

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use QSYMIA® safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for QSYMIA.

**QSYMIA (phentermine and topiramate extended-release capsules), for oral use, CIV**  
**Initial U.S. Approval: 2012**

### RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Indications and Usage (1)   | 06/2022 |
| Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.3)                                      | 06/2022 |
| Warnings and Precautions (5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.13, 5.16, 5.17) | 06/2022 |

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

QSYMIA is a combination of phentermine, a sympathomimetic amine anorectic, and topiramate, indicated as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for chronic weight management in:

- Adults with an initial body mass index (BMI) of:
  - 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (obese) (1) or
  - 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity such as hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, or dyslipidemia (1)
- Pediatric patients aged 12 years and older with BMI in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or greater standardized for age and sex.

#### Limitations of Use:

- The effect of QSYMIA on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality has not been established (1).
- The safety and effectiveness of QSYMIA in combination with other products intended for weight loss, including prescription and over-the-counter drugs, and herbal preparations, have not been established (1).

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Take orally once daily in morning. Avoid administration in evening to prevent insomnia (2.3).
- Recommended starting dosage is 3.75 mg/23 mg (phentermine mg/topiramate mg) daily for 14 days; then increase to 7.5 mg/46 mg daily (2.3).
- Escalate dosage based on weight loss in adults or BMI reduction in pediatric patients. See the Full Prescribing Information for details regarding discontinuation or dosage escalation (2.3).
- Gradually discontinue 15 mg/92 mg dosage to prevent possible seizure (2.4).
- Do not exceed 7.5 mg/46 mg dosage for patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or patients with moderate hepatic impairment (2.5, 2.6).

### DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Extended-release capsules: (phentermine mg/topiramate mg)

- 3.75 mg/23 mg (3)
- 7.5 mg/46 mg (3)
- 11.25 mg/69 mg (3)
- 15 mg/92 mg (3)

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Pregnancy (4)
- Glaucoma (4)
- Hyperthyroidism (4)
- Taking or within 14 days of stopping monoamine oxidase inhibitors (4)
- Known hypersensitivity to any component of QSYMIA or idiosyncrasy to sympathomimetic amines (4)

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Embryo-Fetal Toxicity:** Can cause fetal harm. In patients who can become pregnant, a negative pregnancy test is recommended before initiating QSYMIA and monthly during therapy; advise use of effective contraception. QSYMIA is available through a limited program under a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) (5.1).
- Increase in Heart Rate:** Monitor heart rate, especially in those with cardiac or cerebrovascular disease (5.2).
- Suicidal Behavior and Ideation:** Monitor for depression or suicidal thoughts. Discontinue QSYMIA if symptoms develop (5.3).
- Risk of Ophthalmologic Adverse Reactions:** Acute myopia and secondary angle closure glaucoma have been reported. Immediately discontinue QSYMIA if symptoms develop. Consider QSYMIA discontinuation if visual field defects occur (5.4).
- Mood and Sleep Disorders:** Consider dosage reduction or discontinuation for clinically significant or persistent mood or sleep disorder symptoms (5.5).
- Cognitive Impairment:** May cause disturbances in attention or memory, or speech/language problems. Caution patients about operating automobiles or hazardous machinery when starting treatment (5.6).
- Slowing of Linear Growth:** Consider dosage reduction or discontinuation if pediatric patients are not growing or gaining height as expected (5.7).
- Metabolic Acidosis:** Measure electrolytes before and during treatment. If persistent metabolic acidosis develops, reduce dosage or discontinue QSYMIA (5.8).
- Decrease in Renal Function:** Measure creatinine before and during treatment. For persistent creatinine elevations, reduce dosage or discontinue QSYMIA (5.9).
- Serious Skin Reactions:** QSYMIA should be discontinued at the first sign of a rash, unless the rash is clearly not drug-related (5.16).

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions in:

- Adults (incidence ≥ 5% and at least 1.5 times placebo) are: paraesthesia, dizziness, dysgeusia, insomnia, constipation, and dry mouth
- Pediatric patients aged 12 years and older (incidence ≥ 4% and greater than placebo) are: depression, dizziness, arthralgia, pyrexia, influenza, and ligament sprain (6.1).

**To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact VIVUS LLC, at 1-888-998-4887 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).**

### DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Oral Contraceptives:** Altered exposure of progestin and estrogen may cause irregular bleeding, but not increased risk of pregnancy. Advise patients not to discontinue oral contraceptives if spotting occurs (7).
- CNS Depressants Including Alcohol:** May potentiate CNS depressant effects. Avoid excessive use of alcohol (7).
- Non-potassium Sparing Diuretics:** May potentiate hypokalemia. Measure potassium before and during treatment (7).

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Lactation:** Breastfeeding not recommended (8.2).

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and MEDICATION GUIDE

Revised: 06/2022

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## FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

QSYMIA is indicated as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for chronic weight management in:

- Adults with an initial body mass index (BMI) of:
  - 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (obese), or
  - 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity such as hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, or dyslipidemia
- Pediatric patients aged 12 years and older with an initial BMI in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or greater standardized for age and sex.

#### Limitations of Use

- The effect of QSYMIA on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality has not been established.
- The safety and effectiveness of QSYMIA in combination with other products intended for weight loss, including prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and herbal preparations, have not been established.

### 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 2.1 Patient Selection

##### Adults

Select adult patients for QSYMIA treatment based on BMI [*see [Indications and Usage \(1\)](#)*]. Determine the patient's BMI by dividing weight (in kilograms) by height (in meters) squared. A BMI conversion table based on height [inches (in) or centimeters (cm)] and weight [pounds (lb) or kilograms (kg)] is provided below (see [Table 1](#)).

**Table 1. BMI Conversion Chart**

| Weight | (lb)  | 125  | 130  | 135  | 140  | 145  | 150  | 155  | 160  | 165  | 170  | 175  | 180  | 185  | 190  | 195  | 200  | 205  | 210  | 215  | 220   | 225   |
|--------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
|        | (kg)  | 56.8 | 59.1 | 61.4 | 63.6 | 65.9 | 68.2 | 70.5 | 72.7 | 75.0 | 77.3 | 79.5 | 81.8 | 84.1 | 86.4 | 88.6 | 90.9 | 93.2 | 95.5 | 97.7 | 100.0 | 102.3 |
| Height |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
| (in)   | (cm)  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
| 58     | 147.3 | 26   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39   | 40   | 41   | 42   | 43   | 44   | 45   | 46    | 47    |
| 59     | 149.9 | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39   | 40   | 41   | 43   | 44   | 45    | 46    |
| 60     | 152.4 | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39   | 40   | 41   | 42   | 43    | 44    |
| 61     | 154.9 | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39   | 40   | 41   | 42    | 43    |
| 62     | 157.5 | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 38   | 39   | 40    | 41    |
| 63     | 160.0 | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39    | 40    |
| 64     | 162.6 | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37   | 38    | 39    |
| 65     | 165.1 | 21   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36   | 37    | 38    |
| 66     | 167.6 | 20   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   | 36    | 36    |
| 67     | 170.2 | 20   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35    | 35    |
| 68     | 172.7 | 19   | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34    | 34    |
| 69     | 175.3 | 18   | 19   | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33    | 33    |
| 70     | 177.8 | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32    | 32    |
| 71     | 180.3 | 17   | 18   | 19   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 29   | 30   | 31    | 31    |
| 72     | 182.9 | 17   | 18   | 18   | 19   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 29   | 30    | 31    |
| 73     | 185.4 | 17   | 17   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28   | 29    | 30    |
| 74     | 188.0 | 16   | 17   | 17   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28    | 29    |
| 75     | 190.5 | 16   | 16   | 17   | 18   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27   | 28    | 28    |
| 76     | 193.0 | 15   | 16   | 16   | 17   | 18   | 18   | 19   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27    | 27    |

**Pediatric Patients Aged 12 Years and Older**

Select pediatric patients for QSYMIA treatment based on BMI percentile [see *Indications and Usage (1)*]. See [Table 2](#) for BMI percentiles by age and sex for pediatric patients aged 12 years and older.

**Table 2. BMI Percentiles by Age and Sex for Pediatric Patients Aged 12 Years and Older**

| Age (in years) | Male                      | Female                    |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                | 95th Percentile BMI Value | 95th Percentile BMI Value |
| 12             | 24.2                      | 25.3                      |
| 12.5           | 24.7                      | 25.8                      |
| 13             | 25.2                      | 26.3                      |
| 13.5           | 25.6                      | 26.8                      |
| 14             | 26.0                      | 27.3                      |
| 14.5           | 26.5                      | 27.7                      |
| 15             | 26.8                      | 28.1                      |
| 15.5           | 27.2                      | 28.5                      |
| 16             | 27.6                      | 28.9                      |
| 16.5           | 27.9                      | 29.3                      |
| 17             | 28.3                      | 29.6                      |
| 17.5           | 28.6                      | 30.0                      |

## 2.2 Recommended Testing Prior to and During Treatment with QSYMIA

Prior to QSYMIA initiation and during treatment with QSYMIA, the following is recommended:

- Obtain a negative pregnancy test before initiating QSYMIA in patients who can become pregnant and monthly during QSYMIA therapy. QSYMIA is contraindicated during pregnancy [see *Contraindications (4)*, *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)* and *Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].
- Obtain a blood chemistry profile that includes bicarbonate, creatinine, and potassium in all patients, and glucose in patients with type 2 diabetes on antidiabetic medication prior to initiating QSYMIA treatment and periodically during treatment [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.15)*].

## 2.3 Recommended Dosage and Administration

The recommended dosage, titration, and administration of QSYMIA are as follows:

- Take QSYMIA orally once daily in the morning with or without food. Avoid administration of QSYMIA in the evening due to the possibility of insomnia.
- The recommended starting dosage is QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg (phentermine 3.75 mg/topiramate 23 mg) orally once daily for 14 days; after 14 days increase to the recommended dosage of QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg (phentermine 7.5 mg/topiramate 46 mg) orally once daily.
- After 12 weeks of treatment with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg, evaluate weight loss for adults or BMI reduction for pediatric patients aged 12 years and older. If an adult patient has not lost at least 3% of baseline body weight or a pediatric patient has not experienced a reduction of at least 3% of baseline BMI, increase the dosage to QSYMIA 11.25 mg/69 mg (phentermine 11.25 mg/topiramate 69 mg) orally once daily for 14 days; followed by an increase in the dosage to QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg (phentermine 15 mg/topiramate 92 mg) orally once daily.
- After 12 weeks of treatment with QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, evaluate weight loss for adults or BMI reduction for pediatric patients aged 12 years and older. If an adult patient has not lost at least 5% of baseline body weight or a pediatric patient has not experienced a reduction of at least 5% of baseline BMI, discontinue QSYMIA [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*], as it is unlikely that the patient will achieve and sustain clinically meaningful weight loss with continued treatment.
- Monitor the rate of weight loss in pediatric patients. If weight loss exceeds 2 lbs (0.9 kg)/week, consider dosage reduction.

## 2.4 Discontinuation of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg

Discontinue QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg gradually by taking QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg once daily every other day for at least 1 week prior to stopping treatment altogether, due to the possibility of precipitating a seizure [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)* and *Drug Abuse and Dependence (9.3)*].

## 2.5 Recommended Dosage in Patients with Renal Impairment

Avoid use of QSYMIA in patients with end-stage renal disease on dialysis.

In patients with severe (creatinine clearance [CrCl] less than 30 mL/min) or moderate (CrCl greater than or equal to 30 and less than 50 mL/min) renal impairment (CrCl calculated using the Cockcroft-Gault equation with actual body weight), the maximum recommended dosage is QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg once daily.

The recommended dosage in patients with mild (CrCl greater than or equal to 50 and less than 80 mL/min) renal impairment is the same as the recommended dosage for patients with normal renal function [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*, *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*, and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

## 2.6 Recommended Dosage in Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Avoid use of QSYMIA in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score 10 - 15). In patients with moderate hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score 7 - 9), the maximum recommended dosage is QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg once daily.

The recommended dosage of QSYMIA in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh 5 - 6) is the same as the recommended dosage in patients with normal hepatic function [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.7)*, and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

## 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

QSYMIA extended-release capsules are available in four strengths (phentermine mg/topiramate mg):

- 3.75 mg/23 mg - purple cap imprinted with VIVUS and purple body imprinted with 3.75/23
- 7.5 mg/46 mg - purple cap imprinted with VIVUS and yellow body imprinted with 7.5/46
- 11.25 mg/69 mg - yellow cap imprinted with VIVUS and yellow body imprinted with 11.25/69
- 15 mg/92 mg - yellow cap imprinted with VIVUS and white body imprinted with 15/92

## 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

QSYMIA is contraindicated in patients:

- Who are pregnant [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)* and *Use in Specific Populations (8.1)*]
- With glaucoma [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
- With hyperthyroidism
- Taking or within 14 days of stopping a monoamine oxidase inhibitors [see *Drug Interactions (7)*]
- With known hypersensitivity to phentermine, topiramate or other component of QSYMIA, or idiosyncrasy to the sympathomimetic amines [see *Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

## 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### 5.1 Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

QSYMIA can cause fetal harm. Data from a pregnancy registry and epidemiologic studies indicate that a fetus exposed to topiramate in the first trimester of pregnancy has an increased risk of oral clefts (cleft lip with or without cleft palate). A negative pregnancy test is recommended before initiating QSYMIA treatment in patients who can become pregnant and monthly during QSYMIA therapy. Advise patients who can become pregnant of the potential risk to a fetus and to use effective contraception during QSYMIA therapy [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.1,8.3)*].

### QSYMIA Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)

Because of the teratogenic risk associated with QSYMIA therapy, QSYMIA is available through a limited program under the REMS. Under the QSYMIA REMS, only certified pharmacies may distribute QSYMIA. Further information is available at [www.QSYMIAREMS.com](http://www.QSYMIAREMS.com) or by telephone at 1-888-998-4887.

## 5.2 Increase in Heart Rate

QSYMIA can cause an increase in resting heart rate. A higher percentage of QSYMIA-treated adults and pediatric patients aged 12 years and older experienced heart rate increases from baseline of more than 5, 10, 15, and 20 beats per minute (bpm) compared to placebo-treated patients [see *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. The clinical significance of a heart rate elevation with QSYMIA treatment is unclear, especially for patients with cardiac and cerebrovascular disease.

Measure resting heart rate regularly in all patients taking QSYMIA, especially patients with cardiac or cerebrovascular disease and when initiating or increasing the dosage of QSYMIA. QSYMIA has not been studied in patients with recent or unstable cardiac or cerebrovascular disease and therefore use is not recommended.

Advise patients to inform their healthcare provider of palpitations or feelings of a racing heartbeat while at rest during QSYMIA treatment. For patients who experience a sustained increase in resting heart rate while taking QSYMIA, reduce the dosage or discontinue QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*].

## 5.3 Suicidal Behavior and Ideation

Antiepileptic drugs (AEDs), including topiramate, increase the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior in patients taking these drugs for any indication. Pooled analyses of 199 placebo-controlled clinical studies (monotherapy and adjunctive therapy, median treatment duration 12 weeks) of 11 different AEDs across several indications showed that patients randomized to one of the AEDs had approximately twice the risk (adjusted Relative Risk 1.8, 95% CI 1.2, 2.7) of suicidal thinking or behavior compared to patients randomized to placebo. The estimated incidence rate of suicidal behavior or ideation among 27,863 AED-treated patients was 0.43%, compared to 0.24% among 16,029 placebo-treated patients, representing an increase of approximately one case of suicidal thinking or behavior for every 530 patients treated. There were four suicides in AED-treated patients in the trials and none in placebo-treated patients, but the number is too small to allow any conclusion about AED effect on suicide. The increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior with AEDs was observed as early as 1 week after starting drug treatment with AEDs and persisted for the duration of treatment assessed. Because most trials included in the analysis did not extend beyond 24 weeks, the risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior beyond 24 weeks could not be assessed. The risk of suicidal thoughts or behavior was generally consistent among drugs in the data analyzed. The finding of increased risk with AEDs of varying mechanisms of action and across a range of indications suggests that the risk applies to all AEDs used for any indication. The risk did not vary substantially by age in the clinical trials analyzed.

In a QSYMIA clinical trial of pediatric patients aged 12 years and older, 1 (0.6%) of the 167 QSYMIA-treated patients reported suicidal ideation and behavior which required hospitalization. No placebo-treated patients reported suicidal behavior or ideation.

