

## eSHa HEXAMITA™ - DISCUS DISEASE TREATMENT

FOR DISCUS AND OTHER CICHLIDS

### How do I know when to use HEXAMITA?

Disease diagnosis is the first step toward successful and rapid disease cure. Most fish diseases are highly contagious and spread quickly so prompt diagnosis and treatment is advised. There are some predominant 'early warning signals' which should be watched for as these can indicate the onset of a disease.

**Skin:** The skin is the first line of defence and as such it is often the first to show signs of attack from infection. Any changes in skin colour or appearance should be closely watched for.

**Fins:** Watch your fish's fins. Fins which are held close to the body signal an illness, particularly on live bearing fish.

**Swimming behaviour:** Unusual or sluggish swimming behaviour can indicate the onset of a disease.



### What fish can I treat with HEXAMITA?

HEXAMITA is specially formulated for use with discus and cichlids (and is especially good with discus and angelfish). However, it can be used with all freshwater tropical and coldwater fish. HEXAMITA is well tolerated by fish, plants and filters.

### What symptoms will my fish display when They have 'hole-in-the-head' disease?

There are a number of symptoms your discus, angelfish or cichlids may show when contaminated 'Hole-in-the-head' causing HEXAMITA parasite. Not all symptoms will be visible.

#### Typically, the first sign of infection is:

- The infected fish is cast out from or separates itself from the group.

#### Symptoms of the second stage of infection are:

- Loss of appetite.
- Dull eyes.
- Darkening of colour of the skin.
- Apprehensive behaviour.
- Slow reactions.
- White Stringy Faeces (only sometimes).

#### Symptoms of the final stages of infection are:

- Enlarged sensory pores on the head that become filled with a whitish pus.  
Tubular skin eruptions (whitish pus substance emerges from lesions which can be mistaken for worms).
- Rapidly spreading skin decay.
- Emaciation and distended body.
- Lesions near the head, lateral line and at base of fins.
- Thin body with a tucked in abdomen.
- Small holes in foreheads and body.
- 'Flaky' skin.

It is important to note the sensory pores are not always affected and hence if this visible sign is not present then a HEXAMITA infection can go unnoticed. Death can occur by infection in the internal organs as the parasite can spread to them from the intestine where it often resides.

Traditional treatment is with medicated food to

reach to the intestine where most HEXAMITA infections reside. However, fish tend to lose their appetite when infected so it can be hard to treat the fish in this manner. HEXAMITA solves your problem.

### What other diseases does HEXAMITA treat?

HEXAMITA can be used to successfully combat a wide range of parasites that are responsible a wide range of diseases and conditions. Diseases that affect Discus are usually the same as those that affect other tropical fish.

Most commonly are Gill Flukes, Intestinal disorders and Sliminess of the skin. HEXAMITA successfully treats these disorders as well as most other common fish diseases including fungus, finrot and dropsy. HEXAMITA is a complete treatment for most diseases your discus and other cichlids will encounter.

If your fish suffer from 'Hole-in-the-head' disease it can leave them weakened and susceptible to secondary infections. Because eSHa HEXAMITA treats most common disorders in addition to 'Hole-in-the-head disease', the danger of a secondary infection is removed.

### How do I keep my fish in good health?

After an illness give your fish a dose of eSHa OPTIMA - Fish Health Booster. eSHa OPTIMA is a blend of unique elements designed to keep your fish in the best of health. It boosts fish health, increases resistance against disease and speeds up recovery from illness.

### Using HEXAMITA with eSHa EXIT?

HEXAMITA can be used in conjunction with eSHa EXIT - Anti Whitespot Treatment. This combination provides you with a broadly effective tool to solve and prevent most diseases your Discus and other Cichlids may encounter.

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### How does 'hole-in-the-head-disease' occur?

The disease occurs mainly in discus and cichlid species but it can affect other species such as gouramis. The disease is caused by a microscopic parasite called HEXAMITA (often referred to as Octomitus and Spironucleus). The disease is contagious and infectious. Many claim that the disease is incurable.

Most discus and cichlids carry the HEXAMITA causing parasite but usually, under normal conditions, it will not develop into a harmful infection. However, if the immune system of the fish is weakened

(due to bad water quality, bad nutrition, stress causing occurrences such as transportation etc) then problems can develop.

