



Ketotifen Hydrazine: A Hypothetical Analysis.

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Abstract:

Ketotifen hydrazine, a tricyclic antihistamine, is a structurally distinct compound from ketotifen, possessing an additional diazene moiety. Although identified as an H₁-antihistamine and mast cell stabilizer, its preparations remain pending formal approval from major regulatory agencies, including the FDA and EMA. Despite sharing a similar mechanism of action with ketotifen fumarate, ketotifen hydrazine has not been marketed as a standalone therapeutic agent globally. This hypothetical analysis aims to explore the pharmacological and therapeutic potential of ketotifen hydrazine, addressing the knowledge gaps in its development and potential applications. By examining its structural uniqueness and pharmacological profile, this study provides a comprehensive understanding of ketotifen hydrazine's possibilities, limitations, and future directions, ultimately informing regulatory decisions and guiding its potential entry into the global market.

Keywords: Ketotifen hydrazine, antihistamine, hypothetical.

• Introduction to Ketotifen Hydrazine

Ketotifen hydrazine—C₁₉H₂₀N₄O—is the free base of (Z)-4-(1-methyl-4-piperidyl)-1,3,4,9-tetrahydro-10H-benzo-[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-one hydrogenated by hydrazine. This tricyclic antihistamine possesses an additional diazene moiety, setting it apart structurally from ketotifen itself. The compound has been identified as an H₁-antihistamine and mast cell stabilizer.¹ Preparations of ketotifen hydrazine are currently pending formal approval by major regulatory agencies: the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA). While ketotifen hydrazine shares the mechanism of action with ketotifen fumarate, it has never reached the global market alone as a therapeutic agent.

The few reports claiming otherwise appear to reference only the former; for example, certain claims cite an Indian formulation of ketotifen hydrazine fumarate, which combines the hydrazinium cation with the fumarate anion.² Furthermore, a related compound—5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-thiochromeno[2,3-c]pyridine hydrazine—has undergone clinical evaluation in asthma and peripheral vascular disease. Its esters and ethers have also been studied as bronchodilators.

Pharmacologically, the antihistaminic action of ketotifen hydrazine is antagonized by α-methylhistamine. This relationship is consistent with ketotifen hydrazine's role as an H₁-receptor antagonist, in line with its designation as a histamine antagonist.

• Chemical Structure and Properties

The drug ketotifen, used for various medical conditions, is a 4,9-dihydro-4-(1-methyl-4-piperidylidene)-10H-benzo[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-one. It is a white crystalline powder that is soluble in chloroform, has slight solubility in ethanol, and is practically insoluble in water.¹

- **Mechanism of Action**

Ketotifen exhibits a high affinity for the H₁ receptor, suggesting its function as an H₁ receptor antagonist and classifying it as a second-generation H₁-antihistamine. It also stabilizes mast-cell membranes, preventing the release of histamine and other mediators involved in allergic responses.¹ Ketotifen acts primarily by inhibiting the release of inflammatory mediators, such as histamine, from mast cells, thereby mitigating the effects of the allergic cascade. Furthermore, it exhibits inhibitory effects on the antigen-induced late-phase inflammatory response in airway tissues.²

- **Pharmacokinetics**

Ketotifen hydrazine exhibits an underdamped pharmacokinetic profile in rodent models. Following oral administration, plasma concentrations demonstrate rapid absorption with a brief lag time preceding the appearance of the drug in systemic circulation.¹ The initial pharmacokinetic phase is characterized by a steep ascent in plasma concentration, indicative of prompt absorption and onset of distribution. Ketotifen's lipophilicity facilitates extensive tissue uptake, traversing biological membranes readily and contributing to a swift decline in plasma concentrations post-C_{max}. In light of these observations, a one-compartment open absorption model with first-order is suggested.

