

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

**ALBRIOZA**

sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine powder for suspension  
powder for suspension, 3 g / 1 g sachet, oral

Alimentary Tract and Metabolism

ALBRIOZA, indicated for

- the treatment of patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

has been issued market authorization **with conditions**, pending the results of trials to verify its clinical benefit. Patients should be advised of the nature of the authorization. For further information for ALBRIOZA please refer to Health Canada's Notice of Compliance with conditions - drug products web site:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/notice-compliance/conditions.html>

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**What is a Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c)?**

*An NOC/c is a form of market approval granted to a product on the basis of **promising** evidence of clinical effectiveness following review of the submission by Health Canada.*

*Products authorized under Health Canada's NOC/c policy are intended for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of a serious, life-threatening or severely debilitating illness. They have demonstrated promising benefit, are of high quality and possess an acceptable safety profile based on a benefit/risk assessment. In addition, they either respond to a serious unmet medical need in Canada or have demonstrated a significant improvement in the benefit/risk profile over existing therapies. Health Canada has provided access to this product on the condition that sponsors carry out additional clinical trials to verify the anticipated benefit within an agreed upon time frame.*

## RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES

7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis	03/2023
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<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>1 INDICATIONS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
1.1 Pediatrics.....	5
1.2 Geriatrics .....	5
<b>2 CONTRAINDICATIONS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION</b> .....	<b>5</b>
4.1 Dosing Considerations.....	5
4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment.....	5
4.3 Reconstitution.....	6
4.4 Administration.....	6
4.5 Missed Dose.....	6
<b>5 OVERDOSAGE</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
7.1 Special Populations .....	9
7.1.1. Pregnant Women .....	9
7.1.2. Breast-feeding.....	9
7.1.3. Pediatrics .....	9
7.1.4. Geriatrics.....	9
<b>8 ADVERSE REACTIONS</b> .....	<b>9</b>
8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview .....	9
8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions .....	10
8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions .....	12
8.4 Abnormal Laboratory Findings: Hematologic, Clinical Chemistry and Other Quantitative Data.....	13
8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions .....	13
<b>9 DRUG INTERACTIONS</b> .....	<b>13</b>
9.3 Drug-Behavioural Interactions .....	13
9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions .....	13
9.5 Drug-Food Interactions .....	15

9.6	Drug-Herb Interactions .....	15
9.7	Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions .....	15
<b>10</b>	<b>CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.....</b>	<b>15</b>
10.1	Mechanism of Action .....	15
10.2	Pharmacodynamics.....	15
10.3	Pharmacokinetics.....	16
<b>11</b>	<b>STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS .....</b>	<b>21</b>
	<b>PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>CLINICAL TRIALS.....</b>	<b>23</b>
14.1	Clinical Trial by Indication.....	23
	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis .....	23
<b>15</b>	<b>MICROBIOLOGY .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY.....</b>	<b>27</b>
	<b>PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>30</b>

## PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

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### 1 INDICATIONS

ALBRIOZA (sodium phenylbutyrate/ursodoxicoltaurine) is indicated for:

- The treatment of patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

#### 1.1 Pediatrics

**Pediatrics (<18 years):** No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

#### 1.2 Geriatrics

**Geriatrics (≥65 years of age):** Limited data with the use of ALBRIOZA in this population are available. Of the 89 patients with ALS who received ALBRIOZA in the Phase II safety and efficacy study, 25 patients were between 65 and 79 years of age.

NOC/c

### 2 CONTRAINDICATIONS

ALBRIOZA is contraindicated in:

- patients who are hypersensitive to this drug, bile salts, or to any ingredient in the formulation, including any non-medicinal ingredients, or component of the container. For a complete listing see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).
- Pregnancy (see [7.1.1 Pregnant Women](#)).
- Breastfeeding (see [7.1.2 Breast-feeding](#)).

NOC/c

### 4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 4.1 Dosing Considerations

If ALBRIOZA is not tolerated at the proposed dose of one sachet twice a day, dosage may be reduced to one sachet daily, although the efficacy of this dosage has not been studied.

#### 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

For the first 3 weeks of treatment, take 1 sachet daily. After 3 weeks, dosing should be increased to 1 sachet twice a day.

**Hepatic Impairment:** The use of ALBRIOZA in patients with any degree of hepatic impairment has not been studied. Caution is warranted when dosing ALS patients with hepatic insufficiency (See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic](#)).

**Renal Impairment:** The use of ALBRIOZA in patients with any degree of renal impairment has not been studied. Caution is warranted when dosing ALS patients with renal insufficiency (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal](#)).

**Pediatrics:** Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

The recommended dose of ALBRIOZA (two sachets daily) contains 400 mg sucralose, which is equivalent to 53% of the acceptable daily intake.

### 4.3 Reconstitution

#### Oral Suspension:

The contents of one sachet are to be vigorously stirred with a cup (250 mL or 8 oz.) of room temperature water and taken orally or administered via feeding tube within 1 hour of preparation.

### 4.4 Administration

ALBRIOZA is to be taken before a meal. This is particularly important for patients of low body weight (< 70 kg) (see [10.3 Pharmacodynamics, Absorption](#)).

To reduce the bitter aftertaste, patients can:

- Use mint-flavored mouth strips or mouth spray immediately before or after taking ALBRIOZA.
- Eat a snack or meal, eat honey, or drink milk after taking ALBRIOZA.
- Avoid drinking fruit juice at the same time as ALBRIOZA as it may magnify the bitter taste.

#### Patients with Feeding Tubes

For any dose, the contents of one sachet are to be vigorously stirred with a cup (250 mL or 8 oz.) of room temperature water and administered via feeding tube within 1 hour of preparation.

### 4.5 Missed Dose

If a patient forgets to take one or more doses, they should take their next dose at the normal time and in the normal amount. Patients should not take more than what is prescribed. If a patient misses one dose, they should skip it and continue with their normal schedule.

## 5 OVERDOSAGE

There have been no reported experiences involving overdose of ALBRIOZA. In the event of an overdose, treatment should be discontinued immediately, and supportive measures implemented.

The adverse events reportedly associated with high levels of phenylacetate, which may occur after overdosage with ALBRIOZA, have most commonly included nausea, headache, emesis, fatigue, weakness, lethargy, somnolence, dizziness, slurred speech, memory loss, confusion, and disorientation. Except for the symptoms of Kussmaul respiration, metabolic acidosis, cerebral edema, and coma associated with a fatal overdose of sodium phenylacetate/sodium benzoate, these symptoms have been reported as rapidly reversible with reduced dosing or interruption of dosing.

No information is available on TURSO and overdosage.

No specific antidote for the treatment of ALBRIOZA overdose is available.

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	Powder for oral suspension/ 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate, 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine / per sachet	Flavor masking and mixed berry flavoring, hydrated dextrans, maltodextrin, silicon dioxide, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, sodium stearyl fumarate, sorbitol, sucralose.

ALBRIOZA is a ~10-gram powder-filled sachet containing 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine for oral suspension.

ALBRIOZA is packaged in the following configurations:

- Seven individual sachets filled into a carton (7 sachets total)
- 14 individual sachets filled in a small carton; 4 small cartons are packed into a larger carton (56 sachets total)

## 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### General

The recommended dose of ALBRIOZA (two sachets daily) contains 927.9 mg of sodium. ALBRIOZA should be used with caution in patients with congestive heart failure, renal insufficiency, or other conditions associated with sodium retention with edema.

The recommended dose of ALBRIOZA (two sachets daily) contains 3.2 g of dextrans. Patients with rare hereditary problems of glucose-galactose malabsorption should be made aware that the dextrans included in ALBRIOZA contain 93-99% glucose.

The recommended dose of ALBRIOZA (two sachets daily) contains 800 mg sorbitol. Sorbitol is known to cause gastrointestinal discomfort and laxative effects at doses greater than 5 g per day.

### Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis

ALBRIOZA was negative for genotoxicity in an *in vivo* rat micronucleus assay but was not tested in other genotoxicity assays. ALBRIOZA has not been evaluated to determine its potential for carcinogenicity. As such, its potential for carcinogenicity cannot be ruled out. See [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY; Genotoxicity; Mutagenicity; Carcinogenicity](#).

