

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use guanfacine extended-release tablets safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for guanfacine extended-release tablets.

### Guanfacine extended-release tablets, for oral use

Initial U.S. Approval: 1986

<b>RECENT MAJOR CHANGES</b>	
Dosage and Administration (2.7)	7/2016

## INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Guanfacine extended-release tablets are central alpha<sub>2</sub>-adrenergic receptor agonist indicated for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) as monotherapy and as adjunctive therapy to stimulant medications (1, 14).

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Recommended dose: 1 mg to 7 mg (0.05-0.12 mg/kg target weight based dose range) once daily in the morning or evening based on clinical response and tolerability (2.2).
- Begin at a dose of 1 mg once daily and adjust in increments of no more than 1 mg/week (2.2).
- Do not crush, chew or break tablets before swallowing (1.21).
- Do not administer with high-fat meals, because of increased exposure (2.1).
- Do not substitute for immediate-release guanfacine tablets on a mg-per-mg basis, because of differing pharmacokinetic profiles (2.3).
- If switching from immediate-release guanfacine, discontinue that treatment and titrate with guanfacine extended-release tablets as directed (2.3).
- When discontinuing, taper the dose in decrements of no more than 1 mg every 3 to 7 days to avoid rebound hypertension (2.5).

## DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Extended-release tablets: 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg (3)

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

History of hypersensitivity to guanfacine extended-release tablets, its inactive ingredients, or other products containing guanfacine (4).

## WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Hypotension, bradycardia, syncope: Titrate slowly and monitor vital signs frequently in patients at risk for hypotension, heart block, bradycardia, syncope, cardiovascular disease, vascular disease, cerebrovascular disease or chronic renal failure.

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## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Guanfacine extended-release tablets are indicated for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) as monotherapy and as adjunctive therapy to stimulant medications [see **CLINICAL STUDIES** (14)].

### 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- General Instruction for Use  
Swallow tablets whole. Do not crush, chew, or break tablets because this will increase the rate of guanfacine release. Do not administer with high fat meals, due to increased exposure.

- Dose Selection  
Take guanfacine extended-release tablets orally once daily, either in the morning or evening, at approximately the same time each day. Begin at a dose of 1 mg/day, and adjust in increments of no more than 1 mg/week.

In monotherapy clinical trials, there was dose- and exposure-related clinical improvement as well as risks for several clinically significant adverse reactions (hypotension, bradycardia, sedative events). To balance the exposure-related potential benefits and risks, the recommended target dose range depending on clinical response and tolerability for guanfacine extended-release tablets is 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day (total daily dose between 1 to 7 mg) (See **Table 1**).

Weight	Target dose range (0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day)
25 to 33.9 kg	2 to 3 mg/day
34 to 41.4 kg	2 to 4 mg/day
41.5 to 49.4 kg	3 to 5 mg/day
49.5 to 58.4 kg	3 to 6 mg/day
58.5 to 91 kg	4 to 7 mg/day
>91 kg	5 to 7 mg/day

Doses above 4 mg/day have not been evaluated in children (ages 6 to 12 years) and doses above 7 mg/day have not been evaluated in adolescents (ages 13 to 17 years)

In the adjunctive trial which evaluated guanfacine extended-release tablets treatment with psychostimulants, the majority of patients reached optimal doses in the 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day range. Doses above 4 mg/day have not been studied in adjunctive trials.

- Switching from Immediate-Release Guanfacine to Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets  
If switching from immediate-release guanfacine, discontinue that treatment, and titrate with guanfacine extended-release tablets following above recommended schedule.

Do not substitute for immediate-release guanfacine tablets on a milligram-per-milligram basis, because of differing pharmacokinetic profiles. Guanfacine extended-release tablets have significantly reduced C<sub>max</sub> (60% lower), bioavailability (43% lower), and a delayed T<sub>max</sub> (3 hours later) compared to those of the same dose of immediate-release guanfacine [see **Clinical Pharmacology** (12.3)].

- Maintenance Treatment  
Pharmacological treatment of ADHD may be needed for extended periods. Healthcare providers should periodically re-evaluate the long-term use of guanfacine extended-release tablets, and adjust weight-based dosage as needed. The majority of children and adolescents reach optimal doses in the 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day range. Doses above 4 mg/day have not been evaluated in children (ages 6 to 12 years) and above 7 mg/day have not been evaluated in adolescents (ages 13 to 17 years) [see **CLINICAL STUDIES** (14)].

- Discontinuation of Treatment  
Following discontinuation of guanfacine extended-release tablets, patients may experience increases in blood pressure and heart rate [see **Adverse Reactions** (6.1)]. Patients/caregivers should be instructed not to discontinue guanfacine extended-release tablets without consulting their health care provider. Monitor blood pressure and pulse when reducing the dose or discontinuing the drug. Taper the daily dose in decrements of no more than 1 mg every 3 to 7 days to avoid rebound hypertension.

- Missed Doses  
When reinitiating patients to the previous maintenance dose after two or more missed consecutive doses, consider titration based on patient tolerability.

- Dosage Adjustment with Concomitant Use of Strong and Moderate CYP3A4 Inhibitors or Inducers  
Dosage adjustments for guanfacine extended-release tablets are recommended with concomitant use of strong and moderate CYP3A4 inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole), or CYP3A4 inducers (e.g., carbamazepine) (**Table 2**) [see **DRUG INTERACTIONS** (7)].

