

Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (Nasal Spray Preparation)

A single-component aqueous nasal spray preparation of the 28-residue neuropeptide Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (VIP), originally isolated by Said and Mutt in 1970 — a full agonist at VPAC1 and VPAC2 receptors of the secretin/glucagon GPCR family, formulated for intranasal mucosal delivery via a 200-actuation metered-dose bottle at 0.10 mg active per spray.

CATALOG REFERENCE

BM-SPR-008

FORM FACTOR

Nasal spray · 20 mg /
bottle · 200 sprays ·
0.10 mg per spray

STRENGTH

20 mg active per bottle

DATE OF ISSUE

May 2026

This research preparation is a single-component nasal spray formulation of **Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (VIP)**, a 28-residue neuropeptide of the secretin/glucagon family originally isolated by Sami Said and Viktor Mutt at the Karolinska Institute in 1970 from porcine intestinal extracts. VIP has the sequence His-Ser-Asp-Ala-Val-Phe-Thr-Asp-Asn-Tyr-Thr-Arg-Leu-Arg-Lys-Gln-Met-Ala-Val-Lys-Lys-Tyr-Leu-Asn-Ser-Ile-Leu-Asn-NH₂ and acts as a full agonist at two Class B G-protein-coupled receptors, VPAC1 and VPAC2, which are widely distributed across the central nervous system, gastrointestinal tract, vascular endothelium, immune cells, and respiratory epithelium. Receptor engagement couples principally to Gas with downstream cAMP / PKA signalling and additional Gαq coupling reported in some cellular contexts. The preparation is supplied at 20 mg total mass per bottle with 200 sprays at 0.10 mg per spray. **This monograph summarises published cellular pharmacology and preclinical findings for laboratory research reference only.**

01 Active Compound Profile

COMMON DESIGNATION	Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide · VIP
PRIMARY SEQUENCE (28 RESIDUES)	His-Ser-Asp-Ala-Val-Phe-Thr-Asp-Asn-Tyr-Thr-Arg-Leu-Arg-Lys-Gln-Met-Ala-Val-Lys-Lys-Tyr-Leu-Asn-Ser-Ile-Leu-Asn-NH ₂
C-TERMINAL MODIFICATION	C-terminal amide; essential for receptor binding
CAS REGISTRY	37221-79-7
MOLECULAR FORMULA	C ₁₄₇ H ₂₃₇ N ₄₃ O ₄₃ S
AVERAGE MOLECULAR MASS	3326.78 g · mol ⁻¹
PRIMARY MOLECULAR TARGETS	VPAC1 and VPAC2 receptors (Class B GPCR family); additional engagement at PAC1 (the principal PACAP receptor) at higher concentrations

02 Formulation and Delivery Specifications

TOTAL MASS PER BOTTLE	20 mg VIP active
SPRAYS PER BOTTLE	200 sprays
ACTIVE PER SPRAY	0.10 mg VIP per spray
VOLUME PER SPRAY	0.1 mL per metered actuation
VEHICLE	Aqueous nasal-grade vehicle with preservative
ANALYTICAL SPECIFICATION	≥ 98 % purity by HPLC; content uniformity per actuation verified to ± 10 % of label claim

03 Origin and Cellular Pharmacology

VIP WAS ISOLATED BY SAMI SAID AND VIKTOR MUTT IN 1970 FROM PORCINE DUODENUM DURING FRACTIONATION studies aimed at identifying gastrointestinal hormones with vasodilator activity. The molecule is the founding member of the VIP/secretin/glucagon peptide family and is now understood to function as a widely distributed neuropeptide with roles in respiratory smooth muscle relaxation, gastrointestinal motility regulation, vascular endothelial signalling, circadian rhythm regulation (through SCN VIP neurons), and immunomodulation. The two principal VIP receptors VPAC1 and VPAC2 share approximately 50% sequence identity, both couple to G_{αs} with downstream cAMP / PKA activation, and additionally engage G_{αq} / PLC / IP₃ pathways in some cellular contexts. VPAC1 is widely distributed

in the central nervous system, intestinal epithelium, lung tissue, T lymphocytes, and liver; VPAC2 is highly expressed in the suprachiasmatic nucleus, vascular smooth muscle, mast cells, and skeletal muscle.