### Cardiovascular

There was an imbalance in cardiac events and electrocardiogram (EKG) abnormalities between the ALBRIOZA-treated patients and placebo-treated patients. All cardiac adverse events occurred in the ALBRIOZA treatment group.

A total of 14 ALBRIOZA-treated patients had a total of 17 events (8 cardiac events, 9 EKG abnormalities and 3 patients with both). Of those, 8 patients had a total of 11 events in the main phase (6 cardiac events, 5 EKG abnormalities and 3 patients with both), and 6 patients in the OLE (2 cardiac events and 4 EKG abnormalities). Three (3) cases of EKG abnormalities were reported for the placebo group.

Cardiac adverse events determined to be possibly due to ALBRIOZA included atrial fibrillation (2 cases), atrioventricular block first degree, bundle branch block left, left anterior hemiblock, palpitations (2 cases), tachycardia and intraventricular conduction delay.

There was one serious event of cardiac death in the open-label extension.

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

The use of ALBRIOZA in patients with any degree of hepatic impairment has not been studied. Caution is warranted when dosing ALS patients with hepatic insufficiency.

Because sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine are metabolized in the liver and kidney, increased plasma levels may occur with hepatic impairment. The effect of hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA has not been studied. It is unknown whether patients with hepatic impairment are more at risk for adverse reactions or reduced efficacy of ALBRIOZA (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

ALBRIOZA should also be used with caution:

- in patients with enterohepatic circulation disorders (e.g., frequent biliary colic, biliary infection),
- in pancreatic disorders or intestinal diseases which may alter the concentration of bile acids (e.g., ileal resection and stoma, regional ileitis) and affect ursodoxicoltaurine levels
- when administered in a setting of partial biliary obstruction of extra-hepatic origin. Maintenance of bile flow is important in patients taking ursodoxicoltaurine.

### **Neurologic**

The major metabolite of sodium phenylbutyrate, phenylacetate (PAA), is associated with neurotoxicity.

In cancer patients administered phenylacetate intravenously, signs and symptoms of neurotoxicity, including somnolence, fatigue, light headedness, headache, dysgeusia, hypoacusis, disorientation, impaired memory, and exacerbation of pre-existing neuropathy, have been seen at phenylacetate-plasma concentrations  $\geq 3.5$  mmol/l. These concentrations are approximately ten-fold greater than maximal concentrations of PAA (0.4 mmol/l) predicted in participants dosed with ALBRIOZA. The relevance to patients with ALS taking ALBRIOZA is unknown.

Prenatal exposure to PAA has also been associated with neurotoxicity in rats (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY](#)).

### **Renal**

The use of ALBRIOZA in patients with any degree of renal impairment has not been studied. Caution is warranted when dosing ALS patients with renal insufficiency.

Patients with renal impairment are at risk for sodium retention/edema as ALBRIOZA contains 927.9 mg of sodium per daily maintenance dose.

The effect of renal impairment on the pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA has not been studied; therefore, it is unknown whether these patients are more at risk for adverse reactions or reduced efficacy of ALBRIOZA (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics, Renal Insufficiency](#)).

Phenylbutyrate and its major metabolite phenylacetate are metabolized in the liver and kidney. Additionally, the main terminal metabolite of phenylacetate, phenylacetylglutamine, is excreted by the kidney. Therefore, increased plasma levels of phenylbutyrate and metabolites may occur with renal impairment.



The pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA in patients undergoing hemodialysis are unknown.

## 7.1 Special Populations

### 7.1.1. Pregnant Women

ALBRIOZA is contraindicated during pregnancy (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)). Inform female patients of childbearing potential to use effective methods of birth control. Men and women wishing to have children should wait at least 30 days after stopping treatment with ALBRIOZA before attempting to conceive.

The safety of ALBRIOZA in human pregnancy is unknown. In animals, the effects of ALBRIOZA on reproductive toxicity have not been adequately studied. Additionally, animal studies in the scientific literature have shown toxicity of phenylacetate (the major metabolite of phenylbutyrate) on embryo-fetal development. The extent of prenatal exposure to sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, their metabolites (including phenylacetate), and their derivatives in mothers taking ALBRIOZA is unknown (see [16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY, Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology](#)).

### 7.1.2. Breast-feeding

ALBRIOZA is contraindicated during breastfeeding (see [2 CONTRAINDICATIONS](#)).

There are no data on the presence of sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, their metabolites, or their derivatives in human milk, the effects of ALBRIOZA on the breastfed infant, or the effects of ALBRIOZA on milk production.

There is no evidence for whether sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, their metabolites, or their derivatives are excreted in animal milk.

### 7.1.3. Pediatrics

**Pediatrics (< 18 years):** No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

### 7.1.4. Geriatrics

**Geriatrics (≥ 65 years):** Limited data are available with the use of ALBRIOZA in this population.

Of the 89 patients with ALS who received ALBRIOZA in the Phase II safety and efficacy study, 25 patients were between 65 and 79 years of age.

NOC/c

## 8 ADVERSE REACTIONS

### 8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview

The most common adverse reactions with ALBRIOZA in the CENTAUR study were mainly gastrointestinal-related (e.g., diarrhea, nausea, constipation, decreased appetite, abdominal pain, flatulence) and occurred more often during the first 3 weeks of treatment.

Discontinuation due to an adverse event occurred in 20% (18/89) of ALBRIOZA patients vs. 10% (5/48) of patients on placebo. Half of the ALBRIOZA patients who discontinued did so because of diarrhea (5/18 patients) and abdominal pain and/or discomfort (4/18 patients).

A total of 6 drug-related TEAEs in 5 ALBRIOZA group subjects (diverticulitis, diarrhea, nephrolithiasis, depression and fatigue, and nausea) and in 2 placebo group subjects (diarrhea and nephrolithiasis) were assessed as serious and/or severe.

There was an imbalance in cardiac events and electrocardiogram (EKG) abnormalities between the ALBRIOZA-treated patients and placebo-treated patients. All cardiac adverse events occurred in the ALBRIOZA treatment arm.

Overall, 5 patients (6%) on ALBRIOZA and 2 (4%) patients on placebo died during the 24-week study. The majority of deaths in the study were from respiratory failure/arrest (3 patients on ALBRIOZA and 2 patients on placebo).

## **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.

### CENTAUR STUDY

CENTAUR was a multicenter, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel-group, 24-week study with an open-label phase evaluating the safety and efficacy of ALBRIOZA in 137 patients  $\geq 18$  and  $< 80$  years of age with a confirmed definite diagnosis of sporadic or familial ALS, with onset of symptoms within 18 months of study. Patients were randomized in a 2:1 ratio to receive ALBRIOZA (n=89) or matching placebo (n=48). Key exclusion criteria included slow vital capacity (SVC)  $\leq 60\%$ , the presence of a tracheostomy, abnormal liver or renal function, severe pancreatic or intestinal disorders, biliary disease, cholecystectomy, poorly controlled arterial hypertension, and history of congestive heart failure.

Concomitant use of standard of care (SOC) treatments (e.g., riluzole and/or edaravone) were permitted, with 77% of all patients taking at least one additional ALS drug; 71% taking riluzole and 34% taking edaravone.

Both treatment groups were comparable, with no statistically significant differences with respect to demographics, general baseline characteristics, and baseline disease characteristics except that more patients in the placebo group were receiving edaravone at or prior to study entry (50%) compared with patients in the ALBRIOZA treatment group (25%); more patients in the placebo group were receiving riluzole at or prior to study entry (77%) compared with patients in the ALBRIOZA treatment group (68%); more patients in the ALBRIOZA treatment group were bulbar onset patients (placebo vs. ALBRIOZA: 21% vs. 30%). The mean age at enrollment was 57.7 years; the majority of patients were male (68%), predominantly White (95%) and of non-Hispanic or Latino ethnicity (95%).

The mean treatment duration was 19.7 weeks for ALBRIOZA and 21.5 weeks on placebo.