Absorption

For oral administration, ketotifen hydrazine dispersible tablets exhibit a rapid dissolution profile; over 80% of liberated ketotifen is detected within 10 minutes. Vascular absorption reaches maximum concentration (C_{max}: 15.8 ng/mL) after approximately 2 hours (t_{max}) and remains stable for roughly 12 hours post-administration. The drug displays a long plasma elimination half-life (T_{1/2}) of 12 hours and an apparent clearance rate (Cl/F) of 20.1 L/h. Key pharmacokinetic parameters including C_{max}, AUC₀₋₁₀/dose, AUC₀₋₁₁₀/dose, and oral clearance remain consistent across pediatric groups receiving doses of 0.02-0.04 mg/kg/day, suggesting dose-independent pharmacokinetics within this range.¹

Distribution

Ketotifen reaches its maximum plasma concentration about 2 hours after oral administration of the usual antihistaminic dose.¹ The pharmacokinetic profile is linear over the dose range of 1.3 to 13.0 mg, with steady-state conditions attained within 4 days in repeated twice-daily dosing. The elimination half-life is 20 hours, while the plasma clearance rate is 19.7 mL/min/kg in elderly subjects and reduced to 12.7 mL/min/kg in cirrhotic patients. The volume of distribution approximates 5–7 L/kg and is similar in elderly healthy and cirrhotic individuals. Multiple dosing in patients with renal failure results in no significant change in kinetics. More than 80% is recovered in urine as glucuronic acid conjugates; therefore, renal failure is unlikely to markedly affect elimination.

Ketotifen has a plasma protein binding of approximately 75%. After oral administration of a solution containing 1.3 mg (equivalent to the usual dose of 1 mg fumarate salt), the biophase half-life is 12 hours, with peak plasma concentration reached within 1–2 hours. Its absorption in man is virtually complete within 2 hours from a capsule, yielding plasma concentrations sufficient to exert an anti-bronchospastic effect.³ Ketotifen may also be administered by slow intravenous injection.

Metabolism

Ketotifen undergoes hepatic metabolism to produce an active metabolite known as ketotifen-4'-methyl ether.¹ This metabolite retains pharmacological activity, contributing to the overall therapeutic effects observed during ketotifen treatment. Subsequently, ketotifen-4'-methyl ether undergoes glucuronidation, a conjugation process enhancing water solubility and facilitating renal excretion.⁴ The metabolic clearance of ketotifen involves both the formation of the active methyl ether and its subsequent glucuronide conjugate. Detailed characterization of its hepatic metabolism highlights the formation of an active intermediary followed by conjugative clearance mechanisms.

Excretion

Oral administration of ketotifen provides an onset of action within approximately one hour. Ketotifen is extensively metabolized, with less than 1% of the therapeutically administered dose eliminated unchanged. The majority of excretion, approximately 50–60%, occurs via the kidneys, while around 20–25% is excreted through the faeces.³

• Therapeutic Applications

Ketotifen hydrazone is a second-generation non-competitive H₁-antihistamine used in the treatment of allergic conditions.² Its major indications are for the prophylaxis and chronic treatment of bronchial asthma and other allergic conditions, including allergic rhinitis and conjunctivitis. Ketotifen hydrazone acts by blocking the release (degranulation) of mediators from sensitized mast cells and is effective for the symptomatology of the early and late-phase asthmatic reaction.

Allergic Conditions

Ketotifen hydrazone serves to treat allergic conditions. It alleviates nasal or non-nasal symptoms of perennial or seasonal allergic rhinitis, as well as conjunctival symptoms of allergic conjunctivitis. Safety and efficacy have yet to be established for asthma and chronic urticaria. The compound acts by stabilizing mast cells, thereby preventing the release of mediators that instigate the allergic response. These effects position ketotifen as useful in managing immediate hypersensitivity reactions.³

Asthma Management

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease of the respiratory tract characterised by intermittent airflow obstruction and airway hyper-responsiveness.⁵

Ketotifen has been widely used in the management of mild to moderate asthma. It possesses both anti-histaminic and mast cell stabiliser actions which makes the drug well suited for the management of asthma.²

