of-the-neck hold. Insert the needle into the dorsal subcutaneous space created by the scruff hold. Inject the entire dose into the dorsal subcutaneous space. An oily sheen may be observed in the dorsal fur of the mouse after injection due to leakage of the oil-based drug suspension from the injection site. The oily sheen may last for 4 to 5 days post-injection. Leakage from the injection site can be minimized by slowly injecting Ethiqa XR into the subcutaneous space. The mouse can be returned to its cage immediately after receiving Ethiqa XR.

Do not return any unused drug suspension from the syringe back into the vial.

Once the vial is broached, Ethiqa XR can be stored at 15° to 25°C (59° – 77°F) or refrigerated for 28 days. DO NOT FREEZE.

RAT DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
Wear protective clothing when administering Ethiqa XR (see Human Safety Warnings).

Shake the vial briefly before each use to ensure uniform suspension. If stored refrigerated, bring to room temperature before use.

Use aseptic techniques to withdraw the dose into a disposable 0.5 or 1 mL syringe. A 20 to 23 gauge needle should be used for injections due to the viscosity of the drug suspension.

The dosage of Ethiqa XR is a single subcutaneous injection of 0.1 mL per 200 gram rat (0.65 mg/kg body weight). Therapeutic drug concentrations are maintained for 72 hours after the initial dose. If needed, a single repeat dose may be administered 72 hours after the initial dose.

Secure the rat in a passive restraint tube or by holding with a heavy glove with one person to secure the rat and a second person to administer the drug. Insert the needle in the dorsal subcutaneous space. Inject the entire dose into the dorsal subcutaneous space. An oily sheen may be observed in the dorsal fur after injection due to leakage of the oil-based drug suspension from the injection site. The oily sheen may last for 4 to 5 days post-injection. Leakage from the injection site can be minimized by slowly injecting Ethiqa XR into the subcutaneous space. The rat can be returned to its cage immediately after receiving Ethiqa XR.

See CONTRAINDICATIONS and Rat PRECAUTIONS for additional information on bedding.

Do not return any unused drug suspension from the syringe back into the vial.

Once the vial is broached, Ethiqa XR can be stored at 15° to 25°C (59° – 77°F) or refrigerated for 28 days. DO NOT FREEZE.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
Only administer Ethiqa XR by subcutaneous injection. Ethiqa XR is not intended for intravenous, intra-arterial, intrathecal, intramuscular, or intra-peritoneal injection.

Do not use on mice or rats with pre-existing respiratory deficiencies.

Do not keep rats on wood chip-type bedding after administration of Ethiqa XR.

HUMAN SAFETY WARNINGS
Not for use in humans. Keep out of the reach of children.

Human User Safety while handling Ethiqa XR:
Two trained staff for administration: Ethiqa XR should only be handled and administered by a veterinarian, veterinary technician, or laboratory staff trained in the handling of potent opioids. To prevent human adverse reactions or abuse, at least 2 trained administrators should be present during injection of Ethiqa XR.

Protective covering: To prevent direct contact of Ethiqa XR with human skin or mucous membranes when handling the suspension, protective clothing is recommended.

Mucous membrane or eye contact during administration: Direct contact of Ethiqa XR with the eyes, oral or other mucous membranes of humans could result in absorption of buprenorphine and the potential for adverse reactions. If accidental eye, oral or other mucous membrane contact is made during administration, flush the area with water and contact a physician.

Skin contact during administration: If human skin is accidentally exposed to Ethiqa XR, wash the exposed area with soap and water and contact a physician. Accidental exposure could result in absorption of buprenorphine and the potential for adverse reactions.

WARNING: ABUSE POTENTIAL, LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION, and ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE

Abuse Potential
Ethiqa XR contains buprenorphine, a high concentration (1.3 mg/mL) opioid agonist and Schedule III controlled substance with an abuse potential similar to other Schedule III opioids. The high concentration of Ethiqa XR may be a particular target for human abuse. Buprenorphine has opioid properties that in humans may lead to dependence of the morphine type. Abuse of buprenorphine may lead to low or moderate physical dependence or high psychological dependence. The risk of abuse by humans should be considered when storing, administering, and disposing of Ethiqa XR. Persons at increased risk for opioid abuse include those with a personal or family history of substance abuse (including drug or alcohol abuse or addiction) or mental illness (suicidal depression).

Because of human safety risks, this drug should be used only with veterinary supervision. Do not dispense Ethiqa XR.