**Table 2: Adverse Reactions Reported in >2 (3%) of ALBRIOZA-Treated Patients and that occurred ≥1% more frequently than in placebo-treated patients in the CENTAUR study**

	<b>ALBRIOZA + SOC*† n = 89 (%)</b>	<b>Placebo + SOC** n = 48 (%)</b>
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>		
Diarrhea	16 (18%)	5 (10%)
Nausea	8 (9%)	2 (4%)
Constipation	7 (8%)	2 (4%)
Abdominal pain (combined)	9 (10%)	1 (2%)
Flatulence	3 (3%)	0 (0%)
<b>General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions</b>		
Fatigue	7 (8%)	1 (2%)
<b>Metabolism and Nutrition Disorders</b>		
Decreased appetite	6 (7%)	2 (4%)
<b>Nervous System Disorders</b>		
Dizziness	5 (6%)	1 (2%)
Dysgeusia	3 (3%)	1 (2%)
Somnolence	3 (3%)	0 (0%)
<b>Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders</b>		
Skin odor abnormal	3 (3%)	0 (0%)

\*SOC = Standard of Care

†70% were taking riluzole and 33% were taking edaravone.

‡77% were taking riluzole and 54% were taking edaravone.

See [Table 3](#) for laboratory abnormalities reported in ALBRIOZA-treated patients.

#### OPEN-LABEL EXTENSION (OLE) PHASE

Upon completion of the 24-week, parallel group phase, participants were eligible to enroll in an Open Label Extension (OLE) phase designed to evaluate the long-term (up to 48 weeks) safety of ALBRIOZA.

A total of 56 ALBRIOZA-treated and 34 placebo-treated patients from the Centaur study continued participation into the OLE. All patients in the OLE were treated with ALBRIOZA orally (or via feeding tube) administered as 1 sachet twice daily (BID) (no dose-escalation) and were permitted to continue on a stable dose of riluzole or edaravone. Baseline demographics and disease characteristics were consistent with those of the double-blind portion of the study.

Patients continuing treatment with ALBRIOZA in the OLE had a mean exposure of 44 weeks, which was 13 weeks longer than the exposure for the patients who had delayed exposure to ALBRIOZA.

The most common adverse drug reactions in the OLE phase included fall (19%), nausea (14%) and diarrhea (13%). Overall, the adverse events observed in the population studied were consistent with symptoms related to ALS progression (e.g., respiratory failure, falls) or the most common side effects of ALBRIOZA. A total of 17 serious adverse events were reported in 14 (16%) patients overall. Overall, 5 patients died prior to Week 24 in the OLE phase. Causes of death were as follows: respiratory failure (2), ALS, cardiac arrest, and disease progression.

### **Cardiac events/EKG abnormalities**

There was an imbalance in cardiac events and electrocardiogram (EKG) abnormalities between the ALBRIOZA-treated patients and placebo-treated patients. All cardiac adverse events occurred in the ALBRIOZA treatment group.

A total of 14 ALBRIOZA-treated patients had a total of 17 events (8 cardiac events, 9 EKG abnormalities and 3 patients with both). Of those, 8 patients had a total of 11 events in the main phase (6 cardiac events, 5 EKG abnormalities and 3 patients with both), and 6 patients in the OLE (2 cardiac events and 4 EKG abnormalities). Three (3) cases of EKG abnormalities were reported for the placebo group.

Cardiac adverse events determined to be possibly due to ALBRIOZA included atrial fibrillation (2 cases), atrioventricular block first degree, bundle branch block left, left anterior hemiblock, palpitations (2 cases), tachycardia and intraventricular conduction delay.

There was one serious event of cardiac death in the open-label extension.

### **8.3 Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions**

List of less common adverse reactions reported in  $\leq 2$  of ALBRIOZA-treated patients and that occurred at least 1% more frequently than in placebo-treated patients, in the CENTAUR study.

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders:** leukopenia

**Cardiac disorders:** atrial fibrillation, atrioventricular block first degree, bundle branch block left

**Eye disorders:** blepharospasm, eye irritation

**Gastrointestinal disorders:** dyspepsia, gastrointestinal hypermotility, aphthous ulcer, epigastric discomfort, faeces soft, hypertrophy of tongue papillae, retching, tooth discolouration

**General disorders and administration site conditions:** asthenia, chest pain, chills, feeling abnormal, pyrexia, swelling

**Infections and infestations:** diverticulitis, upper respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications:** fall

**Investigations:** aspartate aminotransferase increased, transaminases increased, mean cell volume increased

**Metabolism and nutrition disorders:** hypochloraemia

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:** muscle twitching

**Nervous system disorders:** migraine, muscle contractions involuntary, paraesthesia

**Psychiatric disorders:** adjustment disorder with depressed mood, affect lability, anger, anxiety, euphoric mood

**Renal and urinary disorders:** pollakiuria, polyuria

**Reproductive system and breast disorders:** menstruation irregular

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:** dyspnoea, throat irritation, cough, sinus congestion

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:** rash, rash erythematous

**Vascular disorders:** hot flush, deep vein thrombosis, flushing

#### 8.4 Abnormal Laboratory Findings: Hematologic, Clinical Chemistry and Other Quantitative Data

##### Clinical Trial Findings

**Table 3: Laboratory abnormalities reported in >2 of ALBRIOZA- treated patients and that occurred at least 1% more frequently than in placebo-treated patients in the CENTAUR study**

	<b>ALBRIOZA + SOC*† n = 89 (%)</b>	<b>Placebo + SOC** n = 48 (%)</b>
Proteinuria	6%	4%
Ketonuria	5%	2%
Crystal urine present	3%	0%

\*SOC = Standard of Care

†70% were taking riluzole and 33% were taking edaravone.

‡77% were taking riluzole and 54% were taking edaravone.

#### 8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions

There are no post-market adverse reactions available.

## 9 DRUG INTERACTIONS

### 9.3 Drug-Behavioural Interactions

The effect of ALBRIOZA on sexual activity, driving, and operating machinery have not been established.

The interaction of ALBRIOZA, cigarette smoking, cannabis use, and/or alcohol consumption has not been studied.

### 9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions

No clinical drug-drug interaction studies have been performed with ALBRIOZA.

Potential interactions between ALBRIOZA and riluzole, and ALBRIOZA and edaravone, have not been studied.

The drugs listed in [Table 4](#) are based on drug interaction studies, or potential interactions due to the expected magnitude and seriousness of the interaction (i.e., those identified as contraindicated).

**Table 4: Established or Potential Drug-Drug Interactions**

Proper/Common name	Source of Evidence	Effect	Clinical comment
Bile acid sequestering agents (e.g., cholestyramine, colestipol, colesevlam)	T	Bile acid sequestering agents may interfere with the absorption of ursodoxicoltaurine	Do not use bile acid sequestering agents with ALBRIOZA
Inhibitors of the bile salt efflux pump (BSEP) such as cyclosporine	T	Inhibitors of the BSEP may exacerbate accumulation of conjugated bile salts in the liver and result in clinical symptoms	If concomitant use is deemed necessary, monitoring of serum transaminases and bilirubin is recommended
Aluminum-based antacids	T	Aluminum-based antacids may interfere with the absorption of ursodoxicoltaurine	If aluminum-based antacids are required, take at least 2 hours prior to ALBRIOZA administration, or 2 hours afterwards
Probenecid	T	Probenecid may affect renal excretion of the conjugated product of sodium phenylbutyrate as well as its metabolite	Probenecid should not be used with ALBRIOZA
Histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors such as valproate, vorinostat, romidepsin, panobinostat, topiramate and lithium	T	The combination of these drugs with ALBRIOZA may lead to excess inhibition of HDAC.	ALBRIOZA should not be administered concomitantly with other HDAC inhibitors as class- or product-specific adverse reactions may be additive.
Organic anion transporter (OAT1) substrates such as penicillins, NSAIDs that are known substrates of OAT1/3 (e.g., diclofenac and ketoprofen) methotrexate, HIV protease inhibitors, and antivirals	T	Plasma concentrations of OAT1 substrates may be increased if given concomitantly with ALBRIOZA. In rat, ALBRIOZA was associated with an increase in exposure to tenofovir (a known substrate for OAT1).	Use with caution.