	Clinical Scenario		
	Starting guanfacine extended-release tablets while currently on a CYP3A4 modulator	Continuing guanfacine extended-release tablets while adding a CYP3A4 modulator	Continuing guanfacine extended-release tablets while stopping a CYP3A4 modulator
<b>CYP3A4 Strong and moderate Inhibitors</b>	Decrease guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage to half the recommended level. (see <b>Table 1</b> )	Decrease guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage to half the recommended level. (see <b>Table 1</b> )	Increase guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage to recommended level. (see <b>Table 1</b> )
<b>CYP3A4 Strong and moderate Inducers</b>	Consider increasing guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage up to double the recommended level. (see <b>Table 1</b> )	Consider increasing guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage up to double the recommended level over 1 to 2 weeks. (see <b>Table 1</b> )	Decrease guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage to recommended C <sub>max</sub> level over 1 to 2 weeks. (see <b>Table 1</b> )

### 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg extended-release tablets

### 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Guanfacine extended-release tablets are contraindicated in patients with a history of a hypersensitivity reaction to guanfacine extended-release tablets or its inactive ingredients, or other products containing guanfacine. Rash and pruritus have been reported.

renal failure. Measure heart rate and blood pressure prior to initiation of therapy, following dose increases, and periodically while on therapy. Avoid concomitant use of drugs with additive effects unless clinically indicated. Advise patients to avoid becoming dehydrated or overheated (5.1).

- Sedation and somnolence: Occur commonly with guanfacine extended-release tablets. Consider the potential for additive sedative effects with CNS depressant drugs. Caution patients against operating heavy equipment or driving until they know how they respond to guanfacine extended-release tablets (5.2).

- Cardiac Conduction Abnormalities: May worsen sinus node dysfunction and atrioventricular (AV) block, especially in patients taking other sympatholytic drugs. Titrate slowly and monitor vital signs frequently (5.3).

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions (≥5% and at least twice placebo rate) in fixed-dose monotherapy ADHD trials in children and adolescents (6 to 17 years): hypotension, somnolence, fatigue, nausea, and lethargy (6.1).

Flexible dose-optimization ADHD trials in children (6 to 12 years) and adolescents (13 to 17 years): somnolence, hypotension, abdominal pain, insomnia, fatigue, dizziness, dry mouth, irritability, nausea, vomiting, and bradycardia (6.1).

Adjunctive treatment to psychostimulant ADHD trial in children and adolescents (6 to 17 years): somnolence, fatigue, insomnia, dizziness, and abdominal pain (6.1).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Par Pharmaceutical 1-800-828-9393 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

## DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Strong and moderate CYP3A4 inhibitors increase guanfacine exposure. Decrease guanfacine extended-release tablets to 50% of target dosage when coadministered with strong and moderate CYP3A4 inhibitors (2.7).
- Strong and moderate CYP3A4 inducers decrease guanfacine exposure. Based on patient response, consider titrating guanfacine extended-release tablets dosage up to double the target dosage over 1 to 2 weeks (2.7).

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

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\* Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

## 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### 5.1 Hypotension, Bradycardia, and Syncope

Treatment with guanfacine extended-release tablets can cause dose-dependent decreases in blood pressure and heart rate. Decreases were less pronounced over time of treatment. Orthostatic hypotension and syncope have been reported [see **Adverse Reactions** (6.1)].

Measure heart rate and blood pressure prior to initiation of therapy, following dose increases, and periodically while on therapy. Titrate guanfacine extended-release tablets slowly in patients with a history of hypotension, and those with underlying conditions that may be worsened by hypotension and bradycardia: e.g., heart block, bradycardia, cardiovascular disease, vascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, or chronic renal failure. In patients who have a history of syncope or may have a condition that predisposes them to syncope, such as hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, bradycardia, or dehydration, advise patients to avoid becoming dehydrated or overheated. Monitor blood pressure and heart rate, and adjust dosages accordingly in patients treated concomitantly with antihypertensives or other drugs that can reduce blood pressure or heart rate or increase the risk of syncope.

### 5.2 Sedation and Somnolence

Somnolence and sedation were commonly reported adverse reactions in clinical studies [see **Adverse Reactions** (6.1)]. Before using guanfacine extended-release tablets with other centrally active depressants, consider the potential for additive sedative effects. Caution patients against operating heavy equipment or driving until they know how they respond to treatment with guanfacine extended-release tablets. Advise patients to avoid use with alcohol.

### 5.3 Cardiac Conduction Abnormalities

The sympatholytic action of guanfacine extended-release tablets may worsen sinus node dysfunction and atrioventricular (AV) block, especially in patients taking other sympatholytic drugs. Titrate guanfacine extended-release tablets slowly and monitor vital signs frequently in patients with cardiac conduction abnormalities or patients concomitantly treated with other sympatholytic drugs.

## 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following serious adverse reactions are described elsewhere in the labeling:

- Hypotension, bradycardia, and syncope [see **Warnings and Precautions** (5.1)]
- Sedation and somnolence [see **Warnings and Precautions** (5.2)]
- Cardiac conduction abnormalities [see **Warnings and Precautions** (5.3)]

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Par Pharmaceutical 1-800-828-9393 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

### 6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The data described below reflect clinical trial exposure to guanfacine extended-release tablets in 2,825 patients. This includes 2,330 patients from completed studies in children and adolescents, ages 6 to 17 years and 495 patients in completed studies in adult healthy volunteers.

The mean duration of exposure of 446 patients that previously participated in two 2-year, open-label long-term studies was approximately 10 months.

### Fixed Dose Study Trials

Table 3: Percentage of Patients Experiencing Most Common (≥ 5% and at least twice the rate for placebo) Adverse Reactions in Fixed Dose Studies 1 and 2

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets (mg)					All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=513)
	Placebo (N=149)	1mg* (N=61)	2mg (N=150)	3mg (N=151)	4mg (N=151)	
Somnolence*	11%	28%	30%	38%	51%	38%
Fatigue	3%	10%	13%	17%	15%	14%
Hypotension*	3%	8%	5%	7%	8%	7%
Dizziness	4%	5%	3%	7%	10%	6%
Lethargy	3%	2%	3%	8%	7%	6%
Nausea	2%	7%	5%	5%	6%	6%
Dry mouth	1%	0%	1%	6%	7%	4%

\*The lowest dose of 1 mg used in Study 2 was not randomized to patients weighing more than 50 kg. a: The somnolence term includes somnolence, sedation, and hypersomnia. b: The hypotension term includes hypotension, diastolic hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, blood pressure decreased, blood pressure diastolic decreased, blood pressure systolic decreased).