The introduction of new fish into the aquarium can also cause problems as different parasites to which the existing fish have no resistance are brought into the same environment.

It is advised not to wait until your fish show symptoms of infection (such as refusing food) so keep a constant eye on your fish.

### Dosage

To treat the disease symptoms outlined overleaf, use a standard 3 day dose of Hexamita. Multi-day dosage achieves exceptional results whilst causing minimal distress to your fish.

- 1 Calculate the volume of your aquarium. Calculate only the area occupied by water.

Litres	Length x Width x Depth in cm	: 1000
Gallons	Length x Width x Depth in inches	: 276
1 Litre = 0.22 Gallons	1 Gallon = 4.54 Litres	

- 2 Locate your aquarium volume on the dosage scale (metric or imperial). Read down to find the corresponding number of drops required for days one, two and three. Note: dosage on days two and three is identical.

**Example:** a 100 litre (22 gallon) aquarium needs 25 drops on day one, 12 drops on day two, 12 drops on day three.

- 3 Add drops of HEXAMITA to your aquarium by holding the bottle upside down and squeezing the pipette (20 drops = 1ml). 

### Standard dosage

(for 100 litres / 22 gallons)

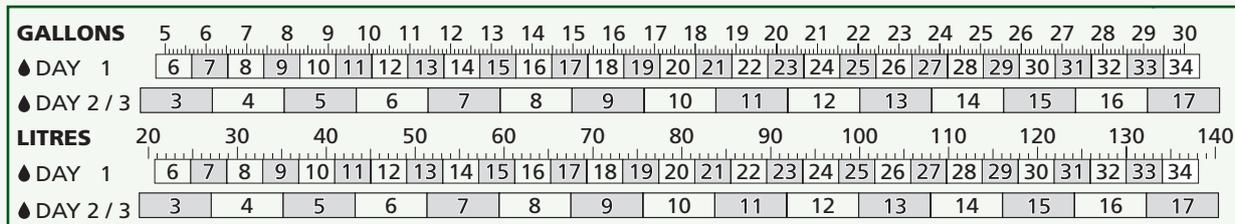
Day 1: 25 drops

Day 2: 12 drops

Day 3: 12 drops

One 20ml bottle of HEXAMITA is enough to complete a three day dosage for an 800 litre (175 Gallon) aquarium.

Note: In serious cases (where fish are showing the final symptoms of infection), it is possible to double or even triple the standard dosage. This will give fast initial results but should only be done if the infection is very serious.



### What precautions must I take when using HEXAMITA?

#### Water Changes?

It is generally not necessary to do a water change before or after using HEXAMITA. However, there are a few exceptions where a partial water change should be carried out before treating the aquarium:

- 1 In the case of poor water quality. Regular testing with eSHa Aqua-Quick-Test can identify water quality problems in time to take corrective action when needed.
- 2 If you are close to your regular water change (20 - 25% per month - see specialist aquarium guide).
- 3 If using any water conditioners.
- 4 If you have just used or are using another treatment ( 2 x 40% water changes should be carried out over a period of three days).

Replacing some of the water during or just after treatment effectively removes some of the treatment. Compensate by adding a proportional amount of treatment after a water change.

#### Filtering?

You may continue to filter over non-adsorbing materials such as filter-wool, sand, gravel etc. Always remove chemical 'active' filter media such as activated carbon, UV, oxidisers, resins etc as these can have a negative influence on the action of HEXAMITA. Run filters day and night.

#### Overdosing?

It is not recommended to add more than the advised dosage when using HEXAMITA.

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### Other Treatments?

Never combine treatments unless the manufacturer specifically states that it is safe to do so. HEXAMITA is safe to use in conjunction with eSHa EXIT.

### Warnings:

- Always read the leaflet before use.
- This product may stain if spilt.
- Keep out of reach of children and pets.
- Store bottle and leaflet in original packaging.
- For freshwater ornamental fish only.
- This product may discolour the water.
- Keep away from eyes, cuts and sensitive areas.
- This information is subject to change. Please check if you have the latest version.
- This information is general product information not to be mistaken for the instruction leaflet. No rights can be derived from this document.

### TOGETHER WE WILL FIND THE SOLUTION

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