Proper/Common name	Source of Evidence	Effect	Clinical comment
Drugs with narrow therapeutic index that are substrates of CYP P450 substrates (e.g., mexiletine, alfentanil, quinidine, cyclosporine, warfarin, digoxin)	T	ALBRIOZA inhibits CYP1A2, CYP2C19, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2D6, CYP2B6, and CYP3A4 isoenzymes <i>in vitro</i> . Therefore, plasma increases in drugs that are metabolized by cytochrome may be expected.	ALBRIOZA should not be given concomitantly with a drug metabolized by CYP450 that has a narrow therapeutic index. If a clinical decision is made to use this combination, plasma levels of the substrate drug should be monitored, and the dose adjusted accordingly.
Enzyme-inducing antiepileptic drugs (EI-AEDs), including: carbamazepine, phenytoin, phenobarbital, primidone	C	EI-AEDs may increase PB clearance	Concomitant use of ALBRIOZA and EI-AEDs may affect efficacy.

Legend: C = Case Study; CT = Clinical Trial; T = Theoretical

### 9.5 Drug-Food Interactions

No clinically meaningful food effect on absorption

### 9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

### 9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions

Interactions with laboratory tests have not been established.

## 10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### 10.1 Mechanism of Action

The mechanism by which ALBRIOZA exerts its therapeutic effects in patients with ALS is unknown. *In vitro*, the combination of sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine may reduce neuronal cell death. Activity could be attributed to sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, their metabolites, or derivatives (see [10.2 Pharmacodynamics](#) and [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)).

### 10.2 Pharmacodynamics

The effects of sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine were tested in non-clinical studies.

Activity of the major metabolite phenylacetate, and derivatives ursodeoxycholic acid, and glyoursodeoxycholic acid (see [10.3 Pharmacokinetics](#)) were not studied *in vitro* or *in vivo*. Therefore, it is not known whether they are pharmacologically active.

**Cardiac Electrophysiology:** A thorough QT study has not been performed.

NOC/c

### 10.3 Pharmacokinetics

The pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA are based on plasma concentration data from two studies: a single dose PK study in healthy volunteers, and sparse sampling from patients in a clinical efficacy and safety study. The dose proportionality of ALBRIOZA was not evaluated in these studies. There are no exposure-response data; therefore, dose and ratio selection studied in the Phase II efficacy and safety trial were not fully developed and optimized.

Potential interactions between the two components, or any metabolites/derivatives, were not evaluated.

The primary metabolite of sodium phenylbutyrate (PB) is phenylacetate (PAA). PAA occurs endogenously as a phenylalanine metabolite. Population-PK analysis indicates that PAA has non-linear (saturable) elimination. It is unknown whether the metabolite contributes to the pharmacological effect of ALBRIOZA in ALS.

Population PK analysis has shown an inverse relationship between PAA exposure and body weight. As the relationship between exposure and safety has not been assessed, the clinical significance of this finding is unknown. There is a potential additive effect of fasting to low body weight, in terms of increased PAA exposure. While sex was not identified as a significant covariate, the possibility of an additive effect from being female cannot be ruled out.

TURSO (ursodoxicoltaurine), UDCA (ursodiol) and GUDCA (glycoursodeoxycholic acid) are naturally occurring hydrophilic bile acids and represent a minor fraction of the total bile acid pool in humans. All three entities are subject to extensive enterohepatic circulation. Oral administration of TURSO results in increased plasma levels of all three entities. It is unknown whether the derivatives contribute to the pharmacological effect of ALBRIOZA.

The pharmacokinetic parameters after a single dose of ALBRIOZA under fasted conditions in healthy subjects are shown for phenylbutyrate and the primary metabolite PAA in [Table 5](#) and for ursodoxicoltaurine and its metabolites in [Table 6](#).

**Table 5: Geometric Mean (CV%) Pharmacokinetic Parameters for Phenylbutyrate (PB) and Phenylacetate (PAA) After Single Oral Doses of ALBRIOZA (3 g phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine) in n = 14 Healthy Subjects Under Fasted Conditions**

	<b>C<sub>max</sub></b> (µg/mL)	<b>T<sub>max</sub>*</b> (h)	<b>T<sub>1/2</sub></b> (h)	<b>AUC<sub>(0-inf)</sub></b> (µg.h/mL)	<b>CL/F</b> (mL/min)	<b>V<sub>z</sub>/F (L)</b>
<b>PB</b> <b>N= 13</b>	188 (39.0)	0.500 (0.25-0.50)	0.461 (15.1)	237 (44.9)	211 (44.9)	8.4 (45.8)
<b>PAA</b> <b>N= 13</b>	26.4 (30.7)	2.500 (1.50-3.50)	0.813 (11.5) **	83.4 (37.4)	N/A**	N/A**

C<sub>max</sub> = maximum plasma concentration; T<sub>max</sub> = time to maximum concentration; ; T<sub>1/2</sub> = half-life; AUC(0-inf) = area under the concentration-time curve from time 0 to infinity; CL/F = oral clearance; V<sub>z</sub>/F = apparent volume of distribution.

\*Median (range).

\*\* terminal phase T<sub>1/2</sub>, based on population-PK analysis, the metabolite appears to have non-linear (saturable) elimination

NA not applicable.



**Table 6: Geometric Mean (CV%) Pharmacokinetic Parameters\* for Ursodexicoltaurine (TURSO) and Derivatives, UDCA and GUDCA, After Single Oral Doses of ALBRIOZA (1 g ursodexicoltaurine and 3 g phenylbutyrate) in n = 14 Healthy Subjects Under Fasted Conditions**

	<b>C<sub>max</sub></b> (ng/mL) N= 13	<b>T<sub>max</sub>**</b> (h) N= 13	<b>T<sub>1/2</sub></b> (h)	<b>AUC<sub>(0-last)</sub></b> (ng.h/mL) N= 13	<b>CL/F</b> (mL/min)	<b>V<sub>z</sub>/F (L)</b>
<b>TURSO</b>	741 (71.6)	4.5 (1.5 – 10.0)	4.34 (49.7)  N = 5***	4360 (79.4)	4260 (58.9)  N= 5***	1600 (22.1)  N= 5***
<b>UDCA</b>	639 (73.0)	6.0 (0.25 – 20.0)	NC	5540 (72.5)	NA	NA
<b>GUDCA</b>	381 (76.6)	16.0 (6.0 – 20.0)	NC	5060 (88.2)	NA	NA

C<sub>max</sub> = maximum plasma concentration; T<sub>max</sub> = time to maximum concentration; T<sub>1/2</sub> = half-life; AUC<sub>(0-last)</sub> = area under the concentration-time curve from time 0 to the last measured concentration (samples were collected for 24 h post-dose); CL/F = oral clearance; V<sub>z</sub>/F = apparent volume of distribution.

\* Pharmacokinetic parameters derived from time-matched, baseline corrected plasma concentrations to account for endogenous levels

\*\* Median (range),

\*\*\* Reduced number of subjects contributing to the PK parameter value, due to insufficient number of samples collected in the terminal elimination phase

NC = not calculated due to insufficient number of samples collected in the terminal elimination phase

NA = not applicable

Steady-state plasma concentrations of ursodexicoltaurine, UDCA and GUDCA following twice-daily administration of ALBRIOZA in ALS patients are shown in [Table 7](#). These were obtained from sparse sampling and are therefore likely an underestimate.

**Table 7: Steady-state Plasma Concentrations – Ursodocoltaurine, UDCA and GUDCA**

	<b>TURSO*</b> ng/mL	<b>UDCA*</b> ng/mL	<b>GUDCA*</b> ng/mL
Pre-dose (Baseline Visit), n = 77	39.7 (82.93)  n= 10/77 with measurable plasma levels	137.9 (682.55)  n= 34/77 with measurable plasma levels	208.9 (540.96)  n= 66/77 with measurable plasma levels
1 hr Post-dose (Week 12 and Week 24 Pooled), n = 67	447.5 (595.25)	909.9 (1046.64)	1074.3 (1005.89)
4 hrs Post-dose (Week 12 and Week 24 Pooled), n = 70	566.1 (558.25)	1168.9 (1376.14)	1319.2 (989.37)

\*Plasma levels recorded as below measurable levels (< 20 ng/ml) were set at 20 ng/mL. For all plasma concentration values other than Pre-Dose (Baseline): the maximum number of samples with below measurable levels for any given plasma concentration is 6.