### Adjunctive Trial

Table 4: Adverse Reactions Leading to Discontinuation (≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate than in placebo) in Fixed Dose Studies 1 and 2

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets (mg)					All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=513)
	Placebo (N=149)	1 mg* (N=61)	2 mg (N=150)	3 mg (N=151)	4 mg (N=151)	
n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	
Total patients	4 (3%)	2 (3%)	10 (7%)	15 (10%)	27 (18%)	54 (11%)
Somnolence*	1 (1%)	2 (3%)	5 (3%)	6 (4%)	17 (11%)	30 (6%)
Fatigue	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (1%)	2 (1%)	4 (3%)	8 (2%)

Adverse reactions leading to discontinuation in a 2% in any dose group but did not meet this criteria in all doses combined: hypotension (hypotension, diastolic hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, blood pressure decreased, blood pressure diastolic decreased, blood pressure systolic decreased), headache, and dizziness.

The lowest dose of 1 mg used in Study 2 was not randomized to patients weighing more than 50 kg. a: The somnolence term includes somnolence, sedation, and hypersomnia.

Table 5: Other Common Adverse Reactions (≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate than in placebo) in Fixed Dose Studies 1 and 2

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets (mg)					All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=513)
	Placebo (N=149)	1 mg* (N=61)	2 mg (N=150)	3 mg (N=151)	4 mg (N=151)	
Headache	19%	26%	25%	16%	28%	23%
Abdominal Pain*	9%	10%	7%	11%	15%	11%
Decreased Appetite	4%	5%	4%	9%	6%	6%
Irritability	4%	5%	8%	3%	7%	6%
Constipation	1%	2%	2%	3%	4%	3%
Nightmare*	0%	0%	0%	3%	4%	2%
Euresis*	1%	0%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Affect Liability*	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%

Adverse reactions ≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate in placebo in any dose group but did not meet this criteria in all doses combined: insomnia (insomnia, initial insomnia, middle insomnia, terminal insomnia, sleep disorder), vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal/stomach discomfort (abdominal discomfort, epigastric discomfort, stomach discomfort), rash (rash, rash generalized, rash papular), dyspepsia, increased weight, bradycardia (bradycardia, sinus bradycardia), asthma (asthma, bronchospasm, wheezing), agitation, anxiety (anxiety, nervousness), sinus arrhythmia, blood pressure increased (blood pressure increased, blood pressure diastolic increased), and first degree atrioventricular block.

\* The lowest dose of 1 mg used in Study 2 was not randomized to patients weighing more than 50 kg. a: The abdominal pain term includes abdominal pain, abdominal pain lower, abdominal pain upper, and abdominal tenderness. b: The nightmare term includes abnormal dreams, nightmare, and sleep terror. c: The euresis term includes enuresis, nocturia, and urinary incontinence. d: The affect liability term includes affect lability and mood swings.

### Monotherapy Flexible Dose Study

Table 6: Percentage of Patients Experiencing Most Common (≥ 5% and at least twice the rate for placebo) Adverse Reactions in the Monotherapy Flexible Dose Study 4

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets			
	Placebo (N=112)	AM (N=107)	PM (N=114)	All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=221)
Somnolence*	15%	57%	54%	56%
Abdominal Pain*	7%	8%	19%	14%
Fatigue	3%	10%	11%	11%
Irritability	3%	7%	7%	7%
Nausea	1%	6%	5%	5%
Dizziness	3%	6%	4%	5%
Vomiting	2%	7%	4%	5%
Hypotension*	0%	6%	4%	5%
Decreased Appetite	3%	6%	3%	4%
Enuresis*	1%	2%	5%	4%

a: The somnolence term includes somnolence, sedation, and hypersomnia. b: The abdominal pain term includes abdominal pain, abdominal pain lower, abdominal pain upper, and abdominal tenderness. c: The hypotension term includes hypotension, diastolic hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, blood pressure decreased, blood pressure diastolic decreased, blood pressure systolic decreased). d: The enuresis term includes enuresis, nocturia, and urinary incontinence.

Table 7: Adverse Reactions Leading to Discontinuation (≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate than in placebo) in Monotherapy Flexible Dose Studies 4

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets			
	Placebo (N=112)	AM (N=107)	PM (N=114)	All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=221)
n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Total patients	0 (0%)	8 (7%)	7 (6%)	15 (7%)
Somnolence*	0 (0%)	4 (4%)	3 (3%)	7 (3%)

Adverse reactions leading to discontinuation in a 2% in any dose group but did not meet this criteria in all doses combined: fatigue

a: The somnolence term includes somnolence, sedation, and hypersomnia.

Table 8: Other Common Adverse Reactions (≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate than in placebo) in the Monotherapy Flexible Dose Study 4

Adverse Reaction Term	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets			
	Placebo (N=112)	AM (N=107)	PM (N=114)	All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=221)
Headache	11%	18%	16%	17%
Insomnia*	6%	8%	6%	7%
Diarrhea	4%	4%	6%	5%
Lethargy	0%	4%	3%	3%
Constipation	2%	2%	4%	3%
Dry Mouth	1%	3%	3%	3%

Adverse reactions ≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate in placebo in any dose group but did not meet this criteria in all doses combined: affect lability (affect lability, mood swings), increased weight, syncope/loss of consciousness (loss of consciousness, presyncope, syncope), dyspepsia, tachycardia (tachycardia, sinus tachycardia), and bradycardia (bradycardia, sinus bradycardia).

a: The insomnia term includes insomnia, initial insomnia, middle insomnia, terminal insomnia, and sleep disorder.

