

**CHARAC-TOL 50
&
CHARAC-TOL 25**

**ACTIVATED CHARCOAL USP
200mg/mL**

**ANTIDOTE BY ADSORPTION OF TOXIC INGESTED SUBSTANCES
WITH SORBITOL USP (200mg/mL)**

Description:

Aqueous suspension (in Purified Water USP) of micronized Activated Charcoal USP with Sorbitol USP.

Pharmacology:

Activated charcoal adsorbs the toxic substances ingested, thus inhibiting gastrointestinal absorption. It is not absorbed from the intestinal tract nor metabolized and it is excreted through the intestines. The sorbitol contained in CHARAC-TOL acts as a sweetener.

Drug Interactions: The use of charcoal may enhance the clearance of medications used to treat intoxicated patients, necessitating more frequent administration of these drugs. Syrup of ipecac is adsorbed by charcoal and ipecac reduces the adsorptive capacity of the charcoal. If both charcoal and ipecac are to be used, it is recommended that the charcoal be administered only after vomiting has been induced and completed.

Oral antidotes (e.g. n-acetylcysteine) may also be adsorbed by activated charcoal. The use of activated charcoal is discouraged where such oral antidote therapy is needed.

Activated charcoal is not to be used when a neutralizing agent is to be used, e.g. sodium bicarbonate for iron poisoning.

When activated charcoal is administered, the effectiveness of other medications may be decreased when used within 2 hours of the activated charcoal because of adsorption by the activated charcoal.

Indications:

For use as an emergency antidote in treatment of poisoning by most drugs and chemicals. However, activated charcoal does not adsorb cyanide and is relatively ineffective in adsorbing lithium salts, caustic or corrosive alkalis and acids, ethanol, methanol, iron salts, sodium chloride, lead, boric acid, other mineral acids and petroleum distillates.

Precautions:

A physician or a Poison Control Center should be consulted before CHARAC-TOL[®] administration.

Should not be given with an emetic as it diminishes the action of the emetic.

Activated charcoal should not be administered to comatose or unconscious patients, during epileptic episodes or if the gag reflex is absent.

Pregnancy and lactation: Problems in humans have not been documented during pregnancy or breast feeding.

Ice cream or sherbet should not be used as a vehicle for the administration of activated charcoal since they will decrease the adsorptive capacity of the activated charcoal.

Do not use if caustic or corrosive substances have been ingested as charcoal may reduce the endoscopic visualization of esophageal erosions or burns.

Note: CHARAC-TOL should not be used for diabetics unless recommended by a physician.

Adverse effects:

Activated charcoal appears to be non-toxic when given by mouth, although regular ingestion may affect the normal gastrointestinal absorption patterns.

Charcoal will color stools black which may be alarming to the patient although medically non significant.

Administration:

Shake well before using.

Oral: cut off delivery tip and insert drinking straw.

Gastric tube: cut off delivery tip, insert end into gastric tube and squeeze bottle lightly to evacuate contents into tube.

Dosage: Administer slowly over 15 minutes to minimize gastric distention and resulting emesis.

CHARAC-TOL 25: single pediatric dose 65 to 125mL (13 to 25g of activated charcoal)

CHARAC-TOL 50: single adult dose 65 to 250mL (13 to 50g of activated charcoal).

Dosage may be repeated as recommended by a physician.

Supplied:

CHARAC-TOL 50: Each mL contains: micronized activated charcoal 200mg and sorbitol 200mg in purified water. Bottle contains 50g of micronized activated charcoal and 50g of sorbitol without preservatives or flavoring agent. Thin walled oversized squeeze bottles of 250mL with special spout or nasogastric routes of administration.

CHARAC-TOL 25: Each mL contains: micronized activated charcoal 200mg and sorbitol 200mg in purified water. Bottle contains 25g of micronized activated charcoal and 25g of sorbitol without preservatives or flavoring agent. Thin walled oversized squeeze bottles of 125mL with special spout or nasogastric routes of administration.

Storage: Store between (15°-30°C). Protect from direct light.