### Absorption

Following oral administration of a single dose of ALBRIOZA in healthy subjects under fasting conditions, sodium phenylbutyrate was rapidly absorbed and reached a mean  $C_{max}$  of 188 mcg/mL (range of 64.4 - 260) by a median time of 1 hour. The estimated steady-state mean  $C_{max}$  for ALS patients, based on population PK, was 131 mcg/mL (range of 3.8 - 423).

Under physiological conditions, bile acids in the intestine are absorbed primarily in the distal portion (ileum) via both passive diffusion (unconjugated bile acids), and active uptake (conjugated bile acids) by the apical sodium-dependent transporter (ASBT). Specific transporters in the intestinal enterocytes ensure bile acids are directed to the liver via the portal vein, where they are subject to extensive enterohepatic recirculation. Bile acids can be recycled 4 - 12 times per day between hepatocytes in the liver and enterocytes in the intestine. Following oral administration of a single dose of ALBRIOZA in healthy subjects under fasting conditions, ursodocoltaurine reached a mean  $C_{max}$  of 871 ng/mL (range of 219 to 1740) by a median time of 4.5 hours. Ursodocoltaurine plasma concentration profiles in many subjects had 2 to 3 peaks, consistent with bile acid storage and release upon a meal/snack.

### Effect of Food

Administration to healthy volunteers of a single dose of 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodocoltaurine with a high-fat, high-calorie meal (approximately 800-1000 calories: 500-600, 250, and 150 calories from fat, carbohydrate, and protein, respectively) decreased the rate and extent of absorption of sodium phenylbutyrate ( $C_{max}$  and AUC decreased 75% and 55%, respectively). A high-fat, high-calorie meal did not affect the  $C_{max}$  for ursodocoltaurine, but the exposure (AUC) increased by 46%. The clinical significance of this food effect is unknown. In the Phase II safety and efficacy study, patients were advised to take the drug before a meal.

### Distribution

Plasma protein binding for sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodocoltaurine, when co-administered *in vitro*, is 82% and 98%, respectively.

Under physiological conditions, less than 10% of the total bile acid pool reaches systemic circulation, as the liver clears the majority from the hepatic circulation for reuse. Serum concentration of bile acid reflects a balance between intestinal input and hepatic extraction, with hepatic extraction of conjugated bile acids known to be more efficient than that of unconjugated.

Drug-related radioactivity was widely distributed throughout the body following oral administration of [<sup>14</sup>C]PB or [<sup>14</sup>C]TURSO in rats. There are no data on the presence of sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, their metabolites, and their derivatives in breastmilk of humans or animals.

## Metabolism

Sodium phenylbutyrate is rapidly cleared by metabolism ( $\beta$ -oxidation in the liver and kidney) to the primary metabolite phenylacetate (PAA), which may have pharmacological activity. Plasma concentrations of metabolite PAA were evident from 0.25 h in all 13 dosed subjects, reaching a mean  $C_{max}$  of 26.44  $\mu$ g/mL (range of 13.3 - 42.3) by a median time of 2.5 hours. The estimated steady-state mean  $C_{max}$  for ALS patients, based on population PK analysis, was 24.1 mcg/mL (range of 9.08-46.3).

Phenylacetate is rapidly conjugated with glutamine via acetylation, in the liver and kidney, to form phenylacetylglutamine, which is excreted by the kidneys.

Under physiological conditions, enterohepatic recirculation results in active de-conjugation of ursodoxicoltaurine to UDCA by intestinal microflora, and re-conjugation of UDCA in the liver with glycine or taurine (GUDCA and ursodoxicoltaurine, respectively); about 95% of bile acids in the intestine are (re)absorbed into enterohepatic circulation.

All metabolites detected in human hepatocytes *in vitro* that were ascribed to TURSO were also detected in rat and minipig hepatocytes.

## Elimination

Phenylacetate shows non-linear pharmacokinetics characterized by saturable metabolism. By 6 hours post-dose, both phenylbutyrate and phenylacetate were eliminated from systemic circulation, with estimated terminal half-life of 0.46h and 0.81h, respectively. Based on this rapid elimination of PB and PAA, there was no accumulation in plasma after once- or twice-daily dosing in patients. Other minor metabolites of phenylbutyrate have been identified. The majority of administered sodium phenylbutyrate (~80 - 100%) is excreted in the urine within 24 hours as the conjugated product, phenylacetylglutamine.

Terminal half-life of the bile acids could not be reliably determined in most subjects due primarily to insufficient duration of sampling in the terminal elimination phase (see also [Table 6](#) and [Table 7](#) above). Comparison across studies (single-dose pharmacokinetic study, and sparse sampling data from the Phase II safety and efficacy study) indicates there appears to be little accumulation of ursodoxicoltaurine after twice-daily dosing, while there was substantial accumulation of UDCA and GUDCA.

Bile acids not (re)absorbed in the intestine (5% under physiological conditions) are further modified bacterially before excretion primarily in the feces. Bile acids found in feces are unconjugated and consist primarily of the hydrophobic secondary bile acids lithocholic acid and deoxycholic acid, as well as a complex mixture of others. With administration of ursodoxicoltaurine, UDCA levels in feces are known to be increased.

## Special Populations and Conditions

- **Geriatrics**

Model-based analysis showed no significant difference in the pharmacokinetics of sodium phenylbutyrate or its metabolite, phenylacetate, in ALS patients aged 65 - 76 versus ALS patients less than 65 years of age (number of patients included in dataset: n = 18 vs n=39, respectively).

There was no difference in steady-state plasma concentration of ursodocoltaurine or its major derivatives UDCA and GUDCA in ALS patients aged 65 - 76 versus ALS patients less than 65 years of age (number of patients included in dataset: n = 24-27, vs n = 78-82, respectively).

- **Sex**

Following single oral administrations of ALBRIOZA to healthy volunteers, differences in exposure to sodium phenylbutyrate and phenylacetate were observed between males (N= 8) and females (N=6), that were consistent across the fed and fasted food conditions, about 35% and 31% higher exposure levels in females when compared to males, respectively. However, due to the moderate variability between the subjects, this difference was not found to be statistically significant. Similarly, sex was not identified as a significant covariate affecting sodium phenylbutyrate or phenylacetate PK parameters in a pharmacometric analysis across studies in healthy subjects and ALS patients (N=26 females and 56 males contributing to dataset).

Following single oral administrations of ALBRIOZA to healthy volunteers, differences in exposure to ursodocoltaurine and UDCA were observed between males (N=8) and females (N=6), that were consistent across both food conditions: about 55% higher exposure seen in females for ursodocoltaurine, and about 29% lower exposure in females for UDCA, when compared to males. This effect was statistically significant for ursodocoltaurine  $AUC_{(0-last)}$  only. No such effects were seen for GUDCA. There were no consistent discernible effects of sex on steady-state plasma concentrations of ursodocoltaurine, UDCA and GUDCA in ALS patients (N=34 females; 75 males).

- **Ethnic Origin**

There are insufficient data to assess the effect of race on the pharmacokinetics of the components of ALBRIOZA.

- **Hepatic Insufficiency**

The effect of hepatic insufficiency on the pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA has not been studied.

Because sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodocoltaurine are metabolized in the liver and kidney, increased plasma levels are anticipated with hepatic impairment. Given that the pharmacological activity of the metabolite phenylacetate, and the bile acid derivatives UDCA and GUDCA are unknown, the efficacy and safety of ALBRIOZA in patients with hepatic impairment are unknown.

Ursodocoltaurine and its derivatives such as UDCA and GUDCA are biliary salts and are recycled by the enterohepatic recirculation and stored in the gallbladder. The effect of the following conditions on TURSO/UDCA/GUDCA plasma exposure has not been studied: cholecystectomy; biliary diseases which impede biliary flow (including active cholecystitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, sclerosing cholangitis, gallbladder cancer, gallbladder polyps, gangrene of the gallbladder, abscess of the gallbladder); pancreatic or intestinal disorders that may alter the enterohepatic circulation and absorption of bile salts (including biliary infections, pancreatitis and ileal resection).

Lithocholic acid, one of products of bile acid metabolism in the intestine, is known to have potent toxic properties. While not observed in the Phase 2 safety and efficacy study, increases in serum levels of lithocholic acid have been reported with TURSO administration, and hepatic insufficiency is anticipated to contribute to potential for harm.