Table 9: Percentage of Patients Experiencing Most Common (≥ 5% and at least twice the rate for placebo) Adverse Reactions in the Monotherapy Flexible Dose Study 5

Adverse Reaction Term	Placebo (N=155)		All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=157)
Somnolence*		23%	54%
Insomnia*		6%	13%
Hypotension*		3%	9%
Dry Mouth		0%	8%
Postural Dizziness		2%	5%
Bradycardia*		0%	5%

a: The somnolence term includes somnolence, sedation, and hypersomnia. b: The insomnia term includes insomnia, initial insomnia, middle insomnia, terminal insomnia, and sleep disorder. c: The hypotension term includes hypotension, diastolic hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, blood pressure decreased, blood pressure diastolic decreased, blood pressure systolic decreased). d: The bradycardia term includes bradycardia and sinus bradycardia.

There were no specific adverse reactions ≥ 2% in any treatment group that led to discontinuation in the monotherapy flexible dose study (Study 5).

Table 10: Other Common Adverse Reactions (≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate than in placebo) in the Monotherapy Flexible Dose Study 5

Adverse Reaction Term	Placebo (N=155)		All Doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets (N=157)
Headache	18%		27%
Fatigue	12%		22%
Dizziness	10%		16%
Decreased Appetite	14%		15%
Abdominal Pain*	8%		12%
Irritability	4%		7%
Anxiety*	3%		5%
Rash*	1%		3%
Constipation	0%		3%
Increased Weight	2%		3%
Abdominal/Stomach Discomfort†	1%		2%
Pruritus	1%		2%

Adverse reactions ≥ 2% for all doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets and > rate in placebo in any dose group but did not meet this criteria in all doses combined: nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, and depression (depressed mood, depression, depressive symptom).

a: The abdominal pain term includes abdominal pain, abdominal pain lower, abdominal pain upper, and abdominal tenderness. b: The anxiety term includes anxiety and nervousness. c: The rash term includes rash, rash generalized, and rash papular. d: The abdominal/stomach discomfort term includes abdominal

## What are the possible side effects of guanfacine extended-release tablets?

### Guanfacine extended-release tablets may cause serious side effects including:

- low blood pressure
- low heart rate
- fainting
- sleepiness

Get medical help right away, if you have any of the symptoms listed above.

### The most common side effects of guanfacine extended-release tablets include:

- sleepiness
- tiredness
- trouble sleeping
- low blood pressure
- nausea
- stomach pain
- dizziness
- dry mouth
- irritability
- vomiting
- slow heart rate

Tell the doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of guanfacine extended-release tablets. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to **Par Pharmaceutical 1-800-828-9393 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch**.

#### How should I store guanfacine extended-release tablets?

- Store guanfacine extended-release tablets at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F). [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

### Keep guanfacine extended-release tablets and all medicines out of the reach of children.

### General Information about the safe and effective use of guanfacine extended-release tablets

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. Do not use guanfacine extended-release tablets for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give guanfacine extended-release tablets to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about guanfacine extended-release tablets. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about guanfacine extended-release tablets that is written for health professionals.

### What are the ingredients in guanfacine extended-release tablets?

**Active ingredient:** guanfacine hydrochloride

**Inactive ingredients:** microcrystalline cellulose, hypromellose, polyvinyl acetate, povidone, lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate and silica. In addition, the 3 mg and 4 mg tablets also contain FD&C Blue #1.

### This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured for:  
**Par Pharmaceutical**  
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977

**Made in TAIWAN**

Revised: 07/16

OS533A-01-87-04

**8.5 Geriatric Use**  
The safety and efficacy of guanfacine extended-release tablets in geriatric patients have not been established.

**8.6 Renal Impairment**  
It may be necessary to reduce the dosage in patients with significant impairment of renal function [see **Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)**].

**8.7 Hepatic Impairment**  
It may be necessary to reduce the dosage in patients with significant impairment of hepatic function [see **Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)**].

#### 9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

**9.1 Controlled Substance**  
Guanfacine extended-release tablets are not controlled substance and have no known potential for abuse or dependence.

#### 10 OVERDOSAGE

##### Symptoms

Postmarketing reports of guanfacine overdosage indicate that hypotension, drowsiness, lethargy, and bradycardia have been observed following overdose. Initial hypertension may develop early and may be followed by hypotension. Similar symptoms have been described in voluntary reports to the American Association of Poison Control Center’s National Poison Data System. Miosis of the pupils may be noted on examination. No fatal overdoses of guanfacine have been reported in published literature.

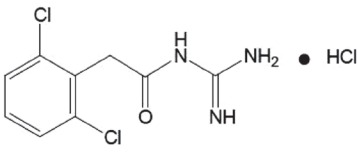
##### Treatment

Consult a Certified Poison Control Center by calling 1-800-222-1222 for up to date guidance and advice.

Management of guanfacine extended-release tablets overdose should include monitoring for and the treatment of initial hypertension, if that occurs, as well as hypotension, bradycardia, lethargy and respiratory depression. Children and adolescents who develop lethargy should be observed for the development of more serious toxicity including coma, bradycardia and hypotension for up to 24 hours, due to the possibility of delayed onset hypotension.