Monitor all patients for the emergence or worsening of depression, suicidal thoughts or behavior, and/or any unusual changes in mood or behavior. Discontinue QSYMIA in patients who experience suicidal thoughts or behaviors [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]. Avoid QSYMIA in patients with a history of suicidal attempts or active suicidal ideation.

## 5.4 Risk of Ophthalmologic Adverse Reactions

### Acute Myopia and Secondary Angle Closure Glaucoma

A syndrome consisting of acute myopia associated with secondary angle closure glaucoma has been reported in patients treated with topiramate. Symptoms include acute onset of decreased visual acuity and/or ocular pain. Ophthalmologic findings can include myopia, mydriasis, anterior chamber shallowing, ocular hyperemia (redness), choroidal detachments, retinal pigment epithelial detachments, macular striae, and increased intraocular pressure. This syndrome may be associated with supraciliary effusion resulting in anterior



displacement of the lens and iris, with secondary angle closure glaucoma. Symptoms typically occur within 1 month of initiating treatment with topiramate but may occur at any time during therapy. In contrast to primary narrow angle glaucoma, which is rare under 40 years of age, secondary angle closure glaucoma associated with topiramate has been reported in pediatric patients as well as adults. The primary treatment to reverse symptoms is discontinuation of QSYMIA as rapidly as possible [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.12\)](#)]. Elevated intraocular pressure of any etiology, if left untreated, can lead to serious adverse reactions including permanent loss of vision.

### Visual Field Defects

Visual field defects (independent of elevated intraocular pressure) have been reported in clinical trials and in postmarketing experience in patients receiving topiramate. In clinical trials, most of these events were reversible after topiramate discontinuation. If visual problems occur at any time during treatment, consider discontinuing QSYMIA.

## **5.5 Mood and Sleep Disorders**

QSYMIA can cause mood disorders, including depression and anxiety, as well as insomnia. Patients with a history of depression may be at increased risk of recurrent depression or other mood disorders while taking QSYMIA [see [Adverse Reactions \(6.1\)](#)].

Consider dosage reduction or discontinuation of QSYMIA if clinically significant or persistent symptoms occur. Discontinue QSYMIA if patients have symptoms of suicidal ideation or behavior [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.3\)](#)].

## **5.6 Cognitive Impairment**

QSYMIA can cause cognitive dysfunction (e.g., impairment of concentration/attention, difficulty with memory, and speech or language problems, particularly word-finding difficulties). Rapid titration or high initial doses of QSYMIA may be associated with higher rates of cognitive events such as attention, memory, and language/word-finding difficulties [see [Adverse Reactions \(6.1\)](#)]. The concomitant use of alcohol or central nervous system (CNS) depressant drugs with QSYMIA may potentiate CNS depression or other centrally mediated effects of these agents, such as dizziness, cognitive adverse reactions, drowsiness, light-headedness, impaired coordination, and somnolence.

Caution patients about operating hazardous machinery, including automobiles, until they are reasonably certain QSYMIA therapy does not affect them adversely. Caution patients against excessive alcohol intake while receiving QSYMIA.

If cognitive dysfunction persists, consider dosage reduction or discontinuation of QSYMIA [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.12\)](#)].

## **5.7 Slowing of Linear Growth**

QSYMIA is associated with a reduction in height velocity (centimeters of height gained per year) in obese pediatric patients 12 to 17 years of age. In a 56-week study, average height increased from baseline in both QSYMIA- and placebo-treated patients; however, a lower height velocity of -1.3 to -1.4 cm/year was observed in QSYMIA-treated compared to placebo-treated patients. Monitor height velocity in pediatric patients treated with QSYMIA. Consider dosage reduction or discontinuation of QSYMIA if pediatric patients are not growing or gaining height as expected [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.12\)](#)].

## **5.8 Metabolic Acidosis**

Hyperchloremic, non-anion gap, metabolic acidosis (decreased serum bicarbonate below the normal reference range in the absence of chronic respiratory alkalosis) has been reported in patients treated with QSYMIA [see



*Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. Manifestations of acute or chronic metabolic acidosis may include hyperventilation, nonspecific symptoms such as fatigue and anorexia, or more severe sequelae including cardiac arrhythmias or stupor. Chronic, untreated metabolic acidosis may increase the risk for nephrolithiasis or nephrocalcinosis and may also result in osteomalacia (referred to as rickets in pediatric patients) and/or osteoporosis with an increased risk for fractures. Chronic metabolic acidosis in pediatric patients may also reduce growth rates, which may decrease the maximal height achieved.

Conditions or therapies that predispose to acidosis (i.e., renal disease, severe respiratory disorders, status epilepticus, diarrhea, surgery, or ketogenic diet) may be additive to the bicarbonate lowering effects of QSYMIA. Concomitant use of QSYMIA and a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor may increase the severity of metabolic acidosis and may also increase the risk of kidney stone formation [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.13)*]. Avoid use of QSYMIA with other carbonic anhydrase inhibitors. If concomitant use of QSYMIA with another carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is unavoidable, the patient should be monitored for the appearance or worsening of metabolic acidosis.

Measure electrolytes including serum bicarbonate prior to starting QSYMIA and during QSYMIA treatment. In QSYMIA clinical trials, the peak reduction in serum bicarbonate typically occurred within 4 weeks of titration to the assigned dose, and in most patients there was a correction of bicarbonate by week 56, without any dosage reduction. However, if persistent metabolic acidosis develops while taking QSYMIA, reduce the dosage or discontinue QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*].

## **5.9 Decrease in Renal Function**

QSYMIA can cause an increase in serum creatinine that reflects a decrease in renal function (glomerular filtration rate). In clinical trials, peak increases in serum creatinine were observed after 4 to 8 weeks of treatment. On average, serum creatinine gradually declined but remained elevated over baseline creatinine values. The changes in serum creatinine (and measured GFR) with short-term (4-weeks) QSYMIA treatment appear reversible with treatment discontinuation, but the effect of chronic treatment on renal function is not known.

Measure serum creatinine prior to starting QSYMIA and during QSYMIA treatment. If persistent elevations in creatinine occur, reduce the dosage or discontinue QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*, *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*, *Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)*].

## **5.10 Risk of Hypoglycemia in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus on Antidiabetic Therapy**

Weight loss may increase the risk of hypoglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus treated with insulin and/or insulin secretagogues (e.g., sulfonylureas). QSYMIA has not been studied in combination with insulin. Measure blood glucose levels prior to starting QSYMIA and during QSYMIA treatment in patients with type 2 diabetes on antidiabetic medication. The risk of hypoglycemia may be lowered by a reduction of the dosage of insulin and/or insulin secretagogues. If a patient develops hypoglycemia after starting QSYMIA, appropriate changes should be made to the antidiabetic drug regimen.

## **5.11 Risk of Hypotension in Patients Treated with Antihypertensive Medications**

In hypertensive patients being treated with antihypertensive medications, weight loss may increase the risk of hypotension and associated symptoms including dizziness, lightheadedness, and syncope. Measure blood pressure prior to starting QSYMIA and during QSYMIA treatment in patients being treated for hypertension. If a patient develops symptoms associated with low blood pressure after starting QSYMIA, appropriate changes should be made to the antihypertensive drug regimen.

## **5.12 Risk of Seizures with Abrupt Withdrawal of QSYMIA**

Abrupt withdrawal of topiramate has been associated with seizures in individuals without a history of seizures or epilepsy. In situations where immediate termination of QSYMIA is medically required, appropriate

monitoring is recommended. Patients discontinuing QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg should be gradually tapered to reduce the possibility of precipitating a seizure [see [Dosage and Administration \(2.4\)](#) and [Drug Abuse and Dependence \(9.3\)](#)].

### 5.13 Kidney Stones

QSYMIA has been associated with kidney stone formation [see [Adverse Reactions \(6.1\)](#)]. Topiramate inhibits carbonic anhydrase activity and promotes kidney stone formation by reducing urinary citrate excretion and increasing urine pH. Patients on a ketogenic diet may be at increased risk for kidney stone formation. An increase in urinary calcium and a marked decrease in urinary citrate was observed in topiramate-treated pediatric patients in a one-year, active-controlled study. Increased ratio of urinary calcium/citrate increases the risk of kidney stones and/or nephrocalcinosis.

Avoid the use of QSYMIA with other drugs that inhibit carbonic anhydrase [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)]. Advise patients to increase fluid intake (to increase urinary output), which may decrease the concentration of substances involved in kidney stone formation.

### 5.14 Oligohidrosis and Hyperthermia

Oligohidrosis (decreased sweating), infrequently resulting in hospitalization, has been reported in association with the use of topiramate. Decreased sweating and an elevation in body temperature above normal characterized these cases. Some of the cases have been reported with topiramate after exposure to elevated environmental temperatures.

The majority of the reports associated with topiramate have been in pediatric patients. Advise all patients and caregivers to monitor for decreased sweating and increased body temperature during physical activity, especially in hot weather. Patients on concomitant medications that predispose them to heat-related disorders may be at increased risk.

### 5.15 Hypokalemia

QSYMIA can increase the risk of hypokalemia through its inhibition of carbonic anhydrase activity. In addition, when QSYMIA is used in conjunction with non-potassium sparing diuretics this may further potentiate potassium-wasting. Measure potassium before and during treatment with QSYMIA. [see [Adverse Reactions \(6.1\)](#), [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#), and [Clinical Pharmacology \(12.3\)](#)].

### 5.16 Serious Skin Reactions

Serious skin reactions (Stevens-Johnson Syndrome [SJS] and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis [TEN]) have been reported in patients receiving topiramate. QSYMIA should be discontinued at the first sign of a rash, unless the rash is clearly not drug-related. If signs or symptoms suggest SJS/TEN, use of this drug should not be resumed and alternative therapy should be considered. Inform patients about the signs of serious skin reactions.

### 5.17 Allergic Reactions Due to Inactive Ingredient FD&C Yellow No. 5

This product contains FD&C Yellow No. 5 (tartrazine) which may cause allergic-type reactions (including bronchial asthma) in certain susceptible persons. Although the overall incidence of FD&C Yellow No. 5 (tartrazine) sensitivity in the general population is low, it is frequently seen in patients who also have aspirin hypersensitivity.

## 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

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

- Embryo-Fetal Toxicity [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.1\)](#) and [Use in Specific Populations \(8.1, 8.6\)](#)]
- Increase in Heart Rate [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.2\)](#)]

- Suicidal Behavior and Ideation [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]
- Risk of Ophthalmologic Adverse Reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*]
- Mood and Sleep Disorders [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]
- Cognitive Impairment [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*]
- Slowing of Linear Growth [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]
- Metabolic Acidosis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*]
- Decrease in Renal Function [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.9)*]
- Risk of Seizures with Abrupt Withdrawal of QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*]
- Kidney Stones [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.13)*]
- Oligohydrosis and Hyperthermia [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.14)*]
- Hypokalemia [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.15)*]
- Serious Skin Reactions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.16)*]

## 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 studies of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The data described herein reflects exposure to QSYMIA in two 1-year, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter clinical trials and two supportive trials in 2318 adult patients with overweight or obesity (936 [40%] patients with hypertension, 309 [13%] patients with type 2 diabetes, 808 [35%] patients with BMI greater than 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) exposed for a mean duration of 298 days. Data in this section also describe adverse reactions from a 1-year, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled multicenter clinical trial that evaluated 223 pediatric patients (12 to 17 years old) with obesity [see *Clinical Studies (14)*].

### Adults

Adverse reactions occurring at greater than or equal to 5% and at least 1.5 times placebo in adults include paraesthesia, dizziness, dysgeusia, insomnia, constipation, and dry mouth.

Adverse reactions reported in greater than or equal to 2% of QSYMIA-treated adults and more frequently than in the placebo group are shown in [Table 3](#).

**Table 3. Adverse Reactions Reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of QSYMIA-Treated Adults with Overweight or Obesity and More Frequently than Placebo in Overall Study Population of 1 Year Duration**

| <b>Preferred Term</b>             | <b>Placebo<br/>(N = 1561)<br/>%</b> | <b>QSYMIA<br/>3.75 mg/23 mg<br/>(N = 240)<br/>%</b> | <b>QSYMIA<br/>7.5 mg/46 mg<br/>(N = 498)<br/>%</b> | <b>QSYMIA<br/>15 mg/92 mg<br/>(N = 1580)<br/>%</b> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Paraesthesia                      | 2                                   | 4   | 14   | 20   |
| Dry Mouth                         | 3                                   | 7   | 14   | 19   |
| Constipation                      | 6                                   | 8   | 15   | 16   |
| Upper Respiratory Tract Infection | 13                                  | 16  | 12   | 14   |
| Headache                          | 9                                   | 10  | 7  | 11   |
| Dysgeusia                         | 1                                   | 1   | 7  | 9  |
| Insomnia                          | 5                                   | 5   | 6  | 9  |
| Nasopharyngitis                   | 8                                   | 13  | 11   | 9  |
| Dizziness                         | 3                                   | 3   | 7  | 9  |
| Sinusitis                         | 6                                   | 8   | 7  | 8  |
| Nausea                            | 4                                   | 6   | 4  | 7  |
| Back Pain                         | 5                                   | 5   | 6  | 7  |
| Fatigue                           | 4                                   | 5   | 4  | 6  |
| Diarrhea                          | 5                                   | 5   | 6  | 6  |
| Vision Blurred                    | 4                                   | 6   | 4  | 5  |
| Bronchitis                        | 4                                   | 7   | 4  | 5  |
| Urinary Tract Infection           | 4                                   | 3   | 5  | 5  |
| Cough                             | 4                                   | 3   | 4  | 5  |
| Influenza                         | 4                                   | 8   | 5  | 4  |
| Depression                        | 2                                   | 3   | 3  | 4  |
| Anxiety                           | 2                                   | 3   | 2  | 4  |
| Hypoesthesia                      | 1                                   | 1   | 4  | 4  |
| Irritability                      | 1                                   | 2   | 3  | 4  |
| Alopecia                          | 1                                   | 2   | 3  | 4  |
| Disturbance in Attention          | 1                                   | 0   | 2  | 4  |
| Pain in Extremity                 | 3                                   | 2   | 3  | 3  |
| Muscle Spasms                     | 2                                   | 3   | 3  | 3  |
| Dyspepsia                         | 2                                   | 2   | 2  | 3  |
| Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease   | 1                                   | 1   | 3  | 3  |
| Rash                              | 2                                   | 2   | 2  | 3  |
| Hypokalemia                       | 0                                   | 0   | 1  | 3  |
| Dry Eye                           | 1                                   | 1   | 1  | 3  |
| Gastroenteritis                   | 2                                   | 1   | 2  | 3  |
| Pharyngolaryngeal Pain            | 2                                   | 3   | 1  | 2  |
| Paraesthesia Oral                 | 0                                   | 0   | 1  | 2  |
| Eye Pain                          | 1                                   | 2   | 2  | 2  |
| Nasal Congestion                  | 1                                   | 2   | 1  | 2  |
| Thirst                            | 1                                   | 2   | 2  | 2  |
| Sinus Congestion                  | 2                                   | 3   | 3  | 2  |
| Procedural Pain                   | 2                                   | 2   | 2  | 2  |
| Palpitations                      | 1                                   | 1   | 2  | 2  |
| Musculoskeletal Pain              | 1                                   | 1   | 3  | 2  |
| Decreased Appetite                | 1                                   | 2   | 2  | 2  |
| Neck Pain                         | 1                                   | 1   | 2  | 1  |
| Dysmenorrhea                      | 0                                   | 2   | 0  | 1  |
| Chest Discomfort                  | 0                                   | 2   | 0  | 1  |

## Pediatric Patients Aged 12 Years and Older

Adverse reactions occurring in pediatric patients treated with either QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg or QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg at greater than or equal to 4% and higher than placebo include depression, pyrexia, dizziness, arthralgia, influenza, and ligament sprain.

Adverse reactions reported in greater than or equal to 2% of QSYMIA-treated pediatric patients and more frequently than in the placebo group from a study in pediatric patients aged 12 years and older are shown in [Table 4](#).

