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## Cholestasis

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### PRIMARY BILIARY CIRRHOSIS

#### *Ursodiol (UCDA)*

Brand names: URSO Forte, Actigall

Manufacturer: Generic; URSO Forte-Axcan Pharma; Actigall-Watson Pharmaceuticals

Dosage:

- Primary biliary cirrhosis: 13–15 mg/kg po qd
- Primary sclerosing cholangitis: ~20 mg/kg po qd (do NOT use doses >28 mg/kg po qd)
- Autoimmune hepatitis: Use with the initial therapy to induce remission as well as during continuation phase: 10 mg/kg po qd

Contraindications/cautions:

- Hypersensitivity to drug or bile acids
- Gallstones: Calcified cholesterol, radiopaque stones, radiolucent bile pigment stones
- Unremitting acute cholecystitis
- Acute cholangitis
- Biliary obstruction

From: *Clinical Gastroenterology: Pocket Handbook of GI Pharmacotherapeutics*

Edited by: G.Y. Wu, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-33317-5\_10,

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Adverse effects:

- Gastrointestinal: Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting
- Musculoskeletal: Backache

Drug interactions:

- Concomitant fibric acid derivatives, oral contraceptives, bile acid binding resins and antacids may decrease ursodiol efficacy

Pregnancy category: B

Lactation: Safety unknown

Relative cost: \$\$\$ (generic available: \$\$-\$\$\$)

## PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS

### *UDCA*

See above.

## SUGGESTED READING

1. Lindor KD, Gershwin ME, Poupon R, Kaplan M, Bergasa NV, Heathcote J. Primary biliary cirrhosis. *Hepatology*. 2009;50(1):291–308.
2. Lindor KD, Kowdley KV, Harrison ME. ACG clinical guideline: primary sclerosing cholangitis. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2015;110:646–59.