#### 11 DESCRIPTION

Guanfacine extended-release tablets are once-daily, extended-release formulation of guanfacine hydrochloride (HCl) in a matrix tablet formulation for oral administration only. The chemical designation is N-amidino-2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl) acetamide monohydrochloride. The molecular formula is C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> N<sub>3</sub> O•HCl corresponding to a molecular weight of 282.55. The chemical structure is:



Guanfacine HCl is a white to off-white crystalline powder, sparingly soluble in water (approximately 1 mg/mL) and alcohol and slightly soluble in acetone. The only organic solvent in which it has relatively high solubility is methanol (>30 mg/mL). Each tablet contains guanfacine HCl equivalent to 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, or 4 mg of guanfacine base. The tablets also contain microcrystalline cellulose, hypromellose, polyvinyl acetate, povidone, lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate and silica. In addition, the 3-mg and 4-mg tablets also contain FD&C Blue #1.

#### 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

**12.1 Mechanism of Action**  
Guanfacine is a central alpha<sub>2A</sub>-adrenergic receptor agonist. Guanfacine is not a central nervous system (CNS) stimulant. The mechanism of action of guanfacine in ADHD is not known.

**12.2 Pharmacodynamics**  
Guanfacine is a selective central alpha<sub>2A</sub>-adrenergic receptor agonist in that it has a 15 to 20 times higher affinity for this receptor subtype than for the alpha<sub>2A</sub> or alpha<sub>2B</sub> subtypes.

Guanfacine is a known antihypertensive agent. By stimulating central alpha<sub>2A</sub>-adrenergic receptors, guanfacine reduces sympathetic nerve impulses from the vasomotor center to the heart and blood vessels. This results in a decrease in peripheral vascular resistance and a reduction in heart rate.

In a thorough QT study, the administration of two dose levels of immediate-release guanfacine (4 mg and 8 mg) produced concentrations approximately 2 to 4 times the concentrations observed with the maximum recommended dose of guanfacine extended-release tablets of 0.12 mg/kg. Guanfacine was not shown to prolong the QTc interval to any clinically relevant extent.

#### 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

##### Absorption and Distribution

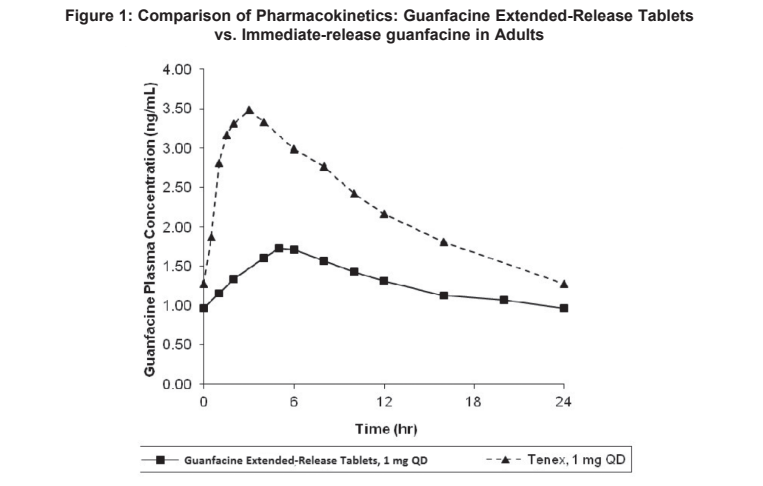
Guanfacine is readily absorbed and approximately 70% bound to plasma proteins independent of drug concentration. After oral administration of guanfacine extended-release tablets the time to peak plasma concentration is approximately 5 hours in children and adolescents with ADHD.

Immediate-release guanfacine and guanfacine extended-release tablets have different pharmacokinetic characteristics; dose substitution on a milligram per milligram basis will result in differences in exposure.

A comparison across studies suggests that the C<sub>max</sub> is 60% lower and AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> 43% lower, respectively, for guanfacine extended-release tablets compared to immediate-release guanfacine. Therefore, the relative bioavailability of guanfacine extended-release tablets to immediate-release guanfacine is 58%. The mean pharmacokinetic parameters in adults following the administration of guanfacine extended-release tablets 1 mg once daily and immediate-release guanfacine 1 mg once daily are summarized in **Table 15**.

Parameter	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 mg once daily (n=52)	Immediate-release guanfacine 1 mg once daily (n=12)
C <sub>max</sub> (ng/mL)	1.0 ± 0.3	2.5 ± 0.6
AUC <sub>0-∞</sub> (ng•h/mL)	32 ± 9	56 ± 15
t <sub>max</sub> (h)	6.0 (4.0 – 8.0)	3.0 (1.5 - 4.0)
t <sub>1/2</sub> (h)	18 ± 4	16 ± 3

Note: Values are mean ±*SD*, except for t<sub>max</sub> which is median (range)



Exposure to guanfacine was higher in children (ages 6 to 12) compared to adolescents (ages 13 to 17) and adults. After oral administration of multiple doses of guanfacine extended-release tablets 4 mg, the C<sub>max</sub> was 10 ng/mL compared to 7 ng/mL and the AUC was 162 ng•h/mL compared to 116 ng•h/mL in children (ages 6 to 12) and adolescents (ages 13 to 17), respectively. These differences are probably attributable to the lower body weight of children compared to adolescents and adults.

The pharmacokinetics were affected by intake of food when a single dose of guanfacine extended-release tablets 4 mg was administered with a high-fat breakfast. The mean exposure increased (C<sub>max</sub> ~75% and AUC ~40%) compared to dosing in a fasted state.

##### Dose Proportionality

Following administration of guanfacine extended-release tablets in single doses of 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg to adults, C<sub>max</sub> and AUC<sub>0-∞</sub> of guanfacine were proportional to dose.

##### Metabolism and Elimination

*In vitro* studies with human liver microsomes and recombinant CYP’s demonstrated that guanfacine was primarily metabolized by CYP3A4. In pooled human hepatic microsomes, guanfacine did not inhibit the activities of the major cytochrome P450 isoenzymes (CYP1A2, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6 or CYP3A4/5). Guanfacine is a substrate of CYP3A4/5 and exposure is affected by CYP3A4/5 inducers/inhibitors.