**Table 4. Adverse Reactions Reported in  $\geq 2\%$  of QSYMIA-Treated Pediatric Patients Aged 12 to 17 Years and More Frequently than Placebo during 56 Weeks of Treatment**

| Preferred Term             | Placebo<br>(N = 56)<br>% | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg<br>(N = 54)<br>% | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg<br>(N = 113)<br>% |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Depression                 | 0                        | 2                                       | 4                                       |
| Nausea                     | 4                        | 4                                       | 4                                       |
| Pyrexia                    | 2                        | 2                                       | 4                                       |
| Dizziness                  | 0                        | 2                                       | 4                                       |
| Arthralgia                 | 0                        | 2                                       | 4                                       |
| Paraesthesia               | 0                        | 2                                       | 3                                       |
| Anxiety                    | 0                        | 2                                       | 3                                       |
| Abdominal Pain Upper       | 0                        | 0                                       | 3                                       |
| Fatigue                    | 2                        | 0                                       | 3                                       |
| Ear Infection              | 0                        | 2                                       | 3                                       |
| Musculoskeletal Chest Pain | 0                        | 0                                       | 3                                       |
| Influenza                  | 0                        | 4                                       | 2                                       |
| Ligament Sprain            | 0                        | 4                                       | 2                                       |

## Increase in Heart Rate

In adult and pediatric clinical trials, there was a higher incidence of heart rate elevations observed in QSYMIA-treated compared to placebo-treated patients.

[Table 5](#) and [Table 6](#) provide the numbers and percentages of adult and pediatric patients, respectively, with elevations in heart rate in clinical studies of up to one year.

**Table 5. Number and Percentage of Adults with Overweight or Obesity with an Increase in Heart Rate at a Single Time Point from Baseline**

|                     | Placebo<br>N=1561<br>n (%) | QSYMIA<br>3.75 mg/23 mg<br>N=240<br>n (%) | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg<br>N=498<br>n (%) | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg<br>N=1580<br>n (%) |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Greater than 5 bpm  | 1021 (65.4)                | 168 (70.0)                                | 372 (74.7)                               | 1228 (77.7)                              |
| Greater than 10 bpm | 657 (42.1)                 | 120 (50.0)                                | 251 (50.4)                               | 887 (56.1)                               |
| Greater than 15 bpm | 410 (26.3)                 | 79 (32.9)                                 | 165 (33.1)                               | 590 (37.3)                               |
| Greater than 20 bpm | 186 (11.9)                 | 36 (15.0)                                 | 67 (13.5)                                | 309 (19.6)                               |

**Table 6. Number and Percentage of Pediatric Patients with an Increase in Heart Rate at a Single Time Point from Baseline**

|                     | <b>Placebo<br/>N=56<br/>n (%)</b> | <b>QSYMIA<br/>7.5 mg/46 mg<br/>N=54<br/>n (%)</b> | <b>QSYMIA<br/>15 mg/92 mg<br/>N=113<br/>n (%)</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Greater than 5 bpm  | 37 (66.1)                         | 38 (70.4)   | 92 (81.4)   |
| Greater than 10 bpm | 26 (46.4)                         | 30 (55.6)   | 73 (64.6)   |
| Greater than 15 bpm | 17 (30.4)                         | 18 (33.3)   | 48 (42.5)   |
| Greater than 20 bpm | 10 (17.9)                         | 10 (18.5)   | 27 (23.9)   |

### Paraesthesia/Dysgeusia

In adult clinical trials, reports of paraesthesia, characterized as tingling in hands, feet, or face, and dysgeusia, characterized as a metallic taste, occurred (see [Table 3](#)). Adverse reactions of paraesthesia were also reported in pediatric patients (see [Table 4](#)). QSYMIA-treated adult patients discontinued treatment due to these adverse reactions (1% for paraesthesia and 0.6% for dysgeusia); no pediatric patients discontinued treatment due to paraesthesia or dysgeusia.

### Mood and Sleep Disorders

The proportion of adult patients in 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA reporting one or more adverse reactions related to mood and sleep disorders was 15% and 21% with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 15 mg/92 mg, respectively, compared to 10% with placebo. These events were further categorized into sleep disorders, anxiety, and depression. Reports of sleep disorders were typically characterized as insomnia and occurred in 8.1% and 11% of patients treated with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 15 mg/92 mg, respectively, compared to 5.8% of patients treated with placebo. Reports of anxiety occurred in 4.8% and 7.9% of patients treated with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 15 mg/92 mg, respectively, compared to 2.6% of patients treated with placebo. Reports of depression/mood problems occurred in 3.8% and 7.6% of patients treated with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 15 mg/92 mg, respectively, compared to 3.4% of patients treated with placebo. Mood and sleep disorder adverse reactions occurred in patients with and without a history of depression.

In a pediatric clinical trial, higher proportions of QSYMIA-treated patients reported one or more adverse reactions related to mood (e.g., depression, anxiety) and sleep disorders (e.g., insomnia) compared to placebo-treated patients (See [Table 4](#)).

### Cognitive Disorders

In the 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA in adults, the proportion of patients who experienced one or more cognitive-related adverse reactions was 5.0% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 7.6% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 1.5% for placebo. These adverse reactions were comprised primarily of reports of problems with attention/concentration, memory, and language (word-finding). These events occurred at any time during treatment with QSYMIA.

### Slowing of Linear Growth

QSYMIA is associated with a reduction in height velocity (centimeters of height gained per year) in obese pediatric patients 12 to 17 years of age. In a 56-week study, average height increased from baseline in both QSYMIA- and placebo-treated patients; however, a lower height velocity of -1.3 to -1.4 cm/year was observed in QSYMIA-treated compared to placebo-treated patients

### Decrease in Bone Mineral Density



QSYMIA is associated with less bone mineral acquisition in pediatric patients 12 to 17 years of age. In a substudy (n=66) evaluating bone mineralization via dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA), increases in bone mineral density (BMD) at the lumbar spine and total body less head (TBLH) were smaller in pediatric patients treated with QSYMIA compared to those treated with placebo after 1 year of treatment. Declines in BMD Z-scores of -0.5 or greater from baseline for TBLH were observed in 9% of QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg-treated patients and 30% of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg-treated patients, compared to 0% of placebo-treated patients. The sample size and study duration were too small to determine if fracture risk is increased. Decreased BMD was not correlated with decreased serum bicarbonate, which commonly occurs with QSYMIA treatment, or changes in body weight. No patient had a BMD Z-score that went below -2.0 during the trial. Similar findings were observed in a 1 year, active-controlled trial of topiramate in pediatric patients with another condition.

### Nephrolithiasis

In the 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA in adults, the incidence of nephrolithiasis was 0.2% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 1.2% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 0.3% for placebo.

### Laboratory Abnormalities

#### *Serum Bicarbonate*

In the 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA in adults, the incidence of persistent decreases in serum bicarbonate below the normal range (levels of less than 21 mEq/L at 2 consecutive visits or at the final visit) was 6.4% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 12.8% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 2.1% for placebo. The incidence of persistent, markedly low serum bicarbonate values (levels of less than 17 mEq/L on 2 consecutive visits or at the final visit) was 0.2% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg dose and 0.7% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg dose, compared to 0.1% for placebo. In a pediatric clinical trial, 60 to 70% QSYMIA-treated patients had a persistent bicarbonate level below the normal range (<21 mEq/L) compared to 43% of placebo-treated patients.

#### *Serum Potassium*

In the 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA in adults, the incidence of persistent low serum potassium values (less than 3.5 mEq/L at two consecutive visits or at the final visit) during the trial was 3.6% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg dose and 4.9% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 1.1% for placebo. Of the subjects who experienced persistent low serum potassium, 88% were receiving treatment with a non-potassium sparing diuretic.

The incidence of markedly low serum potassium (less than 3 mEq/L, and a reduction from pre-treatment of greater than 0.5 mEq/L) at any time during the trial was 0.2% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg dose and 0.7% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg dose, compared to 0.0% for placebo. Persistent markedly low serum potassium (less than 3 mEq/L, and a reduction from pre-treatment of greater than 0.5 mEq/L at two consecutive visits or at the final visit) occurred in 0.2% receiving QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg dose and 0.1% receiving QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg dose, compared to 0.0% receiving placebo.

Low serum potassium levels (<3.5 mEq/L) were not observed in a 56-week clinical trial of pediatric patients with obesity.

#### *Serum Creatinine*

In the 1-year controlled trials of QSYMIA in adults and pediatric patients, there was an increase in serum creatinine from baseline, peaking between Week 4 to 8 in adults and at Week 16 in pediatric patients. Serum creatinine values declined but remained elevated over baseline over 1 year of treatment. The incidence of increases in serum creatinine of greater than or equal to 0.3 mg/dL at any time during treatment in adults was 7.2% for QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 8.4% for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 2.0% for placebo; 17% of pediatric patients treated with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg or QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg and 0% of patients treated

with placebo had a serum creatinine  $\geq 0.3$  mg/dL at any time post-randomization. Increases in serum creatinine of greater than or equal to 50% over baseline occurred in 2.0% of adult subjects receiving QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and 2.8% receiving QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, compared to 0.6% receiving placebo.

### *Serum Ammonia*

Hyperammonemia with or without encephalopathy has been reported with topiramate. The risk for hyperammonemia with topiramate appears dose related and has been reported more frequently when concomitantly used with valproic acid [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)].

The incidence of hyperammonemia in pediatric patients 12 to 17 years of age in clinical trials of another condition was 26% in patients taking topiramate at 100 mg/day (1.1 times the maximum recommended dosage of QSYMIA) and 14% in patients taking topiramate at 50 mg/day (0.6 times the maximum recommended dosage of QSYMIA), compared to 9% in patients taking placebo. There was also an increased incidence of markedly increased hyperammonemia (defined as 50% above the upper limit of normal reference range) at the 100 mg dose.

## **6.2 Postmarketing Experience**

The following adverse reactions have been reported during post approval use of QSYMIA, phentermine, and topiramate. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

### QSYMIA

*Psychiatric:* suicidal ideation, suicidal behavior

*Ophthalmic:* acute angle closure glaucoma, increased intraocular pressure

### Phentermine

*Allergic Reactions:* urticaria

*Cardiovascular:* elevation of blood pressure, ischemic events

*Central Nervous System:* euphoria, psychosis, tremor

*Reproductive:* changes in libido, impotence

### Topiramate

*Dermatologic:* bullous skin reactions (including erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis), pemphigus

*Gastrointestinal:* pancreatitis

*Hepatic:* hepatic failure (including fatalities), hepatitis

*Metabolic:* hyperammonemia with or without encephalopathy has been reported with concomitant valproic acid [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)], hypothermia

*Ophthalmic:* maculopathy

## **7 DRUG INTERACTIONS**

[Table 7](#) displays clinically significant drug interactions with QSYMIA.

**Table 7. Clinically Significant Drug Interactions with QSYMIA**

| <b>Monamine Oxidase Inhibitors</b>       |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>                   | Concomitant use of phentermine with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) increases the risk of hypertensive crisis.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                      | Concomitant use of QSYMIA is contraindicated during MAOI treatment and within 14 days of stopping an MAOI.  |
| <b>Oral Contraceptives</b>               |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>                   | Co-administration of multiple-dose QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg once daily with a single dose of oral contraceptive containing 35 µg ethinyl estradiol (estrogen component) and 1 mg norethindrone (progestin component), in obese otherwise healthy volunteers, decreased the exposure of ethinyl estradiol by 16% and increased the exposure of norethindrone by 22% [see <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ]. Although this interaction is not anticipated to increase the risk of pregnancy, irregular bleeding (spotting) may occur more frequently due to both the increased exposure to the progestin and lower exposure to the estrogen, which tends to stabilize the endometrium. |
| <i>Intervention</i>                      | Inform patients not to discontinue their combination oral contraceptive if spotting occurs, but to notify their healthcare provider if the spotting is troubling to them.   |
| <b>CNS Depressants Including Alcohol</b> |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>                   | The concomitant use of alcohol or CNS depressant drugs (e.g., barbiturates, benzodiazepines, and sleep medications) with phentermine or topiramate may potentiate CNS depression such as dizziness or cognitive adverse reactions, or other centrally mediated effects of these agents.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                      | Advise patients not to drive or operate machinery until they have gained sufficient experience on QSYMIA to gauge whether it adversely affects their mental performance, motor performance, and/or vision. Caution patients against excessive alcohol intake when taking QSYMIA. Consider QSYMIA dosage reduction or discontinuation if cognitive dysfunction persists. [see <a href="#">Warnings and Precautions (5.6)</a> ].  |
| <b>Non-Potassium Sparing Diuretics</b>   |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>                   | Concurrent use of QSYMIA with non-potassium sparing diuretics may potentiate the potassium-wasting action of these diuretics. Concomitant administration of hydrochlorothiazide alone with topiramate alone has been shown to increase the C <sub>max</sub> and AUC of topiramate by 27% and 29%, respectively.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                      | When QSYMIA is used concomitantly with non-potassium-sparing diuretics, measure potassium before and during QSYMIA treatment[see <a href="#">Warnings and Precautions (5.15)</a> and <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ].  |
| <b>Antiepileptic Drugs</b>               |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>                   | Concomitant administration of phenytoin or carbamazepine with topiramate in patients with epilepsy, decreased plasma concentrations of topiramate by 48% and 40%, respectively, when compared to topiramate given alone [see <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ]. Concomitant administration of valproic acid and topiramate has been associated with hyperammonemia with and without encephalopathy. Concomitant administration of topiramate with valproic acid in patients has also been associated with hypothermia (with and without hyperammonemia).   |

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Intervention</i>                  | Consider measuring blood ammonia in patients in whom the onset of hypothermia or encephalopathy has been reported [see <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ].  |
| <b>Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors</b> |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>               | Concomitant use of topiramate with any other carbonic anhydrase inhibitor may increase the severity of metabolic acidosis and may also increase the risk of kidney stone formation.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                  | Avoid the use of QSYMIA with other drugs that inhibit carbonic anhydrase. If concomitant use of QSYMIA with another carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is unavoidable, monitor patient for the appearance or worsening of metabolic acidosis [see <a href="#">Warnings and Precautions (5.8, 5.13)</a> ]. |
| <b>Pioglitazone</b>                  |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>               | A decrease in the exposure of pioglitazone and its active metabolites were noted with the concurrent use of pioglitazone and topiramate in a clinical trial. The clinical relevance of these observations is unknown.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                  | Consider increased glycemic monitoring when using pioglitazone and QSYMIA concomitantly [see <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ].  |
| <b>Amitriptyline</b>                 |   |
| <i>Clinical Impact</i>               | Some patients may experience a large increase in amitriptyline concentration in the presence of topiramate.   |
| <i>Intervention</i>                  | Any adjustments in amitriptyline dose when used with QSYMIA should be made according to the patient's clinical response and not on the basis of amitriptyline levels [see <a href="#">Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)</a> ].   |

## 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

### 8.1 Pregnancy

#### Risk Summary

QSYMIA is contraindicated in pregnant patients. The use of QSYMIA can cause fetal harm and weight loss offers no clear clinical benefit to a pregnant patient (see [Clinical Considerations](#)). Available data from a pregnancy registry and epidemiologic studies indicate an increased risk in oral clefts (cleft lip with or without cleft palate) with first trimester exposure to topiramate, a component of QSYMIA (see [Data](#)). When phentermine and topiramate were co-administered to rats at doses of 3.75 and 25 mg/kg, respectively [approximately 2 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on area under the curve (AUC)], or at the same dose to rabbits (approximately 0.1 times and 1 time, respectively, the clinical exposures at the MRHD based on AUC), there were no drug-related malformations. However, structural malformations, including craniofacial defects and reduced fetal weights occurred in offspring of multiple species of pregnant animals administered topiramate at clinically relevant doses (see [Data](#)). Advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus.

#### Clinical Considerations

##### *Disease Associated Maternal and/or Embryo/Fetal Risk*

Maternal obesity increases the risk for congenital malformations, including neural tube defects, cardiac malformations, oral clefts, and limb reduction defects. In addition, weight loss during pregnancy may result in fetal harm. Appropriate weight gain based on pre-pregnancy weight is currently recommended for all pregnant

patients, including those who are already overweight or obese, due to the obligatory weight gain that occurs in maternal tissues during pregnancy.

### *Fetal/Neonatal Adverse Reactions*

QSYMIA can cause metabolic acidosis [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*]. The effect of topiramate-induced metabolic acidosis has not been studied in pregnancy; however, metabolic acidosis in pregnancy (due to other causes) can cause decreased fetal growth, decreased fetal oxygenation, and fetal death, and may affect the fetus' ability to tolerate labor.