- **Renal Insufficiency**

There are limited data on the effect of renal insufficiency on the pharmacokinetics of ALBRIOZA.

The pharmacokinetics of the components of ALBRIOZA in patients with moderate or severe renal insufficiency, including those with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or those on hemodialysis, have not been studied.

The Phase II safety and efficacy study included 32 ALS patients with mild renal impairment (estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR 60-90 mL/minute). Model-based analysis showed no significant correlation in the pharmacokinetics of sodium phenylbutyrate or its metabolite, phenylacetate, in healthy subjects and ALS patients with normal renal function and mild renal insufficiency (eGFR greater than 60 mL/min). There was no discernible difference in steady-state plasma concentration of ursodexicoltaurine or its major metabolites UDCA and GUDCA between ALS patients with mild renal insufficiency (eGFR greater than 60 mL/min and less than 90 mL/min=71-76). However, these data are inconclusive because i) a limited number of patients (N= 8) had eGFR < 75, and ii) eGFR is an overestimate of renal function in ALS patients.

The main terminal metabolite, phenylacetylglutamine, is excreted by the kidney, and additionally phenylbutyrate and its major metabolite phenylacetate are metabolized in the kidney and liver. Therefore, increased plasma levels of phenylbutyrate and metabolites are anticipated with renal impairment. As well, renal insufficiency may alter distribution and efficacy of TURSO, due to high protein binding (~ 99%) with ALBRIOZA. Given these uncertainties, the efficacy and safety of ALBRIOZA in patients with renal impairment are unknown.

## **11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL**

Store at controlled room temperature 20°C to 25°C.

## **12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

Protect from moisture.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

ALBRIOZA is a white to yellow powder for oral suspension that consists of fine to large granules. ALBRIOZA is supplied in a sachet containing 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine.

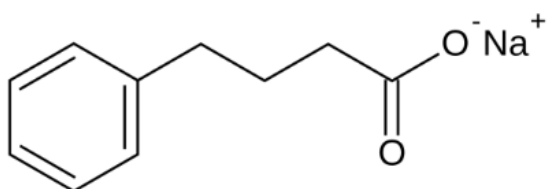
#### Drug Substance

Proper name: sodium phenylbutyrate

Chemical name: sodium 4-phenylbutanoate

Molecular formula and molecular mass:  $C_{10}H_{11}NaO_2$ , 186.2

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties: Sodium phenylbutyrate is a white or yellowish white powder which decomposes at about 220°C. It is freely soluble in water and methanol, sparingly soluble in ethanol, practically insoluble in methylene chloride, acetone, diethyl ether.

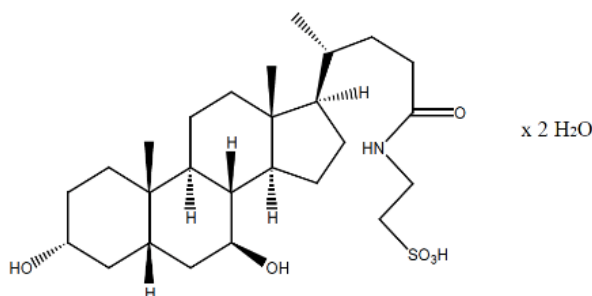
#### Drug Substance

Proper name: ursodoxicoltaurine

Chemical name: 2-[(3 $\alpha$ , 7 $\beta$ -dihydroxy-24-oxo-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-yl) amino] ethane sulfonic acid, dihydrate

Molecular formula and molecular mass:  $C_{26}H_{45}NO_6S \cdot 2H_2O$  535.74 (dihydrate)

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties: Ursodoxicoltaurine is a white microcrystalline powder, practically odorless, with a bitter taste. It is freely soluble in ethyl alcohol, very slightly soluble in acetone and dioxane, sparingly soluble in water, and practically insoluble in ether and ethyl acetate.

## 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

### 14.1 Clinical Trial by Indication

#### Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

#### CENTAUR Study

**Table 8: Summary of patient demographics for clinical trials in ALS**

Study #	Study design	Dosage, route of administration and duration	Study subjects (Total)	Mean age (Range)	Sex
CENTAUR (Main phase)	Multicenter, randomized 2:1, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study	1 sachet* daily for 3 weeks; then twice daily 24 weeks (weeks 0-24)	ALBRIOZA (n=89 <sup>†</sup> )  placebo (n=48)	58 years (18- <80)	Male (93)  Female (44)
CENTAUR OLE	Open-label extension for patients who completed the main phase	1 sachet* twice daily Up to 132 weeks (weeks 24-48)	ALBRIOZA (n=90)	58 years (18- <80)	Male (67)  Female (23)

\*1 sachet contains 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine

<sup>†</sup>Of 89 patients included in the main phase of the study, 87 were included in the efficacy analysis

The efficacy of ALBRIOZA was assessed in a 24-week, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study that evaluated ALBRIOZA in patients with familial or sporadic amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) as defined by the World Federation of Neurology revised El Escorial criteria. The study included patients  $\geq 18$  and  $< 80$  years of age, with ALS symptom onset (i.e., muscle weakness)  $\leq 18$  months, and SVC  $> 60\%$  of predicted capacity for age, height, and gender. Concomitant use of riluzole and/or edaravone was permitted; patients on riluzole had to be on a stable dose for at least 30 days. Key exclusion criteria included the presence of a tracheostomy, abnormal liver or renal function, severe pancreatic or intestinal disorders, biliary disease, cholecystectomy, poorly controlled arterial hypertension, and history of congestive heart failure.

A total of 137 patients from 25 sites in the United States were randomized 2:1 to receive either ALBRIOZA (n=89) or placebo (n=48) for 24 weeks (Intent-to-Treat [ITT] population). Two of the subjects randomized to the ALBRIOZA group did not receive a follow up efficacy assessment; therefore, the modified ITT (mITT) population included 135 patients, 87 patients in the ALBRIOZA group and 48 patients in the placebo group.

Patients were administered the contents of one sachet of ALBRIOZA or placebo, once daily for the first 3 weeks. After 3 weeks of treatment, the dose was increased to one sachet twice daily if well tolerated.

Baseline disease characteristics were generally comparable between the treatment groups; 95% were Caucasian, the mean age was 57.7 years, and 68% were males. Thirty percent of patients in the ALBRIOZA treatment group were bulbar onset patients vs. 21% in the placebo group. On average, patients had been diagnosed with ALS six months prior to baseline with the time since onset of first symptom approximately 13.5 months.

Of note, the individual components, sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine were not studied separately. The benefit of the combination over the individual components has therefore not been demonstrated.

Overall, 42/48 (88%) placebo-treated and 64/89 (71%) ALBRIOZA-treated subjects were on either edaravone and/or riluzole at or prior to study entry; more placebo group subjects were taking edaravone (25% vs 50%), and fewer ALBRIOZA group subjects were taking riluzole (68% vs 77%).

However, the efficacy of ALBRIOZA was unchanged by concomitant use with edaravone and/or riluzole.

The primary efficacy endpoint was a comparison of the rate (slope) of reduction in the ALS Functional Rating Scale-Revised (ALSFRS-R) total scores between ALBRIOZA plus standard of care (SOC) versus SOC alone from baseline to Week 24 in the mITT population. In addition, an analysis was conducted to compare the change between treatment arms in the ALSFRS-R total scores from baseline to Week 24. The ALSFRS-R scale consists of 12 questions that evaluate the fine motor, gross motor, bulbar, and respiratory function of patients with ALS (speech, salivation, swallowing, handwriting, cutting food, dressing/hygiene, turning in bed, walking, climbing stairs, dyspnea, orthopnea, and respiratory insufficiency). Each item is scored from 0-4, with higher scores representing greater functional ability. Secondary endpoints included an evaluation of muscle strength (measured by Accurate Test of Limb Isometric Strength, ATLIS), respiratory function (measured by SVC, and impact on survival, tracheostomy, and hospitalization).

ALBRIOZA met the primary endpoint, slowing of disease progression as measured by the ALSFRS-R total score compared to placebo ( $p = 0.03$ ) (see [Figure 1](#)). The decline in ALSFRS-R scores from baseline was also significantly less in the ALBRIOZA-treated patients as compared to placebo (see [Table 9](#)).