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression
The concentration of buprenorphine in Ethiqa XR is 1.3 mg/mL. Respiratory depression, including fatal cases, may occur with abuse of Ethiqa XR.

Ethiqa XR has additive CNS depressant effects when used with alcohol, other opioids, or illicit drugs that cause central nervous system depression.

Because of the potential for adverse reactions associated with accidental injection, Ethiqa XR should only be administered by a veterinarian or laboratory staff trained in the handling of potent opioids.

DESCRIPTION
Ethiqa XR is an injectable suspension of extended-release buprenorphine. Buprenorphine hydrochloride, an opioid analgesic, is the active ingredient in Ethiqa XR. Lipid-bound buprenorphine hydrochloride is suspended in medium chain fatty acid triglyceride (MCT) oil. Lipids encapsulate the buprenorphine limiting diffusion which provides for larger doses and prolonged action.1,2 Ethiqa XR has a slightly yellow to white opaque appearance. Each mL contains approximately 1.3 mg buprenorphine hydrochloride. The sterile product contains cholesterol, glyceryl tristearate, and buprenorphine hydrochloride suspended in MCT oil.

Buprenorphine
Formula C29H41NO4

INDICATIONS
Ethiqa XR is indicated for the control of post-procedural pain in mice and rats.
Drug Abuse, Addiction, and Diversion of Opioids:

**Controlled Substance:** Ethiqa XR contains buprenorphine, a mu opioid partial agonist and Schedule II controlled substance with an abuse potential similar to other Schedule II opioids. Ethiqa XR can be abused and is subject to misuse, abuse, addiction, and criminal diversion. Ethiqa XR should be handled appropriately to minimize the risk of diversion, including restriction of access, the use of accounting procedures, and proper disposal methods, as appropriate to the laboratory setting and as required by law.

**Abuse:** Abuse of Ethiqa XR poses a hazard of overdose and death. This risk is increased with concurrent abuse of alcohol and other substances including other opioids and benzodiazepines. Buprenorphine has been diverted for non-medical use into illicit channels of distribution. All people handling opioids require careful monitoring for signs of abuse. Drug abuse is the intentional non-therapeutic use of a prescription drug for its rewarding psychological or physiological effects. Abuse of opioids can occur in the absence of true addiction.

**Storage and Discard:** Ethiqa XR is a Class III opioid. Store in a locked, substantially constructed cabinet according to DEA and local controlled substance guidelines. Discard broached vials after 28 days. Any unused or expired vials must be destroyed by a DEA registered reversion distributor; for further information, call 1-833-384-4729.

**Physician information:** Ethiqa XR injectable suspension is a mu-opioid partial agonist (1.3 mg buprenorphine/mL). In the case of an emergency, provide the physician with the package administered 2, 6 and 10 times the intended dose for three doses at four day intervals. A surgical procedure was performed on the rats prior to receiving each of the three doses of Ethiqa XR.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

**Mice**

The safety of Ethiqa XR has not been evaluated in pregnant, lactating, neonatal, or immune-compromised mice. As with other opioids, buprenorphine may cause sedation, decreased blood pressure, decreased heart rate, decreased gastrointestinal mobility, and respiratory depression. Use caution with concomitant administration of Ethiqa XR with drugs that cause respiratory depression. The use of paper or soft bedding for up to 3 days following administration of Ethiqa XR should be considered.

Normal mice may exhibit an obtunded response to stimuli up to 4 hours after receiving Ethiqa XR. Buprenorphine is excreted in the feces (see Clinical Pharmacology section below). Coprophagy may lead to ingestion of buprenorphine or its metabolites by mice treated with Ethiqa XR and untreated cage mates.

**Rats**

The safety of Ethiqa XR has not been evaluated in pregnant, lactating, neonatal, or immune-compromised rats. As with other opioids, buprenorphine may cause sedation, decreased blood pressure, decreased heart rate, decreased gastrointestinal mobility, and respiratory depression. Use caution with concomitant administration of Ethiqa XR with drugs that cause respiratory depression. Rats may exhibit signs of nausea including pica up to 3 days post-treatment. Rats should be maintained on paper or soft bedding to avoid ingestion of wood chip-type bedding after administration of Ethiqa XR. Pica involving wood chip-type bedding can be lethal in rats.