### Data

#### *Human Data*

Data evaluating the risk of major congenital malformations and oral clefts with topiramate (a component of QSYMIA) exposure during pregnancy is available from the North American Antiepileptic Drug (NAAED) Pregnancy Registry and from several larger retrospective epidemiologic studies. The NAAED Pregnancy Registry suggested an estimated increase in risk for oral clefts of 9.60 (95% CI 3.60 - 25.70). Larger retrospective epidemiology studies showed that topiramate monotherapy exposure in pregnancy is associated with an approximately two to five-fold increased risk of oral clefts. The FORTRESS study found an excess risk of 1.5 (95% CI = -1.1 to 4.1) oral cleft cases per 1,000 infants exposed to topiramate during the first trimester.

#### *Animal Data*

##### Phentermine/Topiramate

Embryo-fetal development studies have been conducted in rats and rabbits with combination phentermine and topiramate treatment. Phentermine and topiramate co-administered to rats during the period of organogenesis (gestation day (GD) 6 through 17) caused reduced fetal body weights but did not cause fetal malformations at the maximum dose of 3.75 mg/kg phentermine and 25 mg/kg topiramate [approximately 2 times the maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) based on area under the curve (AUC) estimates for each active ingredient]. In a similar study in rabbits in which the same doses were administered from GD 6 through 18, no effects on embryo-fetal development were observed at approximately 0.1 times (phentermine) and 1 time (topiramate) clinical exposures at the MRHD based on AUC. Significantly lower maternal body weight gain was recorded at these doses in rats and rabbits.

A pre- and post-natal development study was conducted in rats with combination phentermine and topiramate treatment. There were no adverse maternal or offspring effects in rats treated throughout organogenesis and lactation with 1.5 mg/kg/day phentermine and 10 mg/kg/day topiramate (approximately 2- and 3-times clinical exposures at the MRHD, respectively, based on AUC). Treatment with higher doses of 11.25 mg/kg/day phentermine and 75 mg/kg/day topiramate (approximately 5 and 6 times maximum clinical doses based on AUC, respectively) caused reduced maternal body weight gain and offspring toxicity. Offspring effects included lower pup survival after birth, increased limb and tail malformations, reduced pup body weight and delayed growth, development, and sexual maturation without affecting learning, memory, or fertility and reproduction. The limb and tail malformations were consistent with results of animal studies conducted with topiramate alone.

##### Phentermine

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with phentermine. Limited data from studies conducted with the phentermine/topiramate combination indicate that phentermine alone was not teratogenic but resulted in lower body weight and reduced survival of offspring in rats at 5-fold the MRHD of QSYMIA, based on AUC.

## Topiramate

Topiramate causes developmental toxicity, including teratogenicity, at clinically relevant doses in multiple animal species.

Developmental toxicity, including teratogenicity, occurred at clinically relevant doses in multiple animal species in which topiramate was administered during the period of organogenesis (GD 6 – 15 in rodents, GD 6 – 18 in rabbits). In these studies, fetal malformations (primarily craniofacial defects such as cleft palate), limb malformations (ectrodactyly, micromelia, and amelia), rib/vertebral column anomalies, and/or reduced fetal weights were observed at dosages  $\geq 20$  mg/kg in mice (approximately 2 times the MRHD of topiramate in QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis), 20 mg/kg in rats (2 times the MRHD of QSYMIA based on estimated AUC), and 35 mg/kg in rabbits (2 times the MRHD based on estimated AUC). When rats were administered topiramate from GD 15 through lactation day 20, reductions in pre- and/or post-weaning weights occurred at dosages  $\geq 2$  mg/kg (2 times the MRHD of QSYMIA based on estimated AUC).

## 8.2 Lactation

### Risk Summary

Topiramate and phentermine, components of QSYMIA, are present in human milk. There are no data on the effects of topiramate and phentermine on milk production. Diarrhea and somnolence have been reported in breastfed infants with maternal use of topiramate. There are no data on the effects of phentermine in breastfed infants. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions, including changes in sleep, irritability, hypertension, vomiting, tremor, and weight loss in breastfed infants with maternal use of phentermine, advise patients that breastfeeding is not recommended during QSYMIA therapy.

## 8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

### Pregnancy Testing

Pregnancy testing is recommended in patients who can become pregnant before initiating QSYMIA and monthly during QSYMIA therapy [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.1\)](#), [Use in Specific Populations \(8.1\)](#)].

### Contraception

#### *Females*

QSYMIA can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant patient [see [Use in Specific Populations \(8.1\)](#)]. Advise patients who can become pregnant to use effective contraception during therapy with QSYMIA.

For patients taking combined oral contraceptives (COCs), use of QSYMIA may cause irregular bleeding [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)]. Advise patients not to discontinue taking their COC and to contact their healthcare provider.

## 8.4 Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of QSYMIA as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for chronic weight management in pediatric patients aged 12 years and older with a BMI in the 95th percentile or greater standardized for age and sex have been established. Use of QSYMIA for this indication is supported by a 56-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in 223 pediatric patients aged 12 years and above, a pharmacokinetic study in pediatric patients, and studies in adults with obesity [see [Clinical Pharmacology \(12.3\)](#) and [Clinical Studies \(14\)](#)].

In a pediatric clinical trial, there was one episode of serious suicidal ideation in a QSYMIA-treated patient requiring hospitalization and pharmacologic treatment [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.3\)](#)]; more patients treated with QSYMIA versus placebo reported adverse reactions related to mood (e.g., depression, anxiety) and



sleep disorders (e.g., insomnia) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]. Increases in bone mineral density and linear growth were attenuated in QSYMIA- versus placebo-treated patients [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*]. Serious adverse reactions seen in pediatric patients using topiramate include acute angle glaucoma, oligohidrosis and hyperthermia, metabolic acidosis, cognitive and neuropsychiatric reactions, hyperammonemia and encephalopathy, and kidney stones.

The safety and effectiveness of QSYMIA in pediatric patients below the age of 12 years have not been established.

## 8.5 Geriatric Use

In the QSYMIA clinical trials, a total of 254 (7%) of the patients were 65 to 69 years of age; no patients 70 years of age or older were enrolled.

Clinical studies of QSYMIA did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

## 8.6 Renal Impairment

Compared to healthy volunteers with normal renal function, patients with moderate and severe renal impairment as estimated by the Cockcroft-Gault equation had higher exposures to phentermine and topiramate.

The recommended dosage of QSYMIA in patients with mild renal impairment (CrCl greater or equal to 50 and less than 80 mL/min) is the same as the recommended dosage for patients with normal renal function.

In patients with moderate (CrCl greater than or equal to 30 to less than 50 mL/min) and severe (CrCl less than 30 mL/min) renal impairment, the maximum recommended dosage is QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg once daily.

QSYMIA has not been studied in patients with end-stage renal disease on dialysis. Avoid QSYMIA in this patient population [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

## 8.7 Hepatic Impairment

In patients with mild (Child-Pugh 5 - 6) and moderate (Child-Pugh 7 - 9) hepatic impairment, exposure to phentermine was higher compared to healthy volunteers with normal hepatic function. Exposure to topiramate was similar among patients with mild and moderate hepatic impairment and healthy volunteers.

The recommended dosage of QSYMIA in patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh 5 - 6) is the same as the recommended dosage in patients with normal hepatic function.

In patients with moderate hepatic impairment, the maximum recommended dosage is QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg once daily.

QSYMIA has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score 10 - 15). Avoid QSYMIA in this patient population [see *Dosage and Administration (2.6)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

## 9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

### 9.1 Controlled Substance

QSYMIA contains phentermine, a Schedule IV controlled substance, and topiramate, which is not a controlled substance.

## 9.2 Abuse

Phentermine has a known potential for abuse. Abuse is the intentional, non-therapeutic use of a drug, even once, for its desirable psychological or physiological effects.

Phentermine is related chemically and pharmacologically to amphetamines. Amphetamines and other stimulant drugs have been extensively abused. Abuse of amphetamines and related drugs (e.g., phentermine) may be associated with impaired control over drug use and severe social dysfunction. There are reports of patients who have increased the dosage of these drugs to many times higher than recommended. Assess the risk of abuse prior to prescribing QSYMIA as part of a chronic weight management program.

## 9.3 Dependence

Physical dependence may occur in patients treated with QSYMIA. Physical dependence is a state that develops as a result of physiological adaptation in response to repeated drug use, manifested by withdrawal signs and symptoms after abrupt discontinuation or a significant dose reduction of a drug.

The following adverse reactions have been associated with the abrupt discontinuation of the individual components of QSYMIA:

- For topiramate, abrupt discontinuation has been associated with seizures in patients without a history of seizures or epilepsy [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*].
- For phentermine, abrupt discontinuation following prolonged high dosage administration results in extreme fatigue and mental depression; changes are also noted on a sleep electroencephalogram.

Thus, in situations where rapid withdrawal of QSYMIA is required, appropriate medical monitoring is recommended. Patients discontinuing QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg should be gradually tapered to reduce the possibility of precipitating a seizure [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*].

## 10 OVERDOSAGE

In the event of a significant overdose with QSYMIA, if the ingestion is recent, the stomach should be emptied immediately by gastric lavage or by induction of emesis. Appropriate supportive treatment should be provided according to the patient's clinical signs and symptoms.

Acute overdose of phentermine may be associated with restlessness, tremor, hyperreflexia, rapid respiration, confusion, aggressiveness, hallucinations, and panic states. Fatigue and depression usually follow the central stimulation. Cardiovascular effects include arrhythmia, hypertension or hypotension, and circulatory collapse. Gastrointestinal symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Fatal poisoning usually terminates in convulsions and coma. Manifestations of chronic intoxication with anorectic drugs include severe dermatoses, marked insomnia, irritability, hyperactivity, and personality changes. A severe manifestation of chronic intoxication is psychosis, often clinically indistinguishable from schizophrenia.

Management of acute phentermine intoxication is largely symptomatic and includes lavage and sedation with a barbiturate. Acidification of the urine increases phentermine excretion. Intravenous phentolamine has been suggested for possible acute, severe hypertension, if this complicates phentermine overdose.

Topiramate overdose has resulted in severe metabolic acidosis. Other signs and symptoms include convulsions, drowsiness, speech disturbance, blurred vision, diplopia, impaired mentation, lethargy, abnormal coordination, stupor, hypotension, abdominal pain, agitation, dizziness, and depression. The clinical consequences were not severe in most cases, but deaths have been reported after overdoses involving topiramate. A patient who ingested a dose between 96 and 110 gm topiramate was admitted to hospital with coma lasting 20 to 24 hours followed by full recovery after 3 to 4 days.

Hemodialysis is an effective means of removing topiramate from the body.

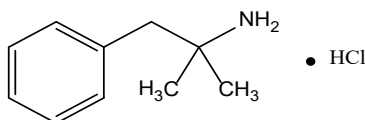
## 11 DESCRIPTION

QSYMIA extended-release capsules are comprised of immediate-release phentermine hydrochloride (expressed as the weight of the free base) and extended-release topiramate. QSYMIA contains phentermine hydrochloride, a sympathomimetic amine anorectic, and topiramate, a sulfamate-substituted monosaccharide.

### Phentermine Hydrochloride

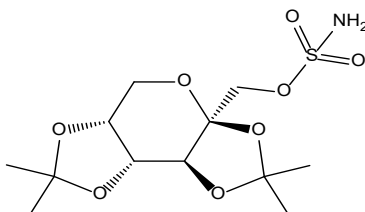
The chemical name of phentermine hydrochloride is  $\alpha,\alpha$ -dimethylphenethylamine hydrochloride. The molecular formula is  $C_{10}H_{15}N \cdot HCl$  and its molecular weight is 185.7 (hydrochloride salt) or 149.2 (free base).

Phentermine hydrochloride is a white, odorless, hygroscopic, crystalline powder that is soluble in water, methanol, and ethanol. Its structural formula is:



### Topiramate

Topiramate is 2,3:4,5-di-O-isopropylidene- $\beta$ -D-fructopyranose sulfamate. The molecular formula is  $C_{12}H_{21}NO_8S$  and its molecular weight is 339.4. Topiramate is a white to off-white crystalline powder with a bitter taste. It is freely soluble in methanol and acetone, sparingly soluble in pH 9 to pH 12 aqueous solutions and slightly soluble in pH 1 to pH 8 aqueous solutions. Its structural formula is:



### QSYMIA

QSYMIA (phentermine and topiramate extended-release capsules) is for oral administration and available in four dosage strengths:

- 3.75 mg/23 mg (phentermine 3.75 mg and topiramate 23 mg) (equivalent to 4.67 mg of Phentermine Hydrochloride USP).
- 7.5 mg/46 mg (phentermine 7.5 mg and topiramate 46 mg) (equivalent to 9.33 mg of Phentermine Hydrochloride USP).
- 11.25 mg/69 mg (phentermine 11.25 mg and topiramate 69 mg) (equivalent to 14.0 mg of Phentermine Hydrochloride USP).
- 15 mg/92 mg (phentermine 15 mg and topiramate 92 mg) (equivalent to 18.66 mg of Phentermine Hydrochloride USP).

Each capsule contains the following inactive ingredients: FD&C Blue #1, FD&C Red #3, FD&C Yellow #5 and #6, ethylcellulose, gelatin, methylcellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone, starch, sucrose, talc, titanium dioxide, and pharmaceutical black and white inks.

## 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### 12.1 Mechanism of Action

Phentermine is a sympathomimetic amine with pharmacologic activity similar to the prototype drugs of this class used in obesity, amphetamine (d- and d/l-amphetamine). Drugs of this class used in obesity are commonly known as "anorectics" or "anorexigenics." The effect of phentermine on chronic weight management is likely mediated by release of catecholamines in the hypothalamus, resulting in reduced appetite and decreased food consumption, but other metabolic effects may also be involved. The exact mechanism of action is not known.

The precise mechanism of action of topiramate on chronic weight management is not known. Topiramate's effect on chronic weight management may be due to its effects on both appetite suppression and satiety enhancement, induced by a combination of pharmacologic effects including augmenting the activity of the neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyrate, modulation of voltage-gated ion channels, inhibition of AMPA/kainite excitatory glutamate receptors, or inhibition of carbonic anhydrase.

### 12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Typical actions of amphetamines include central nervous system stimulation and elevation of blood pressure. Tachyphylaxis and tolerance have been demonstrated with drugs in this class.

#### Cardiac Electrophysiology

The effect of QSYMIA on the QTc interval was evaluated in a randomized, double-blind, placebo- and active-controlled (400 mg moxifloxacin), and parallel group/crossover thorough QT/QTc study. A total of 54 healthy subjects were administered QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg at steady state and then titrated to QSYMIA 22.5 mg/138 mg at steady state. QSYMIA 22.5 mg/138 mg [a supra-therapeutic dose resulting in a phentermine and topiramate maximum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of 4- and 3- times higher than those at QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg, respectively] did not affect cardiac repolarization as measured by the change from baseline in QTc.

#### Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)

Healthy obese men and women received QSYMIA daily for 4 weeks (3.75 mg/23 mg on Days 1 to 3, 7.5 mg/46 mg on Days 4 to 6, 11.25 mg/69 mg on Days 7 to 9, and 15 mg/92 mg on Days 10 to 28). The glomerular filtration rate (GFR) of these participants was assessed via iohexol clearance. On average, GFR decreased during QSYMIA treatment and returned to baseline within 4 weeks after discontinuing QSYMIA [see [Warnings and Precautions \(5.9\)](#)]

### 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

#### Absorption

##### *Phentermine*

Upon oral administration of a single QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, the resulting mean plasma phentermine maximum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ), time to  $C_{max}$  ( $T_{max}$ ), area under the concentration curve from time zero to the last time with measurable concentration ( $AUC_{0-t}$ ), and area under the concentration curve from time zero to infinity ( $AUC_{0-\infty}$ ) are 49.1 ng/mL, 6 hr, 1990 ng·hr/mL, and 2000 ng·hr/mL, respectively. A high fat meal does not affect phentermine pharmacokinetics for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg. Phentermine pharmacokinetics are approximately dose-proportional from QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg to phentermine 15 mg/topiramate 100 mg. Upon dosing phentermine 15 mg/topiramate 100 mg fixed dose combination capsule to steady state, the mean phentermine accumulation ratios for AUC and  $C_{max}$  are both approximately 2.5.