None of the secondary efficacy results, various measures of disease progression, were statistically significant.



**PRIMARY ENDPOINT**

**Figure 1: Estimated Rate of Decline in ALSFRS-R over 24 Weeks**

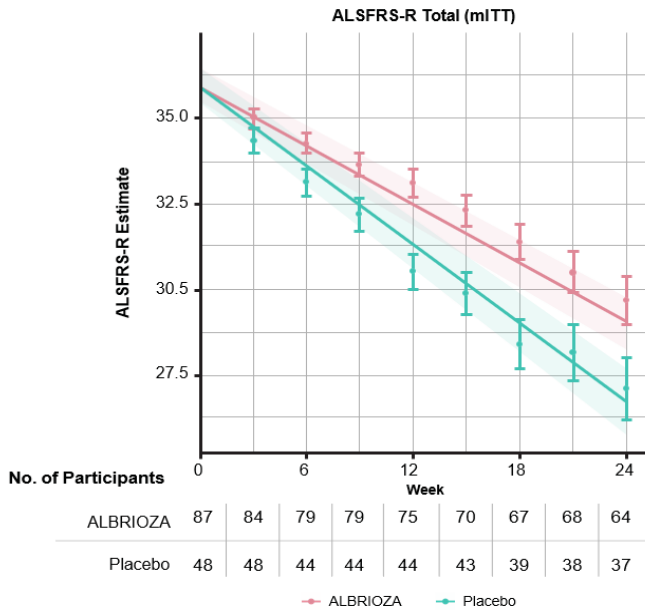


Figure 1 shows the treatment-dependent rates of decline in ALSFRS-R total score estimated in the mITT population in the primary analysis (red = sodium phenylbutyrate/ursodoxicoltaurine, green = placebo; shading reflects plus and minus one standard error).

**Table 9: ALSFRS-R Total Score at Week 24—Shared Baseline Mixed Effects Statistical Analysis (Primary, mITT)**

Treatment*	LS Mean (SE) ALSFRS-R Total Score at Week 24	Treatment Difference (SE) ALBRIOZA-placebo [95% CI]	p-value
ALBRIOZA + SOC (n = 87)	29.06 (0.781)	2.32 points (1.094) [95% CI: 0.18, 4.47]	0.03
Placebo + SOC (n = 48)	26.73 (0.975)		

\*mITT population

† The average baseline ALSFRS-R total score was 35.7 (5.78) in the ALBRIOZA treatment group and 36.7 (5.08) in the placebo group.

**Table 10: Secondary Endpoints - ATLIS (Percent of Strength) at Week 24**

	<b>ALBRIOZA + SOC n=87</b>	<b>Placebo + SOC n=48</b>	<b>Difference (SE)</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>Nominal p-value</b>
ATLIS-Total Score*	39.09	36.26	2.82 (1.774)	-0.67, 6.31	0.11
Upper ATLIS Domain Score <sup>†</sup>	36.63	32.36	4.27 (2.089)	0.16, 8.38	0.04
Lower ATLIS Domain Score <sup>‡</sup>	41.17	39.09	2.09 (2.195)	-2.23, 6.41	0.34

SOC: Standard of Care

\*The average baseline ATLIS-Total Score was 56.83 (20.08) in the ALBRIOZA treatment group vs. 53.92 (20.94) in the placebo group.

<sup>†</sup>The average baseline Upper ATLIS Domain Score was 54.8 (24.40) in the ALBRIOZA treatment group vs. 51.4 (25.22) in the placebo group.

<sup>‡</sup>The average baseline Lower ATLIS Domain Score was 57.6 (24.89) in the ALBRIOZA treatment group vs. 57.1 (25.81) in the placebo group.

**Table 11: Secondary Endpoint: Decline in pNF-H Levels at Week 24**

	<b>ALBRIOZA + SOC n=87</b>	<b>Placebo + SOC n=48</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>Nominal p-value</b>
Mean rate of change in pNF-H concentration	3.58 pg/mL per month	-2.34 pg/mL per month	5.93 pg/mL per month	-4.41, 16.26	0.26

**Table 12: Secondary Endpoint: SVC (Respiratory Function) at Week 24**

	<b>ALBRIOZA + SOC n=87</b>	<b>Placebo + SOC n=48</b>	<b>Difference (SE)</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>Nominal p-value</b>
<b>SVC % Predicted*</b>	66.17	61.06	5.11 (2.872)	-0.54, 10.76	0.08

SOC: Standard of Care

\*The average baseline SVC % predicted normal score was 83.6% (18.17) in the ALBRIOZA treatment group and 83.9% (15.92) in the placebo group.

**Table 13: Secondary Endpoint: Survival Analysis Over 24-week Randomized Phase**

Categorical Outcome	Estimated Percentage of Risk Event (SE)		Hazard Ratio: Active vs. Placebo (95% CI)	Nominal p-Value
	ALBRIOZA + SOC	Placebo + SOC		
Death, Death Equivalent*, or Hospitalization	19.2 (4.20)	31.0 (6.78)	0.575 (0.290, 1.152)	0.11
Death or Death Equivalent*	2.8 (1.69)	4.4 (3.02)	0.632 (0.110, 3.924)	0.60
Hospitalization	17.4 (4.07))	27.7 (6.50)	0.590 (0.286, 1.234)	0.15
Death Events Only	2.6 (1.65)	2.6 (2.28)	1.016 (0.151, 9.753)	0.99

SOC: Standard of Care

\* Death Equivalent defined as tracheostomy or time to permanent ventilation PAV.

## 15 MICROBIOLOGY

No microbiological information is required for this drug product.

## 16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

Toxicological profiles of metabolites or derivatives of sodium phenylbutyrate or ursodoxicoltaurine were not studied.

### Safety Pharmacology

As part of 28-day repeat dose study in rats-PB/TURSO was administered by oral gavage at dosage levels of 0, 250/83.3, 750/250, 1000/333.3, (PB/TURSO mg/kg/day) and a neurological (functional observational battery) evaluation was performed. No neurological effects or relevant findings were observed.

The single oral dose of PB/TURSO (250/83.3, 750/250, 1000/333.3 mg/kg) were assessed on the respiratory system of male rats. No effects on tidal volume, minute volume and respiratory rate were observed.

The single oral dose of PB/TURSO (125/41.66, 250/83.33, 1000/333.3 mg/kg) were assessed on the cardiovascular system of minipigs. Increased heart rate and decreased pulse height were observed at 1000/333.3 mg/kg. There were no effects of AMX0035 (PB/TURSO) at 1000/333.3 mg/kg on QRS, QT, or QTca.

### General Toxicology

In 26-week and 9-month studies in rats and miniature swine, respectively, ALBRIOZA was administered orally as once-daily doses of 250, 420, and 840 mg/kg in rats and 250, 423, and 845 mg/kg in mini swine. In rats, histologic findings were reported in the ovary, vagina, cervix, and mammary gland. The no-observed-adverse-effect level (NOAEL) was considered to be 840 and 845 mg/kg/day, respectively. AUC-based exposure multiples of 0.45 to 0.59 in rats and 0.67 to 1.37 in miniature swine were calculated relative to the human exposure at a daily maintenance dose of 6 g sodium phenylbutyrate. Exposure multiples for ursodoxicoltaurine were not calculated as the human exposure could not be determined from the data available.

## Genotoxicity

The drug product ALBRIOZA was tested in an *in vivo* (rat micronucleus) assay and was negative for genotoxicity. Other genotoxicity assays were not conducted with ALBRIOZA. However, three genotoxicity assays were conducted with the combination of sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine. The combination was negative for genotoxicity in *in vitro* (bacterial reverse mutation and chromosomal aberration assay in human lymphocytes) and *in vivo* (mouse micronucleus) assays. Breathing difficulties and piloerection were observed at all three dose levels in the mouse micronucleus test (sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine were combined in a 3:1 ratio by mass and administered at 500, 1000, and 2000 mg/kg/day). Hunched posture was seen at 2000 mg/kg/day.

## Mutagenicity

The mutagenic potential of two impurities that were detected in the drug product ALBRIOZA has not been assessed *in vitro* or *in silico*.