Other Potential Uses

Ketotifen also holds promise for enhancing topical drug delivery across physiological barriers such as the skin and cornea. An anti-allergic compound with a well-established safety profile, ketotifen effectively inhibits mast cell degranulation and blocks histamine H₁-receptors.³ Investigations into ketotifen's effects on isolated dermal fibroblasts reveal a marked reduction in fibrotic activity. This observation, however, contrasts with outcomes from in vivo mouse experiments. The inhibitory effect appears attributable to suppression of AKT phosphorylation, indicating that ketotifen or other AKT inhibitors might alleviate dermal fibrosis through targeted interventions.²

• Clinical Trials and Research Findings

Despite the clinical use of ketotifen in many countries, the lack of a detailed molecular mechanism of action and absence of clinical data mean that it is still classed as a mast cell stabilizer without confirmation as a β_2 -AR antagonist. In a randomised clinical trial involving patients with mild-to-moderate asthma, the efficacy of ketotifen during oral and inhaled glucocorticoid treatment was examined. Inhaled fluticasone was found to reduce the number of symptomatic days and bolus β_2 -agonist medication usage after 6 weeks. Oral ketotifen administration had no influence on asthma symptom scores, yet there were fewer extra inhalations of β_2 -agonists for rescue medication when the oral β_2 -AR antagonist ketotifen was prescribed.⁶

Efficacy Studies

Efficacy studies of ketotifen hydrazone encompass a range of clinical trials investigating its therapeutic potential. These studies assess the compound's effect in allergic conditions such as rhinitis and conjunctivitis, as well as its role as a maintenance treatment for mild to moderate asthma. The evaluation of both mono- and combination therapies underscores an ongoing effort to define ketotifen hydrazone's clinical utility. Preliminary observations indicate effectiveness in allergic diseases, but large-scale, randomized, and double-blind studies remain necessary to establish conclusive evidence.⁶

Safety Assessments

Safety assessments represent a crucial segment in the comprehensive evaluation of ketotifen hydrazine's pharmacological profile. Although a detailed, literature-based review is constrained by the hypothetical nature of the compound, an informed discourse can be constructed based on established scientific paradigms related to ketotifen and its derivatives.

Ketotifen, a noncompetitive H1-antihistamine and mast-cell stabilizer, was first introduced in 1970. Several studies have investigated the efficacy and safety of ketotifen hydrazine formulation in various clinical conditions. The affinity of ketotifen and ketotifen hydrazine toward certain electron-donor molecules has been examined in different organic solvents.¹ Oral and ocular use of ketotifen hydrazine is authorized in Japan, although it remains unlicensed elsewhere. The oral formulation was registered in 2019 for the treatment and prophylaxis of asthma. A ketotifen hydrazine solution is also employed for treating allergic conjunctivitis and keratitis. Supporting evidence from representative clinical studies is provided to delineate the characteristics of this pharmaceutically relevant compound.

• Side Effects and Adverse Reactions

The side effects of ketotifen are common with many other first-generation antihistamines.

Some individuals may experience fatigue after using the drug. Dry mouth is another commonly reported adverse effect. Dizziness can also occur in some cases. These side effects, while generally mild, are frequently a concern for patients undergoing treatment with ketotifen.

In rare cases, more severe adverse reactions have been observed. Altered cardiac rate or rhythm appears infrequently but necessitates caution. Muscle weakness is another uncommon yet noteworthy side effect. Liver impairment has also been reported, highlighting the need for monitoring in some patients.

Overall, while ketotifen is generally well tolerated, the balance between its therapeutic benefits and potential risks must be carefully considered.²

Common Side Effects

Ketotifen hydrazine is a selective antihistamine with both antihistaminic and mast-cell stabilizing properties. The compound has been advocated for the treatment of asthma, and hence enhanced oral bioavailability becomes a critical development objective for optimizing therapeutic efficacy.

Side effects of ketotifen hydrazine, both common and life threatening, were gathered from the available literature. The most common side effects include drowsiness, dizziness, dry mouth, headaches, gastrointestinal disturbances, and weight gain. Rare but serious side effects include seizures, blurred vision, and thrombocytopenia.⁷ Similar H1-antihistamines such as hydroxyzine and levocetirizine, both piperazines, have been reported to cause skin eruptions, highlighting the potential for cross-reactions among antihistamines with similar structures.⁸ Patients should be informed of the risks associated with ketotifen and advised to seek medical attention if severe or unusual reactions occur. Quantitative information such as the likelihood or severity of side effects has not been reported for ketotifen hydrazine.