## *Topiramate*

Upon oral administration of a single QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, the resulting mean plasma topiramate  $C_{\max}$ ,  $T_{\max}$ ,  $AUC_{0-t}$ , and  $AUC_{0-\infty}$ , are 1020 ng/mL, 9 hr, 61600 ng·hr/mL, and 68000 ng·hr/mL, respectively. A high fat meal does not affect topiramate pharmacokinetics for QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg. Topiramate pharmacokinetics are approximately dose-proportional from QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg to phentermine 15 mg/topiramate 100 mg. Upon dosing phentermine 15 mg/topiramate 100 mg fixed dose combination capsule to steady state, the mean topiramate accumulation ratios for AUC and  $C_{\max}$  are both approximately 4.0.

## Distribution

### *Phentermine*

Phentermine is 17.5% plasma protein bound. The estimated phentermine apparent volume of distribution ( $V_d/F$ ) is 348 L via population pharmacokinetic analysis.

### *Topiramate*

Topiramate is 15 - 41% plasma protein bound over the blood concentration range of 0.5 to 250  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . The fraction bound decreased as blood topiramate increased. The estimated topiramate  $V_c/F$  (volume of the central compartment), and  $V_p/F$  (volume of the peripheral compartment) are 50.8 L, and 13.1 L, respectively, via population pharmacokinetic analysis.

## Elimination

### *Metabolism and Excretion*

#### *Phentermine*

Phentermine has two metabolic pathways, namely p-hydroxylation on the aromatic ring and N-oxidation on the aliphatic side chain. Cytochrome P450 (CYP) 3A4 primarily metabolizes phentermine but does not show extensive metabolism. Monoamine oxidase (MAO)-A and MAO-B do not metabolize phentermine. Seventy to 80% of a dose exists as unchanged phentermine in urine when administered alone. The mean phentermine terminal half-life is about 20 hours. The estimated phentermine oral clearance ( $CL/F$ ) is 8.79 L/h via population pharmacokinetic analysis.

#### *Topiramate*

Topiramate does not show extensive metabolism. Six topiramate metabolites (via hydroxylation, hydrolysis, and glucuronidation) exist, none of which constitutes more than 5% of an administered dose. About 70% of a dose exists as unchanged topiramate in urine when administered alone. The mean topiramate terminal half-life is about 65 hours. The estimated topiramate  $CL/F$  is 1.17 L/h via population pharmacokinetic analysis.

## Specific Populations

### *Patients with Renal Impairment*

A single-dose, open-label study was conducted to evaluate the pharmacokinetics of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg in adult patients with varying degrees of chronic renal impairment compared to healthy volunteers with normal renal function. The study included patients with renal impairment classified on the basis of creatinine clearance as mild (greater or equal to 50 and less than 80 mL/min), moderate (greater than or equal to 30 and less than 50 mL/min), and severe (less than 30 mL/min). Creatinine clearance was estimated from serum creatinine based on the Cockcroft-Gault equation.

Compared to healthy volunteers, phentermine  $AUC_{0-\infty}$  was 91%, 45%, and 22% higher in patients with severe, moderate, and mild renal impairment, respectively; phentermine  $C_{\max}$  was 2% to 15% higher. Compared to

healthy volunteers, topiramate AUC<sub>0-inf</sub> was 126%, 85%, and 25% higher for patients with severe, moderate, and mild renal impairment, respectively; topiramate C<sub>max</sub> was 6% to 17% higher. An inverse relationship between phentermine or topiramate C<sub>max</sub> or AUC and creatinine clearance was observed.

QSYMIA has not been studied in patients with end-stage renal disease on dialysis [see *Dosage and Administration (2.5)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)*].

#### *Patients with Hepatic Impairment*

A single-dose, open-label study was conducted to evaluate the pharmacokinetics of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg in healthy volunteers with normal hepatic function compared with patients with mild (Child-Pugh score 5 - 6) and moderate (Child-Pugh score 7 - 9) hepatic impairment. In patients with mild and moderate hepatic impairment, phentermine AUC was 37% and 60% higher compared to healthy volunteers. Pharmacokinetics of topiramate was not affected in patients with mild and moderate hepatic impairment when compared with healthy volunteers. QSYMIA has not been studied in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score 10 - 15) [see *Dosage and Administration (2.6)*, and *Use in Specific Populations (8.7)*].

#### *Pediatric Patients 12 to 17 years old*

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study was conducted to evaluate the population pharmacokinetics of QSYMIA using data from 37 pediatric patients (12 to 17 years of age) with obesity. QSYMIA dosages of 3.75 mg/23 mg, 7.5 mg/46 mg, and 15 mg/92 mg were studied. QSYMIA exposure in the pediatric patients appeared comparable to that in adults.

### Drug Interaction Studies

#### *In Vitro Assessment of Drug Interactions*

##### *Phentermine*

Phentermine is not an inhibitor of CYP isozymes CYP1A2, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, and CYP3A4, and is not an inhibitor of monoamine oxidases. Phentermine is not an inducer of CYP1A2, CYP2B6, and CYP3A4. Phentermine is not a P-glycoprotein substrate.

##### *Topiramate*

Topiramate is not an inhibitor of CYP isozymes CYP1A2, CYP2A6, CYP2B6, CYP2C9, CYP2D6, CYP2E1, and CYP3A4/5. However, topiramate is a mild inhibitor of CYP2C19. Topiramate is a mild inducer of CYP3A4. Topiramate is not a P-glycoprotein substrate.

#### *Effects of Phentermine/Topiramate on Other Drugs*

**Table 8** describes the effect of phentermine/topiramate on the pharmacokinetics of co-administered drugs.



**Table 8. Effect of Phentermine/Topiramate on the Pharmacokinetics of Co-administered Drugs**

| Phentermine/Topiramate            | Co-administered Drug and Dosing Regimen  |                |                            |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------------------|
|                                   | Drug and Dose (mg)   | Change in AUC  | Change in C <sub>max</sub> |
| *15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 16 days  | Metformin 500 mg BID for 5 days  | ↑ 23%          | ↑ 16%                      |
| *15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 21 days  | Sitagliptin 100 mg QD for 5 days   | ↓ 3%           | ↓ 9%                       |
| **15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 15 days | Oral contraceptive single dose<br>norethindrone 1 mg<br>ethinyl estradiol 35 mcg | ↑ 16%<br>↓ 16% | ↑ 22%<br>↓ 8%              |

\*A single study examined the effect of multiple-dose QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg once daily on the pharmacokinetics of multiple-dose 500 mg metformin twice daily and multiple-dose 100 mg sitagliptin once daily in 10 men and 10 women (mean BMI of 27.1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and range of 22.2 – 32.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). The study participants received metformin, sitagliptin, phentermine/topiramate only, phentermine/topiramate plus probenecid, phentermine/topiramate plus metformin, and phentermine/topiramate plus sitagliptin on Days 1 – 5, 6 – 10, 11 – 28, 29, 30 – 34, and 35 – 39, respectively. The significance of these interactions are unknown.

\*\*See [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)

*Effect of Other Drugs on Phentermine/Topiramate*

[Table 9](#) describes the effect of other drugs on the pharmacokinetics of phentermine/topiramate.

**Table 9. Effect of Co-administered Drugs on the Pharmacokinetics of Phentermine/Topiramate**

| Co-administered Drug and Dosing Regimen | Phentermine/Topiramate                                       |                  |                            |
|---|--|------------------|----------------------------|
|   | Dose (mg)  | Change in AUC    | Change in C <sub>max</sub> |
| Topiramate 92 mg single dose            | 15 mg phentermine single dose                                | ↑ 42%            | ↑ 13%                      |
| Phentermine 15 mg single dose           | 92 mg topiramate single dose                                 | ↑ 6%             | ↑ 2%                       |
| *Metformin 500 mg BID for 5 days        | 15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 16 days<br>phentermine<br>topiramate | ↑ 5%<br>↓ 5%     | ↑ 7%<br>↓ 4%               |
| *Sitagliptin 100 mg QD for 5 days       | 15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 21 days<br>phentermine<br>topiramate | ↑ 9%<br>↓ 2%     | ↑ 10%<br>↓ 2%              |
| *Probenecid 2 g QD                      | 15 mg/92 mg dose QD for 11 days<br>phentermine<br>topiramate | ↓ 0.3%<br>↑ 0.7% | ↑ 4%<br>↑ 3%               |

\*The same single study examined the effect of multiple-dose 500 mg metformin twice daily, a single-dose 2 g probenecid, and multiple-dose 100 mg sitagliptin once daily on the pharmacokinetics of multiple-dose phentermine/topiramate 15 mg/92 mg once daily in 10 men and 10 women (mean BMI of 27.1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and range of 22.2 – 32.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). The study participants received metformin, sitagliptin, phentermine/topiramate only, phentermine/topiramate plus probenecid, phentermine/topiramate plus metformin, and phentermine/topiramate plus sitagliptin on Days 1 – 5, 6 – 10, 11 – 28, 29, 30 – 34, and 35 – 39, respectively.

*Effects of Topiramate Alone on Other Drugs and Effects of Other Drugs on Topiramate**Antiepileptic Drugs*

Potential interactions between topiramate and standard antiepileptic (AED) drugs were assessed in controlled clinical pharmacokinetic studies in patients with epilepsy. The effects of these interactions on mean plasma AUCs are summarized in [Table 10](#).

In [Table 10](#), the second column (AED concentration) describes what happens to the concentration of the AED listed in the first column when topiramate is added. The third column (topiramate concentration) describes how the co-administration of a drug listed in the first column modifies the concentration of topiramate in experimental settings when topiramate was given alone [[see Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)].

**Table 10. Summary of AED Interactions with Topiramate**

| AED Co-administered      | AED Concentration                | Topiramate Concentration |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Phenytoin                | NC or 25% increase <sup>a</sup>  | 48% decrease             |
| Carbamazepine (CBZ)      | NC                               | 40% decrease             |
| CBZ epoxide <sup>b</sup> | NC                               | NE                       |
| Valproic acid            | 11% decrease                     | 14% decrease             |
| Phenobarbital            | NC                               | NE                       |
| Primidone                | NC                               | NE                       |
| Lamotrigine              | NC at TPM doses up to 400 mg/day | 13% decrease             |

<sup>a</sup> Plasma concentration increased 25% in some patients, generally those on a twice a day dosing regimen of phenytoin.  
<sup>b</sup> Is not administered but is an active metabolite of carbamazepine.  
 NC = Less than 10% change in plasma concentration; NE = Not Evaluated; TPM = topiramate

### *Digoxin*

In a single-dose study, serum digoxin AUC was decreased by 12% with concomitant topiramate administration. The clinical relevance of this observation has not been established.

### *Hydrochlorothiazide*

A drug-drug interaction study conducted in healthy volunteers evaluated the steady-state pharmacokinetics of hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ) (25 mg q24h) and topiramate (96 mg q12h) when administered alone and concomitantly. The results of this study indicate that topiramate  $C_{max}$  increased by 27% and AUC increased by 29% when HCTZ was added to topiramate. The clinical significance of this change is unknown. The steady-state pharmacokinetics of HCTZ were not significantly influenced by the concomitant administration of topiramate. Clinical laboratory results indicated decreases in serum potassium after topiramate or HCTZ administration, which were greater when HCTZ and topiramate were administered in combination [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#) and [Warnings and Precautions \(5.15\)](#)].

### *Pioglitazone*

A drug-drug interaction study conducted in healthy volunteers evaluated the steady-state pharmacokinetics of topiramate (96 mg twice daily) and pioglitazone (30 mg daily) when administered alone and concomitantly for 7 days. A 15% decrease in the area under the concentration-time curve during a dosage interval at steady state ( $AUC_{\tau,ss}$ ) of pioglitazone with no alteration in maximum steady-state plasma drug concentration during a dosage interval ( $C_{max,ss}$ ) was observed. This finding was not statistically significant. In addition, a 13% and 16% decrease in  $C_{max,ss}$  and  $AUC_{\tau,ss}$  respectively, of the active hydroxy-metabolite was noted as well as a 60% decrease in  $C_{max,ss}$  and  $AUC_{\tau,ss}$  of the active keto-metabolite [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)].

### *Glyburide*

A drug-drug interaction study conducted in patients with type 2 diabetes evaluated the steady-state pharmacokinetics of glyburide (5 mg/day) alone and concomitantly with topiramate (150 mg/day). There was a 22% decrease in  $C_{max}$  and a 25% reduction in  $AUC_{24}$  for glyburide during topiramate administration. Systemic exposure (AUC) of the active metabolites, 4-*trans*-hydroxyglyburide (M1), and 3-*cis*-hydroxyglyburide (M2), was reduced by 13% and 15%, and  $C_{max}$  was reduced by 18% and 25%, respectively. The steady-state pharmacokinetics of topiramate were unaffected by concomitant administration of glyburide.

### *Lithium*

In patients, the pharmacokinetics of lithium were unaffected during treatment with topiramate at doses of 200 mg/day; however, there was an observed increase in systemic exposure of lithium (27% for  $C_{max}$  and 26% for AUC) following topiramate doses up to 600 mg/day.

### *Haloperidol*

The pharmacokinetics of a single dose of haloperidol (5 mg) were not affected following multiple dosing of topiramate (100 mg every 12 hours) in 13 healthy adults (6 males, 7 females).

### *Amitriptyline*

There was a 12% increase in AUC and  $C_{\max}$  for amitriptyline (25 mg per day) in 18 normal subjects (9 males, 9 females) receiving 200 mg/day of topiramate [see [Drug Interactions \(7\)](#)].

### *Sumatriptan*

Multiple dosing of topiramate (100 mg every 12 hrs) in 24 healthy volunteers (14 males, 10 females) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of single-dose sumatriptan either orally (100 mg) or subcutaneously (6 mg).

### *Risperidone*

When administered concomitantly with topiramate at escalating doses of 100, 250, and 400 mg/day, there was a reduction in risperidone systemic exposure (16% and 33% for steady-state AUC at the 250 and 400 mg/day doses of topiramate). No alterations of 9-hydroxyrisperidone levels were observed. Co-administration of topiramate 400 mg/day with risperidone resulted in a 14% increase in  $C_{\max}$  and a 12% increase in AUC<sub>12</sub> of topiramate. There were no clinically significant changes in the systemic exposure of risperidone plus 9-hydroxyrisperidone or of topiramate; therefore, this interaction is not likely to be of clinical significance.

### *Propranolol*

Multiple dosing of topiramate (200 mg/day) in 34 healthy volunteers (17 males, 17 females) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of propranolol following daily 160 mg doses. Propranolol doses of 160 mg/day in 39 volunteers (27 males, 12 females) had no effect on the exposure to topiramate, at a dose of 200 mg/day of topiramate.

### *Dihydroergotamine*

Multiple dosing of topiramate (200 mg/day) in 24 healthy volunteers (12 males, 12 females) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of a 1 mg subcutaneous dose of dihydroergotamine. Similarly, a 1 mg subcutaneous dose of dihydroergotamine did not affect the pharmacokinetics of a 200 mg/day dose of topiramate in the same study.

### *Diltiazem*

Co-administration of diltiazem (240 mg Cardizem CD<sup>®</sup>) with topiramate (150 mg/day) resulted in a 10% decrease in  $C_{\max}$  and a 25% decrease in diltiazem AUC, a 27% decrease in  $C_{\max}$  and an 18% decrease in des-acetyl diltiazem AUC, and no effect on N-desmethyl diltiazem. Co-administration of topiramate with diltiazem resulted in a 16% increase in  $C_{\max}$  and a 19% increase in AUC<sub>12</sub> of topiramate.

### *Venlafaxine*

Multiple dosing of topiramate (150 mg/day) in healthy volunteers did not affect the pharmacokinetics of venlafaxine or O-desmethyl venlafaxine. Multiple dosing of venlafaxine (150 mg extended release) did not affect the pharmacokinetics of topiramate.

## 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

### 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

#### Phentermine/Topiramate

No animal studies have been conducted with the combination of phentermine/topiramate to evaluate carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, or impairment of fertility. The following data are based on findings in studies performed individually with phentermine or topiramate, QSYMIA's two active ingredients.

#### Phentermine

Phentermine was not mutagenic or clastogenic with or without metabolic activation in the Ames bacterial mutagenicity assay, a chromosomal aberration test in Chinese hamster lung (CHL-K1) cells, or an *in vivo* micronucleus assay.