##### Studies in Specific Populations

##### Renal Impairment

The impact of renal impairment on the pharmacokinetics of guanfacine in children was not assessed. In adult patients with impaired renal function, the cumulative urinary excretion of guanfacine and the renal clearance diminished as renal function decreased. In patients on hemodialysis, the dialysis clearance was about 15% of the total clearance. The low dialysis clearance suggests that the hepatic elimination (metabolism) increases as renal function decreases.

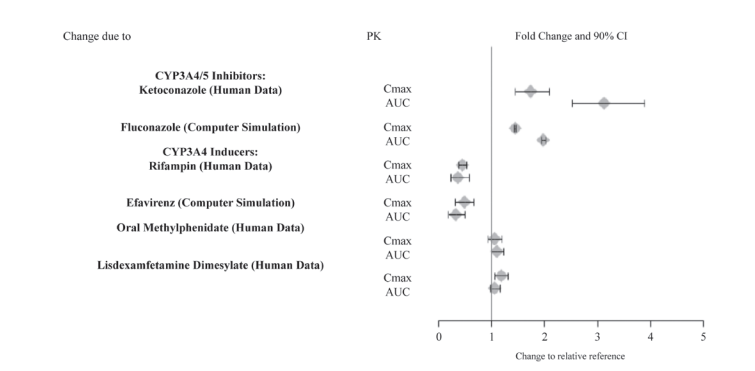
##### Hepatic Impairment

The impact of hepatic impairment on PK of guanfacine in children was not assessed. Guanfacine in adults is cleared both by the liver and the kidney, and approximately 50% of the clearance of guanfacine is hepatic [see **Hepatic Impairment (8.7)**].

##### Drug Interaction Studies

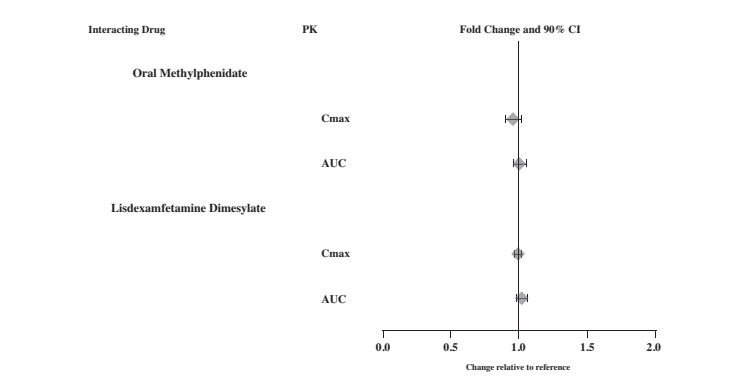
Guanfacine is primarily metabolized by CYP3A4 and its plasma concentrations can be affected significantly by CYP3A4 inhibitors or inducers (**Figure 2**).

**Figure 2: Effect of Other Drugs on the Pharmacokinetics (PK) of Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets**



Guanfacine does not significantly affect exposures of methylphenidate and lisdexamfetamine when co-administered (**Figure 3**).

**Figure 3: Effect of Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets on the Pharmacokinetics (PK) of Other Drugs**



### 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

#### 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

**Carcinogenesis**  
No carcinogenic effect of guanfacine was observed in studies of 78 weeks in mice or 102 weeks in rats at doses up to 6.8 times the maximum recommended human dose of 0.12 mg/kg/day on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis.

##### Mutagenesis

Guanfacine was not genotoxic in a variety of test models, including the Ames test and an *in vitro* chromosomal aberration test; however, a marginal increase in numerical aberrations (polyploidy) was observed in the latter study.

##### Impairment of Fertility

No adverse effects were observed in fertility studies in male and female rats at doses up to 22 times the maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis.

#### 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Efficacy of guanfacine extended-release tablets in the treatment of ADHD was established in children and adolescents (6 to 17 years) in:

- Five short-term, placebo-controlled monotherapy trials (Studies 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6).
- One short-term, placebo-controlled adjunctive trial with psychostimulants (Study 3).
- One long-term, placebo-controlled monotherapy maintenance trial (Study 7).

**Studies 1 and 2: Fixed-dose Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets Monotherapy**  
Study 1 (301 study) was a double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, fixed dose study, in which efficacy of once daily dosing with guanfacine extended-release tablets (2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg) was evaluated for 5 weeks (n=345) in children and adolescents aged 6 to 17 years. Study 2 (304 study) was a double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, fixed-dose study, in which efficacy of once daily dosing with guanfacine extended-release tablets (1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg) was evaluated for 6 weeks (n=324) in children and adolescents aged 6 to 17 years. In both studies, randomized patients in 2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg dose groups were titrated to their target fixed dose, and continued on the same dose until a dose tapering phase started. The lowest dose of 1 mg used in Study 2 was not randomized to patients weighing more than 50 kg. Patients who weighed less than 25 kg were not included in either study.

Signs and symptoms of ADHD were evaluated on a once weekly basis using the clinician administered and scored ADHD Rating Scale (ADHD-RS-IV), which includes both hyperactive/impulsive and inattentive subscales. The primary efficacy outcome was the change from baseline to endpoint in ADHD-RS-IV total scores. Endpoint was defined as the last post-randomization treatment week for which a valid score was obtained prior to dose tapering (up to Week 5 in Study 1 and up to Week 6 in Study 2).

The mean reductions in ADHD-RS-IV total scores at endpoint were statistically significantly greater for guanfacine extended-release tablets compared to placebo for Studies 1 and 2. Placebo-adjusted changes from baseline were statistically significant for each of the 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg guanfacine extended-release tablets randomized treatment groups in both studies, as well as the 1 mg guanfacine extended-release tablets treatment group that was included only in Study 2 (see **Table 16**).