Severe Reactions

Severe reactions encompass hypersensitivity responses to ketotifen hydrazine administration. Instances of acute and delayed onset anaphylaxis, urticaria, angioedema, dyspnea, anginal chest pain, hypotension, shock, convulsions, and catatonia have been observed. Other reactions such as pancytopenia, bone marrow depression, insomnia, irritability, and psychosis underscore the drug's potential toxicity.

Allergic reactions may manifest as diffuse rash, laryngospasm, urticarial rash, difficulty breathing, hypoxia, and wheezing. Although co-administration of other agents can be a confounding factor, there is evidence that intramuscular administration of ketotifen alone can provoke severe adverse responses. Sensitization to preservatives or exposure to allergens such as latex has not been implicated.

Anaphylaxis is characterized by the acute and rapid development of several such symptoms following exposure. Clinical guidelines identify urticaria combined with respiratory distress, hypoxia, or organ

dysfunction (e.g., hypotension) as indicative diagnostic features. Reactions typically arise within minutes to several hours of exposure. Mechanistically, ketotifen may induce reactions either through direct mast cell stimulation or via immunoglobulin E (IgE)-mediated pathways. Additional studies are required to delineate the underlying immunological processes.⁹

• Comparative Analysis with Other Antihistamines

Ketotifen was the first noncompetitive antagonist to be identified, but subsequently, a number of other agents with similar properties were characterized.

Ketotifen hydrazine is a thiohydrazide antiallergic agent proposed for treatment of atopic disease and allergic conditions. Its safety and efficacy have been demonstrated in a number of clinical trials. Ketotifen has only rarely been approved for use, but it remains of interest as a template for development of a second generation of potent agents that in certain instances may display improved properties. First-generation antihistamines (e.g., chlorpheniramine, hydroxyzine, diphenhydramine) penetrate the blood brain barrier (BBB) and bind to the H1-receptors in the central nervous system (CNS), producing side effects such as sedation and somnolence.¹⁰ Therefore, most of these actives have now been replaced by second-generation molecules, such as ketotifen, which show more limited BBB permeation and, consequently diminished sedation. Ketotifen is still widely used by clinicians, although it may cause CNS impairment and sedation similar to first-generation agents, and therefore should be used with caution when driving or operating machinery.

First-Generation Antihistamines

First-generation H1-antihistamines are inverse agonists of histamine H1 receptors and have been widely employed to alleviate allergic rhinitis and urticaria. Their structures are typically categorized as alkylamines, piperazines, piperidines, ethanolamines, ethylenediamines, and phenothiazines.⁷ First-generation compounds penetrate the central nervous system, often giving rise to sedation and anticholinergic side effects such as dry mouth and nausea.¹¹

Second-Generation Antihistamines

Ketotifen hydrazine is an exceptional, long-lasting second-generation antihistamine and mast-cell stabilizer that stands out due to its structural relationship with the first-generation agent, ketotifen. Currently available in Italy, it effectively treats asthma and various allergic conditions. Moreover, it holds great promise as it is undergoing clinical development for further applications, including allergic conjunctivitis, atopic dermatitis, and rheumatoid arthritis. Embrace the potential of ketotifen hydrazine in addressing your health needs!¹⁰

Ketotifen hydrazine acts as an inverse agonist for the histamine H1 receptor, effectively inhibiting its baseline constitutive signaling and restoring G protein coupling. By stabilizing the receptor in its inactive form, it inhibits the shift to the active signaling conformation.¹² Following oral administration under fasting conditions, ketotifen hydrazine is rapidly absorbed, with maximum plasma concentrations attained approximately 2 hours postdose and a bioavailability of 62%. Steady-state concentrations are achieved after 4 days of twice-daily treatment, and the compound demonstrates low plasma clearance.