Rats were administered oral doses of 3, 10, and 30 mg/kg/day phentermine for 2 years. There was no evidence of carcinogenicity at the highest dose of phentermine (30 mg/kg) which is approximately 11 to 15 times the maximum recommended clinical dose of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg based on AUC exposure.

No animal studies have been conducted with phentermine to determine the potential for impairment of fertility.

#### Topiramate

Topiramate did not demonstrate genotoxic potential when tested in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays. Topiramate was not mutagenic in the Ames test or the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma assay; it did not increase unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat hepatocytes *in vitro*; and it did not increase chromosomal aberrations in human lymphocytes *in vitro* or in rat bone marrow *in vivo*.

An increase in urinary bladder tumors was observed in mice given topiramate (20, 75, and 300 mg/kg) in the diet for 21 months. The elevated bladder tumor incidence, which was statistically significant in males and females receiving 300 mg/kg, was primarily due to the increased occurrence of a smooth muscle tumor considered histomorphologically unique to mice. Plasma exposures in mice receiving 300 mg/kg were approximately 2 to 4 times steady-state exposures measured in patients receiving topiramate monotherapy at the MRHD of QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg. The relevance of this finding to human carcinogenic risk is uncertain. No evidence of carcinogenicity was seen in rats following oral administration of topiramate for 2 years at doses up to 120 mg/kg (approximately 4 to 10 times the MRHD of QSYMIA based on AUC estimates).

No adverse effects on male or female fertility were observed in rats at doses up to 100 mg/kg (approximately 4 to 8 times male and female MRHD exposures of QSYMIA based on AUC).

## 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

### Clinical Studies in Adults

The effect of QSYMIA on weight loss in conjunction with reduced caloric intake and increased physical activity was studied in two randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies in patients with obesity (Study 1) and patients with obesity or overweight with two or more significant co-morbidities (Study 2). Both studies had a 4-week titration period, followed by 52 weeks of treatment. There were two co-primary efficacy outcomes measured after 1 year of treatment (Week 56): 1) the percent weight loss from baseline; and 2) treatment response defined as achieving at least 5% weight loss from baseline.

In Study 1, patients with obesity (BMI greater than or equal to 35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) were randomized to receive 1 year of treatment with placebo (N=514), QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg (N=241), or QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg (N=512) in a 2:1:2 ratio. Patients ranged in age from 18-71 years old (mean age 43) and 83% were female. Approximately 80% were Caucasian, 18% were African American, and 15% were Hispanic/Latino. At the beginning of the

study the average weight and BMI of patients was 116 kg and 42 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Patients with type 2 diabetes were excluded from participating in Study 1. During the study, a well-balanced, reduced-calorie diet to result in an approximate 500 kcal/day decrease in caloric intake was recommended to all patients and patients were offered nutritional and lifestyle modification counseling.

In Study 2, patients with overweight or obesity were randomized to receive 1 year of treatment with placebo (N=994), QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg (N=498), or QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg (N=995) in a 2:1:2 ratio. Eligible patients had to have a BMI greater than or equal to 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and less than or equal to 45 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (there was no lower limit on BMI for patients with type 2 diabetes) and two or more of the following obesity-related co-morbid conditions:

- Elevated blood pressure (greater than or equal to 140/90 mmHg, or greater than or equal to 130/85 mmHg for diabetics) or requirement for greater than or equal to 2 antihypertensive medications;
- Triglycerides greater than 200-400 mg/dL or were receiving treatment with 2 or more lipid-lowering agents;
- Elevated fasting blood glucose (greater than 100 mg/dL) or diabetes; and/or
- Waist circumference greater than or equal to 102 cm for men or greater than or equal to 88 cm for women.

Patients ranged in age from 19-71 years old (mean age 51) and 70% were female. Approximately 86% were Caucasian, 12% were African American, and 13% were Hispanic/Latino. The average weight and BMI of patients at the start of the study was 103 kg and 36.6 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Approximately half (53%) of patients had hypertension at the start of the study. There were 388 (16%) patients with type 2 diabetes at the start of the study. During the study, a well-balanced, reduced-calorie diet to result in an approximate 500 kcal/day decrease in caloric intake was recommended to all patients and patients were offered nutritional and lifestyle modification counseling.

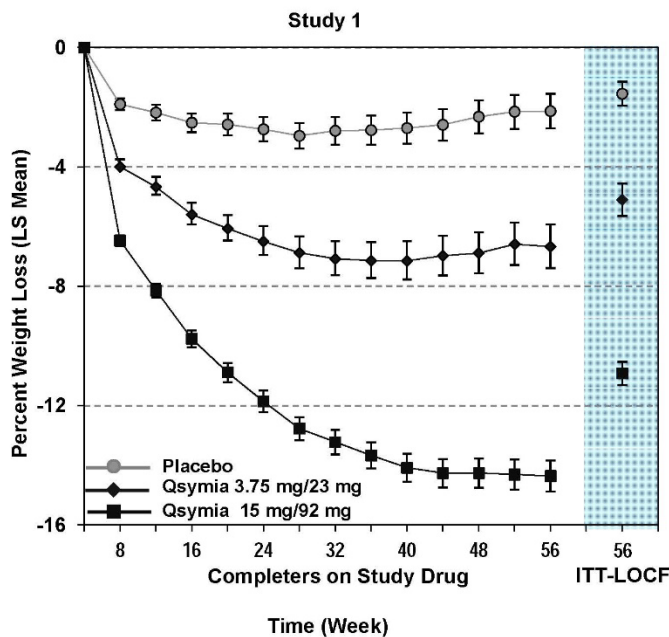
The percentage of randomized patients who withdrew from each study prior to week 56 was 40% in Study 1, and 31% in Study 2.

[Table 11](#) provides the results for weight loss at 1 year in Studies 1 and 2. After 1 year of treatment with QSYMIA, all dose levels resulted in statistically significant weight loss compared to placebo (see [Table 11](#), [Figure 1](#) and [Figure 2](#)). A statistically significant greater proportion of the patients randomized to QSYMIA than placebo achieved 5% and 10% weight loss.

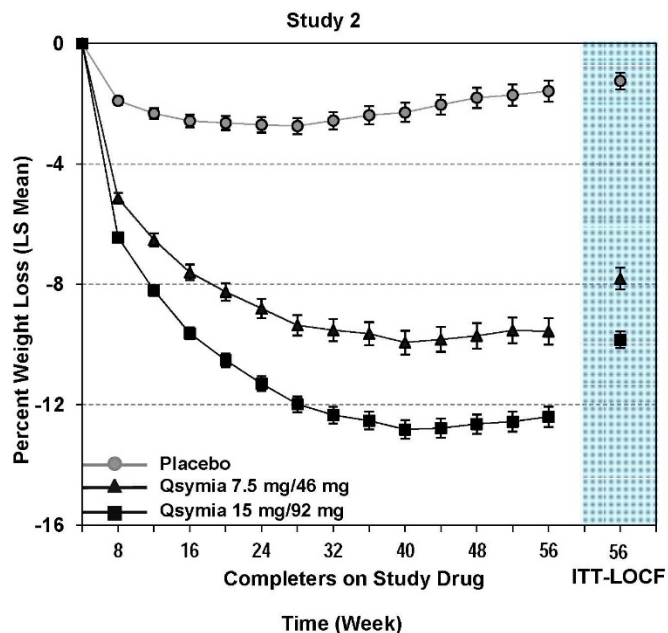
**Table 11. Weight Loss at One Year in Adult Patients in Studies 1 and 2**

| Analysis Method  | Study 1 (Obesity) |                            |                           | Study 2 (Obesity or Overweight with Co-morbidities) |                         |                          |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | Placebo           | QSYMIA<br>3.75 mg/23<br>mg | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg     | Placebo   | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg  | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg    |
| ITT-LOCF (Primary)*  | n = 498           | n = 234                    | n = 498                   | n = 979   | n = 488                 | n = 981                  |
| <b>Weight (kg)</b>   |                   |                            |                           |   |                         |                          |
| Baseline mean (SD)   | 115.7<br>(21.4)   | 118.6 (21.9)               | 115.2 (20.8)              | 103.3<br>(18.1)                                     | 102.8 (18.2)            | 103.1 (17.6)             |
| % LS Mean Change from<br>baseline (SE)**   | -1.6 (0.4)        | -5.1 (0.5) <sup>†</sup>    | -10.9 (0.4) <sup>†‡</sup> | -1.2 (0.3)  | -7.8 (0.4) <sup>†</sup> | -9.8 (0.3) <sup>†‡</sup> |
| Difference from placebo<br>(95% CI)  |                   | 3.5 (2.4-4.7)              | 9.4 (8.4-10.3)            |   | 6.6 (5.8-7.4)           | 8.6 (8.0-9.3)            |
| <b>Percentage of patients<br/>losing greater than or equal<br/>to 5% body weight</b>   | 17%               | 45% <sup>†</sup>           | 67% <sup>†‡</sup>         | 21%   | 62% <sup>†</sup>        | 70% <sup>†‡</sup>        |
| Risk Difference vs. placebo<br>(95% CI)  |                   | 27.6 (20.4-<br>34.8)       | 49.4 (44.1-54.7)          |   | 41.3 (36.3-<br>46.3)    | 49.2 (45.4-<br>53.0)     |
| <b>Percentage of patients<br/>losing greater than or equal<br/>to 10% body weight</b>  | 7%                | 19% <sup>†</sup>           | 47% <sup>†‡</sup>         | 7%  | 37% <sup>†</sup>        | 48% <sup>†‡</sup>        |
| Risk Difference vs. placebo<br>(95% CI)  |                   | 11.4 (5.9-16.9)            | 39.8 (34.8-44.7)          |   | 29.9 (25.3-<br>34.5)    | 40.3 (36.7-<br>43.8)     |
| SD=standard deviation; LS=least-squares; SE=standard error; CI=confidence interval<br>* Uses all available data from subjects in ITT population, including data collected from subjects who discontinued drug but remained on study.<br>Last Observation Carried Forward (LOCF) method used to impute missing data.<br><sup>†</sup> p < 0.0001 vs. placebo based on least-squares (LS) mean from an analysis of covariance.<br><sup>‡</sup> p < 0.01 vs. 3.75 mg/23 mg (Study 1) or 7.5 mg/46 mg (Study 2) dose.<br>Type 1 error was controlled across all pairwise treatment comparisons.<br>** Adjusted for baseline bodyweight (Study 1) and baseline bodyweight and diabetic status (Study 2). |                   |                            |                           |   |                         |                          |

**Figure 1. Study 1 Percent Weight Change from Baseline to Week 56 in Adults with Obesity**



**Figure 2. Study 2 Percent Weight Change from Baseline to Week 56 in Adults with Obesity or Overweight with Co-morbidities**



$p < 0.0001$  for all three Qsymia doses vs placebo, and 15 mg/92 mg vs 7.5 mg/46 mg or 3.75 mg/23 mg at all time points for both completers and ITT-LOCF

The changes in cardiovascular, metabolic, and anthropometric risk factors associated with obesity from Study 1 and 2 are presented in Table 12 and Table 13. One year of therapy with QSYMIA resulted in relative improvement over placebo in several risk factors associated with obesity with the exception of heart rate [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].



**Table 12. Least-Squares (LS) Mean<sup>†</sup> Change from Baseline and Treatment Difference from Placebo in Cardiometabolic Parameters in Adults Following One Year of Treatment in Study 1 (Obesity)**

| Study 1 (Obesity)                     | Placebo<br>(N=498) | QSYMIA<br>3.75 mg/23 mg<br>(N=234) | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg<br>(N=498) | QSYMIA – Placebo: LS Mean |                       |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                       |                    |                                    |                                  | QSYMIA<br>3.75 mg/23 mg   | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg |
| <b>Heart Rate, bpm</b>                |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 73.2 (8.8)         | 72.3 (9.2)                         | 73.1 (9.6)                       |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | -0.8 (0.5)         | +0.3 (0.6)                         | +1.0 (0.5)                       | +1.1                      | +1.8                  |
| <b>Systolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b>  |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 121.9 (11.5)       | 122.5 (11.1)                       | 121.9 (11.6)                     |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +0.9 (0.6)         | -1.8 (0.8)                         | -2.9 (0.6)                       | -2.8                      | -3.8                  |
| <b>Diastolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b> |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 77.2 (7.9)         | 77.8 (7.5)                         | 77.4 (7.7)                       |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +0.4 (0.4)         | -0.1 (0.6)                         | -1.5 (0.4)                       | -0.5                      | -1.9                  |
| <b>Total Cholesterol, %</b>           |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 194.3 (36.7)       | 196.3 (36.5)                       | 192.7 (33.8)                     |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | -3.5 (0.6)         | -5.4 (0.9)                         | -6.0 (0.6)                       | -1.9                      | -2.5                  |
| <b>LDL-Cholesterol, %</b>             |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 120.9 (32.2)       | 122.8 (33.4)                       | 120.0 (30.1)                     |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | -5.5 (1.0)         | -7.7 (1.3)                         | -8.4 (0.9)                       | -2.2                      | -2.8                  |
| <b>HDL-Cholesterol, %</b>             |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 49.5 (13.3)        | 50.0 (11.1)                        | 49.7 (11.7)                      |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +0.0 (0.8)         | +0.5 (1.1)                         | +3.5 (0.8)                       | +0.5                      | +3.5                  |
| <b>Triglycerides, %</b>               |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 119.0 (39.3)       | 117.5 (40.3)                       | 114.6 (37.1)                     |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +9.1 (2.3)         | +5.2 (3.1)                         | -5.2 (2.2)                       | -3.9                      | -14.3                 |
| <b>Fasting Glucose, mg/dL</b>         |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 93.1 (8.7)         | 93.9 (9.2)                         | 93.0 (9.5)                       |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +1.9 (0.5)         | +0.8 (0.7)                         | -0.6 (0.5)                       | -1.2                      | -2.5                  |
| <b>Waist Circumference, cm</b>        |                    |                                    |                                  |                           |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 120.5 (14.0)       | 121.5 (15.2)                       | 120.0 (14.7)                     |                           |                       |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | -3.1 (0.5)         | -5.6 (0.6)                         | -10.9 (0.5)                      | -2.5*                     | -7.8*                 |

SD=standard deviation; SE=standard error

\* Statistically significant versus placebo based on the pre-specified method for controlling Type I error across multiple doses

† Study 1 adjusted for baseline bodyweight

**Table 13. Least-Squares (LS) Mean\* Change from Baseline and Treatment Difference from Placebo in Cardiometabolic Parameters in Adults Following One Year of Treatment in Study 2 (Obese or Overweight with Comorbidities)**

| Study 2 (Overweight and Obese with Comorbidities) | Placebo (N=979) | QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg (N=488) | QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg (N=981) | QSYMIA – Placebo: LS Mean |                    |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
|   |                 |                             |                            | QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg       | QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg |
| <b>Heart Rate, bpm</b>                            |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 72.1 (9.9)      | 72.2 (10.1)                 | 72.6 (10.1)                |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -0.3 (0.3)      | +0.3 (0.4)                  | +1.4 (0.3)                 | +0.6                      | +1.7               |
| <b>Systolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b>              |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 128.9 (13.5)    | 128.5 (13.6)                | 127.9 (13.4)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -2.4 (0.48)     | -4.7 (0.63)                 | -5.6 (0.5)                 | -2.3                      | -3.2               |
| <b>Diastolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b>             |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 81.1 (9.2)      | 80.6 (8.7)                  | 80.2 (9.1)                 |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -2.7 (0.3)      | -3.4 (0.4)                  | -3.8 (0.3)                 | -0.7                      | -1.1               |
| <b>Total Cholesterol, %</b>                       |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 205.8 (41.7)    | 201.0 (37.9)                | 205.4 (40.4)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -3.3 (0.5)      | -4.9 (0.7)                  | -6.3 (0.5)                 | -1.6                      | -3.0               |
| <b>LDL-Cholesterol, %</b>                         |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 124.2 (36.2)    | 120.3 (33.7)                | 123.9 (35.6)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -4.1 (0.9)      | -3.7 (1.1)                  | -6.9 (0.9)                 | +0.4                      | -2.8               |
| <b>HDL-Cholesterol, %</b>                         |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 48.9 (13.8)     | 48.5 (12.8)                 | 49.1 (13.8)                |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | +1.2 (0.7)      | +5.2 (0.9)                  | +6.8 (0.7)                 | +4.0                      | +5.6               |
| <b>Triglycerides, %</b>                           |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 163.5 (76.3)    | 161.1 (72.2)                | 161.9 (73.4)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | +4.7 (1.7)      | -8.6 (2.2)                  | -10.6 (1.7)                | -13.3                     | -15.3              |
| <b>Fasting Insulin, (µIU/mL)</b>                  |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 17.8 (13.2)     | 18.0 (12.9)                 | 18.4 (17.5)                |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | +0.7 (0.8)      | -3.5 (1.1)                  | -4.0 (0.8)                 | -4.2                      | -4.7               |
| <b>Fasting Glucose, mg/dL</b>                     |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 106.6 (23.7)    | 106.2 (21.0)                | 105.7 (21.4)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | +2.3 (0.6)      | -0.1 (0.8)                  | -1.3 (0.6)                 | -2.4                      | -3.6               |
| <b>Waist Circumference, cm</b>                    |                 |                             |                            |                           |                    |
| Baseline mean (SD)                                | 113.4 (12.2)    | 112.7 (12.4)                | 113.2 (12.2)               |                           |                    |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                               | -2.4 (0.3)      | -7.6 (0.4)                  | -9.2 (0.3)                 | -5.2*                     | -6.8*              |