Dose-responsive efficacy was evident, particularly when data were examined on a weight-adjusted (mg/kg) basis. When evaluated over the dose range of 0.01 to 0.17 mg/kg/day, clinically relevant improvements were observed beginning at doses in the range 0.05 to 0.08 mg/kg/day. Doses up to 0.12 mg/kg/day were shown to provide additional benefit.

In the monotherapy trials (Studies 1 and 2), subgroup analyses were performed to identify any differences in response based on gender or age (6 to 12 vs. 13 to 17). Analyses of the primary outcome did not suggest any differential responsiveness on the basis of gender. Analyses by age revealed a statistically significant treatment effect only in the 6 to 12 age subgroup. Due to the relatively small proportion of adolescent patients (ages 13 to 17) enrolled into these studies (approximately 25%), these data may not have been sufficient to demonstrate efficacy in the adolescent patients. In these studies, patients were randomized to a fixed dose of guanfacine extended-release tablets rather than optimized by body weight. Therefore, some adolescent patients were randomized to a dose that might have resulted in relatively lower plasma guanfacine concentrations compared to the younger patients. Over half (55%) of the adolescent patients received doses of 0.01 to 0.04 mg/kg. In studies in which systematic pharmacokinetic data were obtained, there was a strong inverse correlation between body weight and plasma guanfacine concentrations.

Study Number (Age Range)	Treatment Group	Mean Baseline Score (SD)	LS Mean Change from Baseline (SE)	Placebo-subtracted Difference* (95% CI)
Study 1 (6 to 17 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 2 mg*	36.1 (9.99)	-15.9 (1.37)	-7.4 (-11.3, -3.5)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 3 mg*	36.8 (8.72)	-16.0 (1.38)	-7.5 (-11.4, -3.6)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 4 mg*	38.4 (9.21)	-18.5 (1.39)	-10.0 (-13.9, -6.1)
	Placebo	38.1 (9.34)	-8.5 (1.42)	--
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 mg <sup>†</sup>	41.7 (7.81)	-19.4 (1.69)	-6.8 (-11.3, -2.2)
Study 2 (6 to 17 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 2 mg*	39.9 (8.74)	-18.1 (1.60)	-5.4 (-9.9, -0.9)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 3 mg*	39.1 (9.22)	-20.0 (1.64)	-7.3 (-11.8, -2.8)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 4 mg*	40.6 (8.57)	-20.6 (1.60)	-7.9 (-12.3, -3.4)
	Placebo	39.3 (8.85)	-12.7 (1.60)	--

SD: standard deviation; SE: standard error; LS Mean: least-squares mean; CI: unadjusted confidence interval.

- \* Difference (drug minus placebo) in least-squares mean change from baseline.
- <sup>†</sup> Doses statistically significantly superior to placebo.
- <sup>‡</sup> The lowest dose of 1 mg used in Study 2 was not randomized to patients weighing more than 50 kg.

##### Study 3: Flexible-dose Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets as Adjunctive Therapy to Psychostimulants

Study 3 (313 study) was a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, dose-optimization study, in which efficacy of once daily optimized dosing (morning or evening) with guanfacine extended-release tablets (1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg and 4 mg), when coadministered with psychostimulants, was evaluated for 8 weeks. In children and adolescents aged 6 to 17 years with a diagnosis of ADHD, with a sub-optimal response to stimulants (n=455). Patients were started at the 1 mg guanfacine extended-release tablets dose level and were titrated weekly over a 5-week dose-optimization period to an optimal guanfacine extended-release tablets dose not to exceed 4 mg/day based on tolerability and clinical response. The dose was then maintained for a 3-week dose maintenance period before entry to 1 week of dose tapering. Patients took guanfacine extended-release tablets either in the morning or the evening while maintaining their current dose of psychostimulant treatment given each morning. Allowable psychostimulants in the study were ADDERALL XR<sup>®</sup>, VYVANSE<sup>®</sup>, CONCERTA<sup>®</sup>, FOCALIN XR<sup>®</sup>, RITALIN LA<sup>®</sup>, METADATE CD<sup>®</sup> or FDA-approved generic equivalents.

Symptoms of ADHD were evaluated on a weekly basis by clinicians using the ADHD Rating Scale (ADHD-RS-IV), which includes both hyperactive/impulsive and inattentive subscales. The primary efficacy outcome was the change from baseline to endpoint in ADHD-RS-IV total scores. Endpoint was defined as the last post-randomization treatment week prior to dose tapering for which a valid score was obtained (up to Week 8).

Mean reductions in ADHD-RS-IV total scores at endpoint were statistically significantly greater for guanfacine extended-release tablets given in combination with a psychostimulant compared to placebo given with a psychostimulant for Study 3, for both morning and evening guanfacine extended-release tablets dosing (see **Table 17**). Nearly two-thirds (64.2%) of patients reached optimal doses in the 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day range.

##### Studies 4, 5 and 6: Flexible-dose Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets Monotherapy

Study 4 (314 study) was a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, dose-optimization study, in which efficacy of once daily dosing (morning or evening) with guanfacine extended-release tablets (1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg) was evaluated for 8 weeks in children aged 6 to 12 years (n=340).

Signs and symptoms of ADHD were evaluated on a once weekly basis using the clinician administered and scored ADHD Rating Scale (ADHD-RS-IV), which includes both hyperactive/impulsive and inattentive subscales. The primary efficacy outcome was the change from baseline score at endpoint on the ADHD-RS-IV total scores. Endpoint was defined as the last post-randomization treatment week for which a valid score was obtained prior to dose tapering (up to Week 8).

Mean reductions in ADHD-RS-IV total scores at endpoint were statistically significantly greater for guanfacine extended-release tablets compared to placebo in both AM and PM dosing groups of guanfacine extended-release tablets (see **Table 17**).