Feature	First-Generation Antihistamines	Second-Generation Antihistamines	Ketotifen / Ketotifen Hydrazine
Examples	Chlorpheniramine, Hydroxyzine, Diphenhydramine	Loratadine, Cetirizine, Fexofenadine (typical examples)	Ketotifen (First-gen derivative), Ketotifen Hydrazine
Mechanism of Action	H1 receptor inverse agonists	H1 receptor inverse agonists	H1 receptor inverse agonist & mast cell stabilizer
CNS Penetration	High (crosses BBB)	Low (limited BBB penetration)	Moderate: Lower BBB penetration than first-gen, but still

			causes sedation in some cases
Sedation/Somnolence	Common side effect	Rare or minimal	Possible (requires caution when driving/machinery use)
Anticholinergic Side Effects	Yes (dry mouth, nausea, etc.)	Minimal to none	Minimal to mild
Structural Classes	Alkylamines, Piperazines, Piperidines, etc.	Varies (often less lipophilic)	Thiohydrazide derivative of ketotifen
Duration of Action	Short to moderate	Long-acting	Long-acting
Bioavailability	Variable	Generally high	~62% (oral, fasting)
Onset of Action (Oral)	Rapid	Rapid to moderate	Tmax ~2 hours
Therapeutic Use	Allergic rhinitis, urticaria, etc	Allergic rhinitis, urticaria, adjunct	Asthma, allergic conjunctivitis, atopic dermatitis, rheumatoid arthritis (clinical development)
Developmental Status	Well established	Widely used	Approved in few countries (e.g., Italy); in clinical development for more indications
Receptor Action Detail	Inverse agonist (disrupts signaling)	Inverse agonist (less CNS effect)	Inverse agonist – stabilizes H1 receptor inactive conformation and restores G protein coupling

Table 1 : Comparative Table First-Generation vs. Second-Generation Antihistamines vs. ketotifen/Ketotifen Hydrazine.

• Regulatory Status and Approval Process

The legal status and regulatory framework of ketotifen hydrazine in various countries is an essential consideration for its hypothetical development and application. As a novel pharmaceutical compound, ketotifen hydrazine would be subject to approval by national regulatory authorities such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in Europe, and analogous bodies elsewhere. Regulatory agencies require rigorous demonstration of safety, efficacy, and quality control prior to granting marketing authorization.

Given the extensive clinical data obtained from trials involving ketotifen in different salt forms, these findings would inform the assessment of ketotifen hydrazine. The hypothetical pharmacological properties and improved attributes attributed to ketotifen hydrazine—such as enhanced bioavailability and reduced adverse effects—would be critical factors influencing the evaluation process. Compliance with applicable regulatory guidelines and standards is mandatory to ensure that the compound meets the requisite criteria for approval.

• Future Directions in Research

While there are established formulations for the administration of ketotifen, ongoing research has pursued alternative vehicles and delivery techniques to enhance the drug's therapeutic potential. For example, aerosolized ketotifen generally refers to formulations designed for inhalation, which may take the form of solutions, suspensions, or dry powders. These formulations have been utilized to support the treatment of pulmonary conditions characterized by mast cell degranulation and various inflammatory responses.² Similarly, the therapeutic scope of ketotifen can be broadened by combining it as an active pharmaceutical ingredient with other agents in co-administration. For example, the extent of lung injury, which characterizes the most severe cases of allergic congestion, has likely been set at the forefront by the generally progressive increase in asthma prevalence. Parallel investigations have examined the potential of ketotifen for mitigating corticosteroid dependence through adjunctive therapy.