SD=standard deviation; SE=standard error

\* Statistically significant versus placebo based on the pre-specified method for controlling Type I error across multiple doses

† Study 2 adjusted for baseline bodyweight and diabetic status

Among the 388 subjects with type 2 diabetes treated in Study 2, reductions in HbA1c from baseline (6.8%) were 0.1% for placebo compared to 0.4% and 0.4% with QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg and QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg, respectively [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

#### Clinical Studies in Pediatric Patients Aged 12 Years and Older

The effect of QSYMIA on BMI in conjunction with reduced caloric intake and increased physical activity was evaluated in Study 3 (NCT 03922945), a 56-week, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in pediatric patients (12 to 17 years of age) with BMI  $\geq$  95<sup>th</sup> percentile standardized by age and sex. Patients were randomized to receive treatment with placebo (N=56), QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg (N=54), or QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg (N=113) in a 1:1:2 ratio. During the study, a well-balanced, reduced-calorie diet to result in an approximate 500 kcal/day decrease in caloric intake was recommended to all patients and patients were offered a family-based lifestyle modification program for adolescents.

Patients' mean age was 14 years old, approximately 55% were female, 67% were Caucasian, 26% were African American, and 33% were Hispanic/Latino. At the beginning of the study, the average weight and BMI of patients was 106 kg and 38 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively, with approximately 81% considered severely obese (120% of

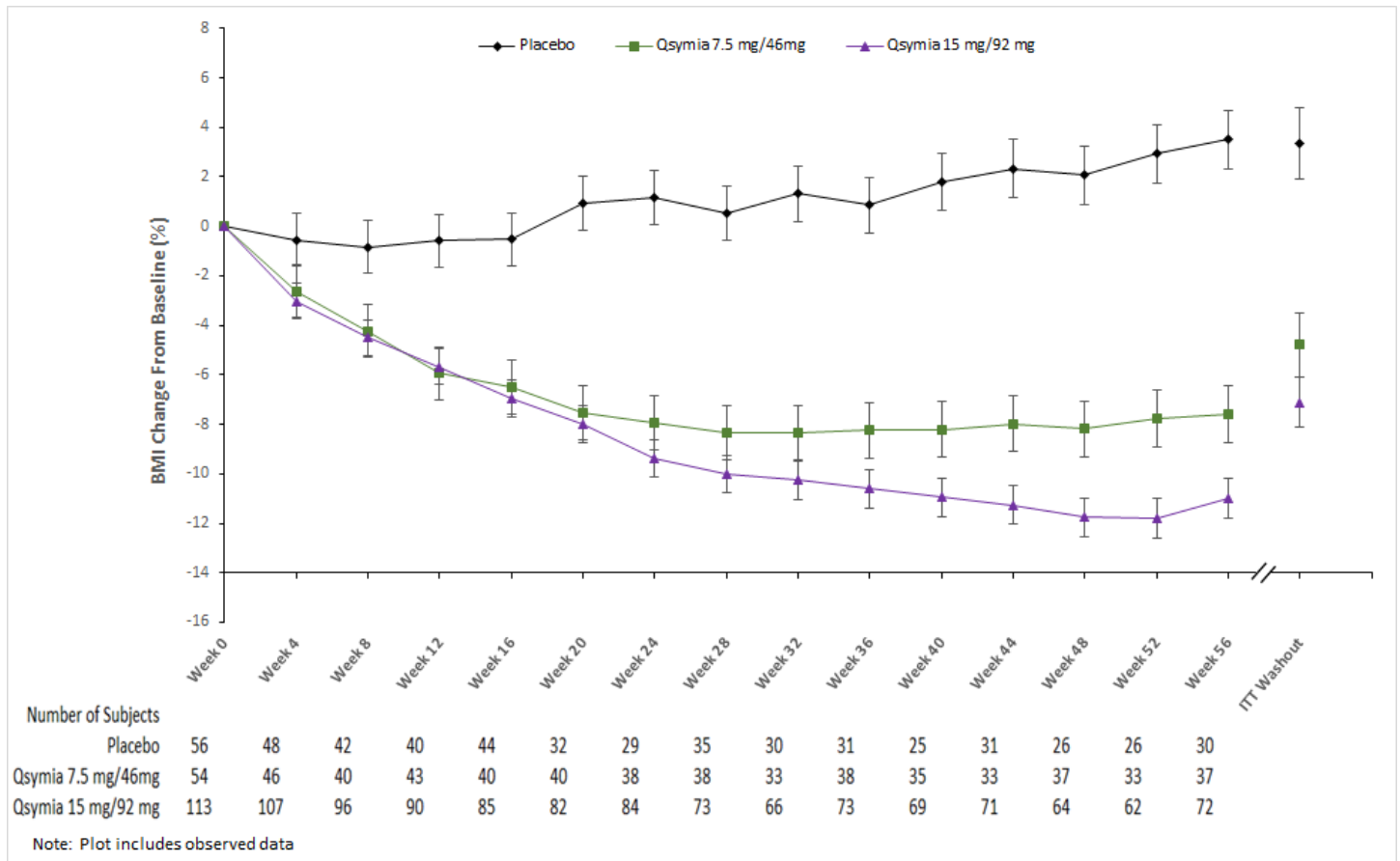
the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or greater for BMI standardized by age and sex). Thirty-eight (38%) of randomized patients withdrew from the study prior to week 56.

The primary efficacy parameter was mean percent change in BMI. Table 14 provides results for BMI reduction at Week 56 in Study 3. After 56 weeks of treatment with QSYMIA, all dose levels resulted in statistically significant reduction in BMI compared to placebo (see Table 14, Figure 3). A greater proportion of patients randomized to QSYMIA than placebo achieved 5%, 10%, and 15% BMI reduction.

**Table 14. Change in BMI at Week 56 in Pediatric Patients Aged 12 to 17 Years in Study 3 (Obesity)**

| Analysis Method  | Placebo    | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg |
|--|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ITT-Washout (Primary)*   | n = 56     | n = 54                 | n = 113               |
| <b>BMI (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) Primary Efficacy Endpoint</b>  |            |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)   | 36.4 (6.4) | 36.9 (6.7)             | 39.0 (7.4)            |
| % LS Mean Change from baseline (SE)  | +3.3 (1.4) | -4.8 (1.3)             | -7.1 (1.0)            |
| Difference from placebo<br>(95% CI)  |            | -8.1 (-11.9, -4.3)     | -10.4 (-13.9, -7.0)   |
| <b>Percentage of patients with a reduction of greater than or equal to 5% BMI</b>                |            |                        |                       |
| Difference vs. placebo<br>(95% CI)   | 13.6%      | 44.0%                  | 52.2%                 |
| <b>Percentage of patients with a reduction of greater than or equal to 10% BMI</b>               |            |                        |                       |
| Difference vs. placebo<br>(95% CI)   | 4.5%       | 33.5%                  | 44.4%                 |
| <b>Percentage of patients with a reduction of greater than or equal to 15% BMI</b>               |            |                        |                       |
| Difference vs. placebo<br>(95% CI)   | 2.9%       | 13.6%                  | 28.9%                 |
| SD=standard deviation; LS=least-squares; SE=standard error; CI=confidence interval               |            |                        |                       |
| *Missing data were imputed using a washout multiple imputation method based on placebo response. |            |                        |                       |

**Figure 3. Study 3 Percent BMI Change from Baseline to Week 56 in Pediatric Patients Aged 12 to 17 Years with Obesity**



**Table 15. Change from Baseline and Treatment Difference from Placebo in Cardiometabolic Parameters in Pediatric Patients Aged 12 to 17 Years Following 56 Weeks of Treatment in Study 3 (Obesity)**

| Study 3 (Obesity)<br>ITT Population   | Placebo<br>(N=56) | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg<br>(N=54) | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg<br>(N=113) | QSYMIA – Placebo       |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                       |                   |                                  |                                  | QSYMIA<br>7.5 mg/46 mg | QSYMIA<br>15 mg/92 mg |
| <b>Heart Rate, bpm*</b>               |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 76.8 (9.9)        | 78.6 (9.6)                       | 76.2 (9.6)                       | -5.6                   | 3.2                   |
| Mean Change (SD)                      | 2.5 (12.4)        | -3.1 (8.4)                       | 5.7 (11.4)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Systolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b>  |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 117.7 (10.4)      | 121.4 (9.2)                      | 117.4 (10.2)                     | -2.8                   | -1.0                  |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +2.9 (1.6)        | +0.1 (1.5)                       | +1.8 (1.1)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Diastolic Blood Pressure, mmHg</b> |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 71.7 (8.3)        | 75.8 (6.7)                       | 72.9 (7.3)                       | -3.2                   | -2.2                  |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +3.4 (1.5)        | +0.2 (1.3)                       | +1.2 (1.0)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Total Cholesterol, mg/dL*</b>      |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 164.9 (30.9)      | 160.6 (26.1)                     | 159.3 (32.7)                     | -1.4                   | -1.2                  |
| Mean % Change (SD)                    | -1.8 (10.7)       | -3.2 (13.1)                      | -3.0 (14.5)                      |                        |                       |
| <b>LDL-Cholesterol, mg/dL*</b>        |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 94.1 (26.8)       | 89.4 (23.7)                      | 90.2 (27.3)                      | -3.9                   | -2.1                  |
| Mean % Change (SD)                    | 0.2 (23.3)        | -3.7 (15.5)                      | -2.3 (21.6)                      |                        |                       |
| <b>HDL-Cholesterol, mg/dL</b>         |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 47.2 (9.7)        | 47.2 (8.9)                       | 46.7 (10.1)                      | 6.4                    | 5.0                   |
| LS Mean % Change (SE)                 | -4.3 (15.1)       | +2.1 (11.5)                      | +0.7 (9.6)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Triglycerides, mg/dL</b>           |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 118.3 (46.1)      | 120.1 (61.6)                     | 112.2 (63.2)                     | -11.7                  | -11.2                 |
| LS Mean % Change (SE)                 | +5.6 (8.4)        | -6.2 (8.0)                       | -5.6 (7.2)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>HbA1c, %*</b>                      |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 5.5 (0.3)         | 5.6 (0.4)                        | 5.5 (0.4)                        | -0.2                   | 0.0                   |
| Mean Change (SD)                      | -0.2 (0.2)        | -0.4 (0.3)                       | -0.2 (0.3)                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Waist Circumference, cm</b>        |                   |                                  |                                  |                        |                       |
| Baseline mean (SD)                    | 111.1 (14.0)      | 111.9 (15.5)                     | 116.5 (16.8)                     | -5.6                   | -7.6                  |
| LS Mean Change (SE)                   | +0.6 (1.4)        | -5.0 (1.4)                       | -7.0 (1.1)                       |                        |                       |

SD=standard deviation; SE=standard error

\*Parameter was not pre-specified for inferential statistics; descriptive summary of change from baseline provided for subjects with non-missing data at baseline and Week 56.

## 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

QSYMIA (phentermine and topiramate extended-release capsules) are available as follows (see [Table 16](#)):

**Table 16. QSYMIA Presentations**

| <b>Strength<br/>(phentermine mg/topiramate mg)</b>       | <b>Description</b>   | <b>How Supplied</b>  | <b>NDC</b>   |
|--|--|--|--------------|
| 3.75 mg/23 mg extended-release capsules                  | Purple cap imprinted with VIVUS, Purple body imprinted with 3.75/23  | Unit of Use Bottle (14 capsules)                           | 62541-201-14 |
|  |  | Pharmacy Bottle (30 capsules)                              | 62541-201-30 |
| 7.5 mg/46 mg extended-release capsules                   | Purple cap imprinted with VIVUS, Yellow body imprinted with 7.5/46   | Unit of Use Bottle (30 capsules)                           | 62541-202-30 |
| 11.25 mg/69 mg extended-release capsules                 | Yellow cap imprinted with VIVUS, Yellow body imprinted with 11.25/69   | Pharmacy Bottle (30 capsules)                              | 62541-203-30 |
| 15 mg/92 mg extended-release capsules                    | Yellow cap imprinted with VIVUS, White body imprinted with 15/92   | Unit of Use Bottle (30 capsules)                           | 62541-204-30 |
| 3.75 mg/23 mg and 7.5 mg/46 mg extended-release capsules | Purple cap imprinted with VIVUS, Purple body imprinted with 3.75/23 and Purple cap imprinted with VIVUS, Yellow body imprinted with 7.5/46 | Starter Pack - Blister Configuration (28 Capsules)         | 62541-210-28 |
| 11.25 mg/69 mg and 15 mg/92 mg extended-release capsules | Yellow cap imprinted with VIVUS, Yellow body imprinted with 11.25/69   | Dose Escalation Pack – Blister Configuration (28 Capsules) | 62541-220-28 |

Store at 20°C to 25°C (68°F to 77°F), excursions permitted between 15°C and 30°C (59°F and 86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. Keep container tightly closed and protect from moisture.

## 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide).

### Embryo-Fetal Toxicity

Inform patients who can become pregnant that QSYMIA can cause fetal harm and patients should avoid getting pregnant while taking QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*, *Drug Interactions (7)*, *Use in Specific Populations (8.3)*].

Advise patients who can become pregnant:

- that pregnancy testing is recommended before initiating QSYMIA and monthly during therapy;
- to use effective contraception during QSYMIA therapy;
- who experience spotting while taking a combined oral contraceptive to notify their healthcare provider;
- with a known or suspected pregnancy to stop QSYMIA immediately and notify their healthcare provider.

### Access to QSYMIA

Advise patients that QSYMIA is only available through certified pharmacies that are enrolled in the QSYMIA certified pharmacy network. Advise patients on how to access QSYMIA through certified pharmacies. Additional information may be obtained via the website [www.QSYMIAREMS.com](http://www.QSYMIAREMS.com) or by telephone at 1-888-998-4887.

### Increase in Heart Rate

Inform patients that QSYMIA can increase resting heart rate. Advise patients to report palpitations or feelings of a racing heartbeat while at rest to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

### Suicidal Behavior and Ideation and Mood and Sleep Disorders

Inform patients that QSYMIA can increase the risk of mood changes, sleep disorders, depression, and suicidal ideation. Advise patients to tell their healthcare provider(s) immediately if mood changes, depression, or suicidal ideation occur [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3, 5.5)*].

### Ophthalmologic Adverse Reactions

Inform patients that QSYMIA can increase the risk of acute myopia, secondary angle closure glaucoma, and visual field defects. Advise patients to report symptoms of severe and persistent eye pain or significant changes in their vision to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

### Cognitive Impairment

Inform patients that QSYMIA can cause confusion, concentration, and word-finding difficulties. Inform patients that the concomitant use of alcohol or central nervous system (CNS) depressant drugs with QSYMIA, may increase the risk of dizziness, cognitive adverse reactions, drowsiness, light-headedness, impaired coordination and somnolence.

Advise patients to tell their healthcare provider(s) about any changes in attention, concentration, memory, difficulty finding words, or other cognitive functions.