Buprenorphine is excreted in the feces (see Clinical Pharmacology section below). Coprophagy may lead to ingestion of buprenorphine or its metabolites by rats treated with Ethiqa XR and untreated cage mates.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

**Mice**

No adverse reactions were observed in 20 to 25 gram young adult male and female mice after a single subcutaneous injection of Ethiqa XR at a dose 5 times the indicated dose. Laboratory parameters evaluated in the study included hematologic and clinical chemistry; histopathology was also performed. In a second study, adult male and female mice received Ethiqa XR subcutaneously at 5 times the indicated dose for three doses at four day intervals. A surgical procedure was performed on the study mice prior to receiving each of the three doses of Ethiqa XR.

Mortality was seen in two male mice after the third surgical procedure and dose of Ethiqa XR (total dose of 49 mg buprenorphine/kg body weight in 8 days). Weight loss has been observed in mice treated post-procedurally with Ethiqa XR.

**Rats**

Adverse reactions were evaluated in 180 to 200 gram young adult male and female rats after a single injection of Ethiqa XR. A surgical procedure was performed on the rats prior to administration of a single dose at the intended dose of 0.65 mg/kg or a single dose of 2, 6 or 10-fold excess dose. Adverse reactions also were evaluated in male and female rats administered 2, 6 and 10 times the intended dose for three doses at four day intervals. A surgical procedure was performed on the rats prior to administration of the first of three doses. Laboratory parameters evaluated in the study included hematologic, clinical chemistry, urinalysis, histopathology, and bodyweight.

Signs of nausea were observed at all dose levels within 24 hours of the dose. Signs included self-licking, self-gnawing and efforts to eat wood-chip bedding.

Mortality was seen in 1 of 36 rats exposed to wood chip bedding. Necropsy revealed the stomach and esophagus were compacted with bedding, the bladder was abnormally distended and the urine contained blood.

Mortality was seen in 3 of 222 rats treated with Ethiqa XR due to technical complications with serial bleeding of the jugular vein.

For technical assistance, or to report an adverse drug reaction, please call Fidelis Pharmaceuticals LLC at 1-833-384-4729.

For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth.

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

Buprenorphine can act as an agonist and antagonist at different classes of opioid receptors. Agonism at the mu opioid receptor and, in some cases, antagonism at the kappa or delta opioid receptors are possible underlying mechanisms for the ceiling effect and bell-shaped dose-response curve of buprenorphine. Studies with knockout mice have shown that the antinociceptive effect of buprenorphine, which is mediated primarily by the mu opioid receptor, is attenuated by the ability of the drug to activate the opioid receptor like (ORL-1) receptor. The drug can be described as a ‘full’ and a ‘partial’ agonist at the same receptor depending on the specific assay. There appears to be no ceiling effect for analgesia, but there is a ceiling effect for respiratory depression.

Pharmacokinetic studies with bolus injections of buprenorphine in mice and rats provide similar models. Repeated subcutaneous administration, plasma levels decline tri-exponentially. The drug is n-dealkylated in the liver to norbuprenorphine (NBN), an active metabolite. Studies have shown that glucuronide metabolites of buprenorphine and NBN are also metabolically active, and can approximate or exceed the concentration of the parent drug. Un-metabolized drug excreted in the urine and feces one week after injection was 1.9 and 22.4% of the dose, respectively, and 92% of the dose was accounted for in one week.2

**Mice**

Pharmacokinetic parameters of Ethiqa XR were studied in 6-8 week old male and female Balb/c mice following a single subcutaneous injection of 3.25 mg/kg bodyweight. Clinically significant blood levels were observed up to 72 hours after subcutaneous injection.

**Rats**

Pharmacokinetic parameters of Ethiqa XR were studied in 8 week old male and female Fischer rats following a single subcutaneous injection of 0.65 mg/kg bodyweight. Clinically significant blood levels were observed up to 72 hours after subcutaneous injection.

**HOW SUPPLIED**

Ethiqa XR is supplied in a multi-use glass vial containing 3.0 mL of injectable drug suspension.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand Name</th>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>NDC Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiqa XR</td>
<td>3 mL</td>
<td>86084-100-30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

U.S. Patent No. 8,461,173

**STORAGE INFORMATION**

Store between 15° and 25°C (59° – 77°F) or refrigerated. DO NOT FREEZE. If stored refrigerated, bring to room temperature before use. Once broached, the multi-dose vial should be discarded after 28 days.

**REFERENCES**


**Manufactured for:**

Fidelis Pharmaceuticals LLC
675 US Highway One,
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
833-384-4729
www.EthiqaXR.com

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