## Carcinogenicity

Carcinogenicity studies were not conducted with ALBRIOZA.

## Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology

In a combined mating and fertility study in male and female rats, no adverse effects on gonadal function, mating behavior, implantation, female estrous cyclicity or fertility were seen with oral gavage administration of ALBRIOZA at doses of 0, 375, 750, or 1500 mg/kg/day prior to pairing, throughout the pairing phase, and for up to 14 days following the pairing phase. Male fertility index at 1500 mg/kg/day was lower than that in control group. Post-implantation loss in females at 750 mg/kg/day was significantly lower than in control group although there was no loss at 1500 mg/kg/day.

In an embryo/fetal developmental study in rabbits, oral administration of ALBRIOZA (0, 250, 500, 1000, 1500 mg/kg/day) from gestation day 7-20 was associated with lower maternal food consumption at all dose levels which ranged from 0.24- to 1.54-fold the recommended human dose (based on body surface area and assuming a 60 kg human). Aborted fetuses were noted in two females and lower mean fetal body weight was noted at 250 mg/kg/day. 12/12 animals at 500 and 1000 mg/kg/day and 5/6 animals at 1500 mg/kg/day were euthanized due to excessive body weight losses. Ovarian/uterine and fetal examinations were not completed in these animals.

In an embryo/fetal developmental study in rats, oral administration of ALBRIOZA (0, 375, 750, and 1500 mg/kg/day) from gestation day 6-17 was not associated with embryo/fetal development or maternal toxicity.

In an embryo/fetal developmental study in mice, ALBRIOZA (0, 375, 750, and 1500 mg/kg/day) was administered orally from gestation day 6-15. One female at 375 mg/kg/day aborted on gestation day 15, following observation of pale skin and body weight loss.

In a pre- and postnatal developmental study in rats, oral administration of ALBRIOZA (0, 375, 750, and 1500 mg/kg/day) throughout pregnancy and lactation (gestation day 6 to lactation day 20) resulted in increases in stillbirth at all doses and pup deaths at the highest dose tested and was considered adverse at the highest dose tested which is 1.41-fold the recommended human dose (based on body surface area and assuming a 60 kg human).

Animal studies have shown reproductive toxicity of sodium phenylbutyrate, i.e. effects on the development of the embryo or the fetus. Prenatal exposure of rat pups to phenylacetate (the

major metabolite of phenylbutyrate) produced lesions in cortical pyramidal cells; dendritic spines were longer and thinner than normal and reduced in number.

**PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**  
**READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

Pr **ALBRIOZA**™

**sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine powder for suspension**

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

**What is ALBRIOZA used for?**

Please see the boxed text below:

For the following indication, ALBRIOZA has been approved with conditions (NOC/c). This means it has passed Health Canada's review and can be bought and sold in Canada, but the manufacturer has agreed to complete more studies to make sure the drug works the way it should. For more information, talk to your healthcare professional.

- ALBRIOZA is used in adults to treat Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

**What is a Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c)?**

A Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c) is a type of approval to sell a drug in Canada.

Health Canada only gives an NOC/c to a drug that treats, prevents, or helps identify a serious or life-threatening illness. The drug must show promising proof that it works well, is of high quality, and is reasonably safe. Also, the drug must either respond to a serious medical need in Canada or be much safer than existing treatments.

Drug makers must agree in writing to clearly state on the label that the drug was given an NOC/c, to complete more testing to make sure the drug works the way it should, to actively monitor the drug's performance after it has been sold, and to report their findings to Health Canada

**How does ALBRIOZA work?**

The exact way ALBRIOZA works is unknown. It appears that ALBRIOZA slows the loss of physical function due to progression of ALS.

**What are the ingredients in ALBRIOZA?**

Medicinal ingredients: sodium phenylbutyrate and ursodoxicoltaurine

Non-medicinal ingredients: Flavor masking and mixed berry flavoring, hydrated dextrans, maltodextrin, silicon dioxide, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, sodium stearyl fumarate, sorbitol, sucralose.

**ALBRIOZA comes in the following dosage forms:**

Powder for suspension: each ALBRIOZA sachet contains 3 g sodium phenylbutyrate and 1 g ursodoxicoltaurine.

**Do not use ALBRIOZA if:**

- You are allergic to sodium phenylbutyrate, ursodoxicoltaurine, bile salts, or any of the ingredients in ALBRIOZA.
- You are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or plan to become pregnant.
- You are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

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

- Have any allergies
- Have any kidney problems
- Have any liver problems
- Have cancer
- Have digestive problems or problems with your pancreas
- Have heart problems or congestive heart failure
- Have any condition associated with salt and fluid retention because each sachet contains approximately 400 mg of sodium
- Have a condition called glucose-galactose malabsorption

**Other warnings you should know about:**

**Pregnancy:** ALBRIOZA should not be used during pregnancy. If you are a female of childbearing potential, you must use an effective method of birth control while taking ALBRIOZA. Wait at least 30 days after stopping treatment with ALBRIOZA before trying to conceive.

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

**The following may interact with ALBRIOZA:**

- Aluminum-based antacids: take antacids at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking ALBRIOZA
- Cholesterol lowering agents that bind to bile, such as colestipol, cholestyramine, colesevelam
- Some medicines that treat infections, such as cyclosporine, rifampicin, penicillin
- Probenecid, used to prevent gout
- Valproate, used in the treatment of epilepsy and bipolar disorder
- Lithium, used in the treatment of bipolar disorder
- Topiramate, used to treat epilepsy and migraines
- Some anti-cancer drugs known as histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors, such as romidepsin, vorinostat
- Some drugs that are used to treat inflammation and pain, such as diclofenac, ketoprofen

- Methotrexate, used to treat cancer
- Warfarin, used to prevent blood clots (a blood thinner)
- Alfentanil, used for anesthesia during surgery
- Some medicines for heart problems, such as mexiletine, quinidine, digoxin
- Antiviral medicines, including some used to treat human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), such as tenofovir

**How to take ALBRIOZA:**

- Take ALBRIOZA before a meal
- Empty the full contents of 1 sachet into a cup (250 mL or 8 oz.) of room temperature water and stir vigorously. Drink it, or take it via feeding tube, within 1 hour of preparation
- To reduce the bitter aftertaste, you can:
  - Use mint-flavored mouth strips or mouth spray immediately before or after taking ALBRIOZA
  - Eat a snack or meal, eat honey, or drink milk after taking ALBRIOZA
  - Avoid drinking fruit juice at the same time as ALBRIOZA

**Usual dose:**

Take 1 sachet once a day for the first 3 weeks of treatment. After 3 weeks, the dose is usually increased to 1 sachet in the morning and 1 sachet at night. Take ALBRIOZA exactly as your healthcare professional has told you to.

**Overdose:**

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

**Missed Dose:**

If you forget to take one or more doses, skip the missed dose(s) and take your next dose at the normal time and in the normal amount. Do not take more than what is prescribed.

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

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

- diarrhea
- nausea
- decreased appetite
- weight loss
- stomach pain or discomfort
- flatulence
- fatigue



- dizziness
- drowsiness
- altered sense of taste
- abnormal skin odour

<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>UNCOMMON</b>			
<b>Depression</b> (sad mood that won't go away): difficulty sleeping or sleeping too much, changes in appetite or weight, feelings of worthlessness, guilt, regret, helplessness or hopelessness, withdrawal from social situations, family, gatherings and activities with friends, reduced libido (sex drive), thoughts of death or suicide	X		
<b>Diverticulitis</b> (inflammation in your intestines): left lower stomach pain, fever, nausea, diarrhea, or constipation		X	
<b>Heart problems:</b> irregular or very rapid heart rhythm, fast heartbeat, dizziness, lightheadedness		X	
<b>Nephrolithiasis</b> (kidney stones): pain in the lower abdomen, pain between the ribs and hip on one side that spreads across the abdomen, back pain, nausea, vomiting, sweating, blood or a stone in the urine		X	

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 (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html>) 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 ALBRIOZA between 20 - 25°C and protect from moisture.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

### **If you want more information about ALBRIOZA:**

- 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>); or by calling 1-877-374-1208.

This leaflet was prepared by Amylyx Pharmaceuticals Inc.

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