04 Preclinical Findings

SYSTEM	PREPARATION	REPORTED OBSERVATION	REF.
Receptor activation	VPAC1/VPAC2-transfected cell lines	Full agonism; G α s coupling; cAMP elevation	1
Vascular smooth muscle	Isolated rabbit pulmonary artery	Endothelium-independent vasodilation	2
Circadian regulation	Mouse SCN slice preparations	Synchronisation of SCN neuronal firing rhythms via VPAC2	3
Immunomodulation	Murine T-cell preparations	Th2-skewing; reduced TNF- α and IL-6 production	4
Respiratory smooth muscle	Isolated airway preparations	Bronchodilation via VPAC2 engagement	5

05 Critical Chemistry-Handling Notes

VIP-SPECIFIC HANDLING CONSIDERATIONS

VIP contains an internal Met17 residue (oxidation-susceptible) and two Tyr residues (Tyr10, Tyr22; photo-oxidation susceptible). Air-exposure minimisation and light protection are recommended. The C-terminal amide is essential for receptor binding and must be preserved. The molecule has a short plasma half-life of approximately 2 minutes in cell-free studies due to extensive peptidase cleavage; intranasal delivery bypasses some but not all of this peptidase exposure.

04 Nasal Delivery Considerations

INTRANASAL BIOAVAILABILITY AND VEHICLE CHEMISTRY

The intranasal route provides direct access to systemic circulation through the rich vascularisation of the nasal mucosa, bypassing first-pass hepatic metabolism characteristic of oral administration. For peptide-class compounds, the principal nasal-delivery considerations are (a) **mucosal residence time** — aqueous nasal vehicles produce relatively short mucosal contact, with peptide permeation governed by molecular size, lipophilicity, and chemistry of the active; (b) **vehicle pH** — neutral-to-slightly-acidic pH (5.5–7.0) is optimal for both nasal mucosa tolerance and peptide bond stability; (c) **osmolarity** — formulation osmolarity is targeted to approximate physiological isotonicity to minimise mucociliary disruption; (d) **preservative selection** — benzalkonium chloride or similar quaternary ammonium preservatives are standard for nasal aqueous formulations; (e) **permeation enhancers** may be incorporated in some formulations to support peptide passage across the nasal epithelium without disrupting mucosal integrity.

06 Laboratory Handling and Storage

THE SEALED NASAL SPRAY BOTTLE IS HELD AT 2–8 °C REFRIGERATED FOR LONG-TERM STORAGE AND MAY BE brought to room temperature for working use. Light protection is recommended; opaque or amber bottle materials provide adequate protection. Working concentrations are determined by the investigator's experimental design (0.10 mg active per actuation at the specified formulation).

07 References

- 1 Said SI, Mutt V. Polypeptide with broad biological activity: isolation from small intestine. *Science*. 1970;169(3951):1217–1218. PMID: [5450698](#)
- 2 Couvineau A, Laburthe M. VPAC receptors: structure, molecular pharmacology and interaction with accessory proteins. *Br J Pharmacol*. 2012;166(1):42–50. PMID: [22141738](#)
- 3 Aton SJ, Colwell CS, Harmar AJ, Waschek J, Herzog ED. Vasoactive intestinal polypeptide mediates circadian rhythmicity and synchrony in mammalian clock neurons. *Nat Neurosci*. 2005;8(4):476–483. PMID: [15750589](#)
- 4 Delgado M, Pozo D, Ganea D. The significance of vasoactive intestinal peptide in immunomodulation. *Pharmacol Rev*. 2004;56(2):249–290. PMID: [15169929](#)
- 5 Groneberg DA, Rabe KF, Fischer A. Novel concepts of neuropeptide-based drug therapy: vasoactive intestinal polypeptide and its receptors. *Eur J Pharmacol*. 2006;533(1-3):182–194. PMID: [16455070](#)

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