Advise patients not to drive or operate machinery until they have gained sufficient experience on QSYMIA to gauge whether it adversely affects their mental performance, motor performance, and/or vision. Advise patients to avoid excessive alcohol intake while taking QSYMIA [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.6)*].

### Slowing of Linear Growth

Discuss with the patient and caregiver that long-term QSYMIA treatment may attenuate growth as reflected by slower height increase in pediatric patients [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.7)*].

### Metabolic Acidosis

Inform patients that QSYMIA can increase the risk of metabolic acidosis. Advise patients to tell their healthcare provider(s) about any factors that can increase the risk of acidosis (e.g. prolonged diarrhea, surgery, and high protein/low carbohydrate diet, and/or concomitant medications such as carbonic anhydrase inhibitors) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.8)*].

### Risk of Hypoglycemia in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus on Antidiabetic Therapy

Inform patients that weight loss may increase the risk of hypoglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus treated with insulin and/or insulin secretagogues (e.g., sulfonylureas). Advise patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus on antidiabetic therapy to monitor their blood glucose levels and report symptoms of hypoglycemia to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.10)*].

### Risk of Hypotension in Patients Treated with Antihypertensive Medications

Advise patients that weight loss may increase the risk of hypotension. Advise patients to report symptoms of hypotension (e.g., dizziness, lightheadedness, and syncope) to the healthcare provider [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.11)*].

### Risk of Seizures with Abrupt Withdrawal of QSYMIA

Inform patients that abrupt withdrawal of topiramate, a component of QSYMIA, has been associated with seizures in individuals without a history of seizures or epilepsy. Advise patients not to abruptly stop QSYMIA without first talking to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Dosage and Administration (2.4)*, *Warnings and Precautions (5.12)*].

### Kidney Stones

Inform patients that use of QSYMIA has been associated with kidney stone formation. Advise patients to increase fluid intake to increase urinary output which can decrease the concentration of substances involved in kidney stone formation. Advise patients to report symptoms of severe side or back pain, and/or blood in their urine to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.13)* and *Adverse Reactions (6.1)*].

### Oligohidrosis and Hyperthermia

Inform patients that oligohidrosis (decreased sweating) has been reported in association with the use of topiramate, a component of QSYMIA, particularly in pediatric patients. Advise patients to monitor for decreased sweating and increased body temperature during physical activity, especially in hot weather [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.14)*].

### Serious Skin Reactions

Inform patients that serious skin reactions have been reported with use of topiramate, a component of QSYMIA. Inform patients of the signs of serious skin reactions and advise patients to report signs of a skin reaction to their healthcare provider(s) [see *Warning and Precautions (5.16)*].

### Lactation

Advise patients that breastfeeding is not recommended during QSYMIA treatment [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.2)*].

### Allergic Reactions Due to Inactive Ingredient FD&C Yellow No. 5

Inform patients that this product contains FD&C Yellow No. 5 (tartrazine) which may cause allergic-type reactions (including bronchial asthma) in certain susceptible persons [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.17)*].

### How to Take QSYMIA

Instruct patients on the dosage titration schedule of QSYMIA. Advise patients to take QSYMIA in the morning with or without food [see *Dosage and Administration (2.3)*].

Manufactured for VIVUS LLC by Catalent Pharma Solutions, LLC  
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US Patent Numbers: 7,056,890; 7,553,818; 7,659,256; 7,674,776; 8,580,298; 8,580,299; 8,895,057; 8,895,058,  
9,011,905; and 9,011,906

QSYMIA IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF VIVUS LLC

**MEDICATION GUIDE**  
**QSYMIA® (Kyoo sim ee' uh)**  
**(phentermine and topiramate extended-release capsules)**  
**for oral use, CIV**

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking QSYMIA and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. If you have any questions about QSYMIA, talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

**What is the most important information I should know about QSYMIA?**

**QSYMIA can cause serious side effects, including:**

- **Birth defects (cleft lip and cleft palate).** If you take QSYMIA during pregnancy, your baby has a higher risk for birth defects called cleft lip and cleft palate. These defects can begin early in pregnancy, even before you know you are pregnant.

**Patients who are pregnant must not take QSYMIA.**

**Patients who can become pregnant should:**

1. Have a pregnancy test before taking QSYMIA and every month while taking QSYMIA.
2. Use effective birth control (contraception) consistently while taking QSYMIA. Talk to your healthcare provider about how to prevent pregnancy.

**If you become pregnant while taking QSYMIA, stop taking QSYMIA immediately and tell your healthcare provider right away.** Healthcare providers and patients who become pregnant should report all cases of pregnancy to:

- FDA MedWatch at 1-800-FDA-1088

**Because of the risk for birth defects (cleft lip and cleft palate), QSYMIA is available through a restricted program called the QSYMIA Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS).** QSYMIA is only available through certified pharmacies that participate in the QSYMIA REMS program. Your healthcare provider can give you information about how to find a certified pharmacy. For more information, go to [www.QSYMIAREMS.com](http://www.QSYMIAREMS.com) or call 1-888-998-4887.

- **Increases in heart rate.** QSYMIA can increase your heart rate at rest. Your healthcare provider should check your heart rate while you take QSYMIA. Tell your healthcare provider if you experience, while at rest, a racing or pounding feeling in your chest lasting several minutes when taking QSYMIA.
- **Suicidal thoughts or actions.** Topiramate, an ingredient in QSYMIA, may cause you to have suicidal thoughts or actions.

**Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms, especially if they are new, worse, or worry you:**

- thoughts about suicide or dying
  - attempts to commit suicide
  - new or worse depression
  - new or worse anxiety
  - feeling agitated or restless
  - panic attacks
  - trouble sleeping (insomnia)
  - new or worse irritability
  - acting aggressive, being angry, or violent
  - acting on dangerous impulses
  - an extreme increase in activity and talking (mania)
  - other unusual changes in behavior or mood
- **Serious eye problems** which include:
    - any sudden decrease in vision, with or without eye pain and redness,
    - a blockage of fluid in the eye causing increased pressure in the eye (secondary angle closure glaucoma).

**These problems can lead to permanent vision loss if not treated.** Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new eye symptoms.

QSYMIA can have other serious side effects. See **"What are the possible side effects of QSYMIA?"**

**What is QSYMIA?**

- QSYMIA is a prescription medicine that contains phentermine and topiramate extended-release that may help some adults and children 12 years and older with obesity, or some overweight adults who also have weight-related medical problems lose weight and keep the weight off.
- QSYMIA should be used with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity.
- It is not known if QSYMIA changes your risk of heart problems or stroke or of death due to heart problems or stroke.

- It is not known if QSYMIA is safe and effective when taken with other prescription and over-the-counter medicines, or herbal weight loss products.
- It is not known if QSYMIA is safe and effective in children under 12 years old.
- QSYMIA is a federally controlled substance (CIV) because it contains phentermine and can be abused or lead to drug dependence. Keep QSYMIA in a safe place, to protect it from theft. Never give your QSYMIA to anyone else, because it may cause death or harm them. Selling or giving away QSYMIA is against the law.

#### **Who should not take QSYMIA?**

##### **Do not take QSYMIA if you:**

- are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or become pregnant during QSYMIA treatment.
- have glaucoma.
- have thyroid problems (hyperthyroidism).
- are taking certain medicines called monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or have taken MAOIs in the past 14 days.
- are allergic to topiramate, sympathomimetic amines such as phentermine, or any of the ingredients in QSYMIA. See the end of this Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in QSYMIA.

#### **What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking QSYMIA?**

##### **Before taking QSYMIA, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:**

- have had a heart attack or stroke.
- have or have had an abnormal heart rhythm.
- have or have had depression, mood problems, or suicidal thoughts or behavior.
- have eye problems, especially glaucoma. See **“Who should not take QSYMIA?”**
- have a history of too much acid in the blood (metabolic acidosis) or a condition that puts you at higher risk for metabolic acidosis such as
  - chronic diarrhea, surgery, a diet high in fat and low in carbohydrates (ketogenic diet), weak, brittle, or soft bones (osteomalacia, osteoporosis, osteopenia), or decreased bone density
- have type 2 diabetes and take medicine to control your blood sugar.
- have kidney problems, kidney stones, or are getting kidney dialysis.
- have liver problems.
- have seizures or convulsions (epilepsy).
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. QSYMIA can pass into your breast milk and may harm your baby. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take QSYMIA or breastfeed. You should not do both.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. QSYMIA taken with other medicines may affect how each medicine works and may cause side effects.

##### **Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:**

- **Birth control pills.** Tell your healthcare provider if your menstrual bleeding changes while you are taking birth control pills that contain both estrogen and progestin (combination oral contraceptives) and QSYMIA.
- **Water pills** (diuretics) such as hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ).
- **Any medicines that impair or decrease your thinking, concentration, or muscle coordination.**
- **Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors** such as ZONEGRAN (zonisamide), DIAMOX (acetazolamide) or NEPTAZANE (methazolamide).
- **Seizure medicines** such as Valproic acid (DEPAKENE or DEPAKOTE).

Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of these medicines, if you are not sure.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your healthcare provider and pharmacist each time you get a new medicine. Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.

#### **How should I take QSYMIA?**

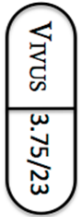
- Your healthcare provider should start you on a diet and exercise program when you start taking QSYMIA. Stay on this program while you are taking QSYMIA.
- **Do not** change your dose without talking to your healthcare provider.
- QSYMIA can be taken with or without food.
- If you miss a dose of QSYMIA, wait until the next morning to take your usual dose of QSYMIA. **Do not** double your dose.
- **To start treatment with QSYMIA**
  - Take 1 **QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg capsule** (Figure A) 1 time each morning for the first 14 days.
  - After taking QSYMIA 3.75 mg/23 mg capsule for 14 days, then take 1 **QSYMIA 7.5 mg/46 mg capsule** (Figure B) 1 time each morning.
- **After taking QSYMIA for 12 weeks**

- Your healthcare provider may tell you to increase your dose of QSYMIA if you do not lose a certain amount of weight or do not have a certain decrease in BMI for children 12 years and older, within the **first 12** weeks of treatment at the recommended dose.
- **If your healthcare provider increases the dose of QSYMIA**
  - Take 1 **QSYMIA 11.25 mg/69 mg capsule** (Figure C) 1 time each morning for 14 days.
  - After taking 14 days of QSYMIA 11.25 mg/69 mg capsule, then take 1 **QSYMIA 15 mg/92 mg capsule** (Figure D) 1 time each morning.

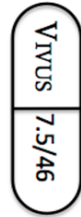
- **Stopping QSYMIA treatment**

Your healthcare provider should tell you to stop taking QSYMIA if you have not lost a certain amount of weight or do not have a certain decrease in BMI for children 12 years and older, after an **additional 12** weeks of treatment on the higher dose.

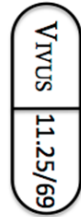
**Do not** stop taking QSYMIA without talking to your healthcare provider. **Stopping QSYMIA suddenly can cause serious problems, such as seizures.** Your healthcare provider will tell you how to stop taking QSYMIA slowly.



**Figure A**



**Figure B**



**Figure C**



**Figure D**

QSYMIA (3.75 mg/23 mg)  
Cap and body are purple  
with white printing

QSYMIA (7.5 mg/46 mg)  
Cap is purple with white  
printing and the body is  
yellow with black  
printing

QSYMIA (11.25 mg/69 mg)  
Cap and body are yellow  
with black printing

QSYMIA (15 mg/92 mg)  
Cap is yellow with black  
printing and the body is  
white with black printing

If you take too much QSYMIA, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest emergency room right away.

**What should I avoid while taking QSYMIA?**

- **Do not get pregnant while taking QSYMIA.** See “What is the most important information I should know about QSYMIA.”
- **Do not drink too much alcohol while taking QSYMIA.** QSYMIA and alcohol can affect each other causing side effects such as sleepiness or dizziness.
- **Do not drive a car, operate heavy machinery, or do other dangerous activities until you know how QSYMIA affects you.** QSYMIA can slow your thinking and motor skills and may affect vision.

**What are the possible side effects of QSYMIA?**

QSYMIA can cause serious side effects, including:

- See “What is the most important information I should know about QSYMIA?” at the beginning of this Medication Guide.
- **Mood changes and trouble sleeping.** QSYMIA may cause depression or mood problems, and trouble sleeping. Tell your healthcare provider if symptoms occur.
- **Concentration, memory, and speech difficulties.** QSYMIA may affect how you think and cause confusion, problems with concentration, attention, memory, or speech. Tell your healthcare provider if symptoms occur.
- **Slowing of growth.** QSYMIA may slow the increase in height in children 12 years and older, when used for a long time.
- **Increases of acid in bloodstream (metabolic acidosis).** If left untreated, metabolic acidosis can cause brittle or soft bones (osteoporosis, osteomalacia, rickets, osteopenia), kidney stones, can slow the rate of growth in children, and may possibly harm your baby if you are pregnant. Metabolic acidosis can happen with or without symptoms. Sometimes people with metabolic acidosis will:
  - feel tired
  - not feel hungry (loss of appetite)
  - feel changes in heartbeat
  - have trouble thinking clearly

Your healthcare provider should do a blood test to measure the level of acid in your blood before and during your treatment with QSYMIA.

- **Decrease in kidney function.** QSYMIA may cause a decrease in kidney function. Your healthcare provider should do a blood test to measure your kidney function before and during treatment with QSYMIA.
- **Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) in people with type 2 diabetes mellitus who also take medicines used to treat type 2 diabetes mellitus.** Weight loss can cause low blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes mellitus

who also take medicines used to treat type 2 diabetes mellitus (such as insulin or sulfonylureas). You should check your blood sugar before you start taking QSYMIA and while you take QSYMIA.

- **Low blood pressure (hypotension) in people who take high blood pressure medicines.** Weight loss can cause low blood pressure in people who take medicines to treat high blood pressure. Call your healthcare provider if you have symptoms of low blood pressure such as dizziness, feeling lightheaded, and fainting during treatment with QSYMIA. Your healthcare provider should check your blood pressure before you start taking QSYMIA and while you take QSYMIA.
- **Possible seizures if you stop taking QSYMIA too fast.** Seizures may happen in people who may or may not have had seizures in the past if you stop QSYMIA too fast. Your healthcare provider will tell you how to stop taking QSYMIA slowly.
- **Kidney stones.** Drink plenty of fluids when taking QSYMIA to help decrease your chances of getting kidney stones. If you get severe side or back pain, or blood in your urine, call your healthcare provider.
- **Decreased sweating and increased body temperature (fever).** People should be watched for signs of decreased sweating and fever, especially in hot temperatures. Some people may need to be hospitalized for this condition.
- **Serious skin reactions.** QSYMIA may cause a severe rash with blisters and peeling skin, especially around the mouth, nose, eyes, and genitals (Stevens-Johnson Syndrome). QSYMIA may also cause a rash with blisters and peeling skin over much of the body that may cause death (Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis). Call your healthcare provider right away if you develop a skin rash or blisters.
- **Allergic reaction to FD&C Yellow No. 5.** QSYMIA capsules contain the inactive ingredient FD&C Yellow No. 5 (tartrazine) which can cause allergic-type reactions (including bronchial asthma) in certain people, especially people who also have an allergy to aspirin.

**Common side effects of QSYMIA in adults include:**

- numbness or tingling in the hands, arms, feet, or face (paraesthesia)
- dizziness
- change in the way foods taste or loss of taste (dysgeusia)
- trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- constipation
- dry mouth

**Common side effects of QSYMIA in children 12 years and older include:**

- depression
- dizziness
- joint pain
- fever
- flu
- ankle sprain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

These are not all of the possible side effects of QSYMIA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

You can also report side effects to VIVUS at 1-888-998-4887.

**How should I store QSYMIA?**

- Store QSYMIA at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).

**Keep QSYMIA and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

**General Information about the safe and effective use of QSYMIA.**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use QSYMIA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give QSYMIA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about QSYMIA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about QSYMIA that is written for health professionals.



**What are the ingredients in QSYMIA?****Active Ingredient:** phentermine hydrochloride and topiramate extended-release**Inactive Ingredients:** FD&C Blue #1, FD&C Red #3, FD&C Yellow #5 and #6, ethylcellulose, gelatin, methylcellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, ethylcellulose, povidone, starch, sucrose, talc, titanium dioxide, and pharmaceutical black and white inks.

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**QSYMIA** is a registered trademark of VIVUS LLC

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

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