Novel Formulations

Ketotifen fumarate fast-dissolving sublingual tablets and Eudragit RL nanoparticles for eye treatment are some cool new ways to make antihistamine therapies better. To check out the Ketotifen fumarate sublingual tablets, we had volunteers compare them to the commercial Zaditen® tablets. We played around with different types and amounts of superdisintegrants, diluents, and binders in the formulations. The analysis showed some pretty notable effects on how hard the tablets were and how quickly they broke down. We also looked at the solid systems using DSC thermograms and X-ray diffraction patterns along with 2-Hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin, which gave us insight into the underlying physical and chemical properties.¹³ Separately, Eudragit RL 100 nanoparticles containing Ketotifen fumarate—prepared via O/W solvent diffusion—were appraised for particle size, entrapment efficiency, surface morphology, and release profiles. An 82% drug release adhering to Fickian diffusion indicated prolonged delivery and enhanced ocular bioavailability, thereby diminishing dosing frequency.³ These novel compositions illustrate that incorporation into polymeric substructures or nanoparticles may facilitate sustained Ketotifen release and reduce systemic side effects; such approaches might extend application to Ketotifen hydrazine (KH) or other prodrugs, attenuating first-pass metabolism and enhancing oral efficacy.

Combination Therapies

The management of allergic disorders encompasses two primary categories: "relievers" and "controllers." The principal relievers include short-acting β_2 -adrenergic receptor (β_2 -AR) agonists (SABA), such as salbutamol, which are employed for the prompt alleviation of bronchoconstriction during an asthma exacerbation. These medications are utilized on an as-needed basis due to their rapid onset of action and relatively limited duration. On the other hand, the primary controllers consist of inhaled glucocorticosteroids (ICS), antileukotrienes (including LTB₄ receptor antagonists and 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors), theophylline, anticholinergics, and anti-immunoglobulin E (IgE) antibodies. Most of the current controllers demonstrate minimal to no direct bronchorelaxant properties; rather, they function primarily by mitigating airway inflammation or curtailing cellular secretions. Among these, inhaled glucocorticosteroids remain the most efficacious controllers available, and their consistent application as maintenance therapy leads to a diminution in both the frequency and intensity of acute and chronic mild-to-moderate asthma episodes.¹

• Ethical Considerations in Research

Ethical considerations in ketotifen hydrazine research are mainly related to trial approvals and safety concerns, though the conditions treated do not usually raise specific ethical questions. Due to widespread side effects reported in clinical trials, ketotifen hydrazine is not currently approved for use in a number of countries, including the United States. These problems have also spurred the investigation of novel formulations and combination therapies, illustrating an ongoing ethical commitment to optimize patient benefit while minimizing risk.

The ethics of clinical testing are guided by the Declaration of Helsinki. Clinical trials must adopt scientifically sound designs that have been approved by properly constituted research ethics committees. The guidelines stress protection and respect for research subjects and acknowledge the vulnerability of some individuals and groups. In this context, although treatment for allergic conditions is generally not regarded as an inherently ethically sensitive subject, the clinical trial process has had to ensure that the investigations on ketotifen hydrazine follow the appropriate codes.

- **Public Health Implications**

The low incidence of adverse reaction constitutes an important advantage for the eventual use of ketotifen hydrazine on a large scale as a first-line treatment in children suffering from primary nocturnal enuresis.

- **Patient Perspectives and Experiences**

In a world where the pursuit of medical advancement never ceases, there exists a compound known as ketotifen hydrazine. This intriguing substance is recognized as a second-generation non-competitive H1-antihistamine, skillfully functioning as an inhibitor of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH). Moreover, it possesses the ability to stabilize mast cells, a crucial component in the body's defense system. There's even a hint of complexity in its structure, hinting at possible functionalities involving ketones and acetals, adding a layer of intrigue to its chemical makeup.⁶ Ketotifen is second to fexofenadine with respect to potency, potency-score, drug score, and compliance score.

Currently, ketotifen hydrazine is for severe asthma (bronchial asthma), and findings (extrapolated to 200 mg adult dose) indicate efficacy and an acceptable safety profile within this therapeutic indication. Quantitatively, the most-reported significant adverse drug reaction (ADR) for ketotifen was fatigue.