Study 5 (312 study) was a 15-week, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, dose-optimization study conducted in adolescents aged 13 to 17 years (n=314) to evaluate the efficacy and safety of guanfacine extended-release tablets (1 to 7 mg/day; optimized dose range of 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day) in the treatment of ADHD as measured by the ADHD Rating Scale-IV (ADHD-RS-IV). Patients receiving guanfacine extended-release tablets showed statistically significantly greater improvement on the ADHD-RS-IV total score compared with patients receiving placebo (see **Table 17**).

Study 6 (316 study) was a 12-week (for children aged 6 to 12) or 15-week (for adolescents aged 13 to 17), randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, placebo- and active-reference, dose-optimization study conducted in pediatric patients (children and adolescents aged 6 to 17 years old inclusive) (n=337) to assess the efficacy and safety of once-daily dosing (children: 1 to 4 mg/day; adolescents: 1 to 7 mg/day; optimized dose range of 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day) in the treatment of ADHD. Guanfacine extended-release tablets were statistically superior to placebo on symptoms of ADHD in patients 6 to 17 years as measured by change from baseline in ADHD-RS-IV total scores (see **Table 17**).

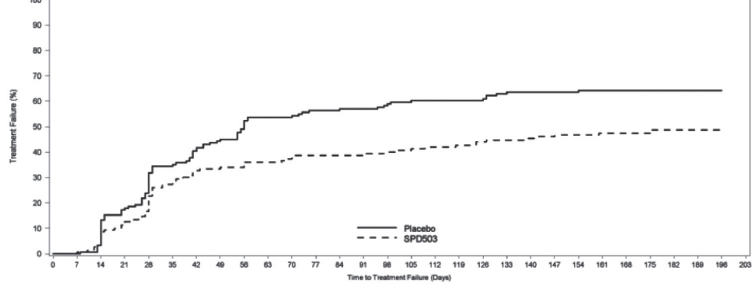
Study Number (Age Range)	Treatment Group	Primary Efficacy Measure: ADHD-RS-IV Total Score		
		Mean Baseline Score (SD)	LS Mean Change from Baseline (SE)	Placebo-subtracted Difference* (95% CI)
Study 3 <sup>†</sup> (6 to 17 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 4 mg AM*	37.6 (8.13)	-20.3 (0.97)	-4.5 (-7.5, -1.4)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 4 mg PM*	37.0 (7.65)	-21.2 (0.97)	-5.3 (-8.3, -2.3)
	Placebo	37.7 (7.75)	-15.9 (0.96)	--
Study 4 (6 to 12 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 4 mg AM*	41.7 (6.39)	-20.0 (1.23)	-9.4 (-12.8, -6.0)
	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 4 mg PM*	41.6 (6.66)	-20.4 (1.19)	-9.8 (-13.1, -6.4)
	Placebo	42.9 (6.29)	-10.6 (1.20)	--
Study 5 (13 to 17 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 7 mg*	39.9 (5.57)	-24.6 (1.06)	-6.03 (-8.87, -3.19)
	Placebo	40.0 (6.11)	-18.5 (1.08)	--
Study 6 (6 to 17 years)	Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets 1 to 7 mg*	43.1 (5.47)	-23.89 (1.15)	-8.88 (-11.94, -5.81)
	Placebo	43.2 (5.60)	-15.01 (1.16)	--

SD: standard deviation; SE: standard error; LS Mean: least-squares mean; CI: unadjusted confidence interval.

- \* Treatment was given in combination with a psychostimulant.
- <sup>†</sup> Difference (drug minus placebo) in least-squares mean change from baseline.
- <sup>‡</sup> Doses statistically significantly superior to placebo.

**Study 7: Long-Term Maintenance of Guanfacine Extended-Release Tablets Efficacy**  
Study 7 (315 study) was a double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized withdrawal trial in pediatric patients aged 6 to 17 years with DSM-IV-TR diagnosis of ADHD. The study consisted of an open-label phase, including a 7-week dose optimization period to titrate patients to the optimal dose (maximum 4 mg/day for children and 7 mg/day for adolescents; optimized dose range: 0.05 to 0.12 mg/kg/day) and a 6-week dose maintenance period. There were 526 patients included in the open-label phase. Among those, 315 patients who met response criteria in the open-label phase were then randomized (1:1, guanfacine extended-release tablets: placebo) in a 26-week, double-blind, randomized withdrawal phase. The response criteria was defined by ≥ 30% reduction in ADHD-RS-IV total score and a Clinical Global Impression-Improvement (CGI-I) score of 1 or 2 during the open-label phase. A statistically significantly lower proportion of treatment failures occurred among guanfacine extended-release tablets patients compared to placebo at the end of the randomized withdrawal period (**Figure 4**). Treatment failure was defined as a ≥ 50% increase (worsening) in ADHD-RS-IV total score and a ≥ 2-point increase in Clinical Global Impression-Severity (CGI-S) score. Patients who met the treatment failure criteria on two consecutive visits or discontinued for any reason were classified as treatment failure.

**Figure 4. Kaplan-Meier Estimation of Proportion of Patients with Treatment Failure for Children and Adolescents Ages 6 to 17 (Study 7)**



#### 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Guanfacine extended-release tablets are supplied in 1 mg, 2 mg, 3 mg, and 4 mg strength extended-release tablets in 100 count and 1000 count bottles.

	1 mg	2 mg	3 mg	4 mg
<b>Color</b>	White	White	Blue	Blue
<b>Shape</b>	Round	Caplet	Round	Caplet
<b>Dobossment (top/bottom)</b>	A533/ 1 mg	A534/ 2 mg	A536/ 3 mg	A538/ 4 mg
<b>NDC number</b>	100 count: 10370-533-01	100 count: 10370-534-01	100 count: 10370-536-01	100 count: 10370-538-01