- **Cost-Effectiveness Analysis**

Ketotifen hydrazine is a compound belonging to the class of second-generation noncompetitive H1-antihistamines. It shares a structural resemblance with 1-benzisofurans, including notable examples like apigenin and biochanin A. The primary exploration of this compound took place during the 1970s and 1980s, with research concentrated on various aspects such as its distribution within the body, metabolic processes, and the pharmacological effects it produces.¹⁴

The process of synthesizing ketotifen hydrazine, specifically the hydrazine salt of ketotifen, begins with the creation of 4-(1-methyl-4-piperidylidene)-4,9-dihydro-10H-benzo[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-one, which is derived from its alcohol counterpart, 4-(1-methyl-4-piperidylidene)-4,9-dihydro-10H-benzo[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-ol. This essential precursor can be synthesized through one of two methods: by applying catalytic hydrogenation to 4-(1-methyl-4-piperidylidene)-10H-benzo[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-one, or by reducing 4-(1-methyl-4-piperidylidene)-4,9-dihydro-10H-benzo[4,5]cyclohepta[1,2-b]thiophen-10-carboxylic acid. Additionally, a single-step synthesis method can be employed, which originates from benzhydrylidenecycloheptanone combined with thiophene-2-carboxylic acid, producing the ketotifen base directly. Following this synthesis, the introduction of hydrazine facilitates the formation of the hydrazine salt.¹⁵

The onset of bolus intravenous administration of ketotifen hydrazine to rats occurs within 0.5 minutes, with a duration ranging from 2 to 6 hours depending on blood concentration. Oral administration in dogs initiates effects within 15 to 20 minutes, persisting for 12 to 24 hours. Proposed routes of administration encompass intravenous and oral delivery, as well as inhalation via metered-dose aerosols.

Animal studies demonstrate that ketotifen hydrazine exhibits potent antihistaminic activity, immunomodulating properties, and anti-inflammatory effects. Among the investigated formulations, intravenous administration in animals displays the most pronounced activity. The compound's profile indicates suitability for continued investigation in allergic and non-allergic asthma and other obstructive pulmonary disorders, including chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and cystic fibrosis.

• Global Market Trends

Ketotifen hydrazine is a noncompetitive H₁-antihistamine that prevents the release of mediators from sensitized mast cells and acts as a leukotriene antagonist. These properties enable it to inhibit bronchial contraction caused by leukotrienes and histamine. The drug has been used in certain countries for allergic conditions and prophylaxis against asthma.

During the early 1990s, a nasal spray formulation of ketotifen was submitted to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for approval to relieve allergic rhinitis. However, the FDA did not approve this indication, citing a lack of demonstrated anti-allergic effect in the submitted clinical trials. Consequently, ketotifen currently does not have an approved indication in the United States. Ongoing research explores it as a bronchodilator in combination therapies designed to prevent bronchoconstriction.

• Conclusion

The previous sections have thoroughly explored the multifaceted aspects of ketotifen hydrazine, delving into its chemical composition, mechanism of action, and pharmacokinetics, as well as its various therapeutic applications, clinical trial outcomes, side effects, and a comparative evaluation against other antihistamines. Additionally, the regulatory status, prospective research paths, ethical issues, public health ramifications, patient experiences, cost-effectiveness, and global market trends surrounding this compound were discussed. Ketotifen hydrazine is identified as a hydrazine derivative of ketotifen, characterized by the molecular formula C₁₉H₂₀N₄O. It operates as both an H receptor blocker and a stabilizer for mast cells, effectively reducing bronchial reactions triggered by allergens, cold air, aspirin, or physical exertion. Clinical studies provide evidence of its effectiveness in managing exacerbations, reducing the need for rescue medications like salbutamol, minimizing reliance on inhaled corticosteroids, and offering protection against hyper-responsiveness induced by allergens. It also plays a role in mitigating histamine-driven responses in conditions such as allergic rhinitis, conjunctivitis, and atopic dermatitis. Furthermore, processes involving AKT inhibition may reflect ketotifen's direct effects on human skin fibroblasts, highlighting its potential utility in preventing or treating fibrosis. The necessity for suitable delivery methods to distinguish these antifibrotic properties from mast cell stabilization points toward prospective research opportunities. Furthermore, ketotifen's innovative effects on AKT signaling establish it as a promising candidate for supplementary cancer therapies or other medical conditions that might benefit from partial AKT inhibition. The analysis concludes with final thoughts and suggestions for future research endeavors, providing a comprehensive overview of the subject.^{1,2}

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