

NEONATAL West of Scotland Drug Monographs

Parenteral Routes

Neonatal

Artesunate

FORM Vial containing 60mg powder for reconstitution for injection.

INDICATION Treatment of congenital malaria, named patient use

DOSE RANGE

AGE	DOSE	FREQUENCY	ROUTE
Neonate	3mg/kg	Loading dose: 3 doses 12 hours apart followed by Maintenance dose: 24hrly	IV

Reconstitution	Add 1ml of sodium bicarbonate 5% (provided with drug) to a 60mg vial Shake the vial until the solution is clear, inserting a venting needle to allow accumulated gas to escape
Dilution	FURTHER DILUTE with 5ml of sodium chloride 0.9%, giving a 10mg in 1ml solution Swirl to mix Use within 1 hour of reconstitution
Administration	Use required volume for dose and give by slow IV injection over 1-2 minutes Flush with sodium chloride 0.9%

COMPATIBILITY

Solution compatibility	Sodium chloride 0.9%
Solution incompatibility	No information
IV Line compatibility	No information
IV Line incompatibility	No information

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE PLEASE CONTACT PHARMACY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON COMPATIBILITY WITH ANY MEDICINES NOT INCLUDED

CAUTIONS, CONTRA-INDICATIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

No adjustment for hepatic or renal impairment required.

Monitor patient for hypersensitivity reactions. Fever, bradycardia, vomiting and diarrhoea may occur. Jaundice – monitor for delayed haemolysis post treatment (~2 weeks) as advised by Paediatric Infectious Diseases Team; acute renal failure and haemoglobinuria may occur

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FURTHER INFORMATION For further information refer to the BNF-c or RHC Malaria treatment guidelines.

Reconstituted solution should be used within 1 hour.

STORAGE Vials should be stored below 25 degrees and protected from light until reconstituted.

LICENSED STATUS Unlicensed medicine. Not licensed for use in neonates.

APPLICABLE POLICIES West of Scotland Neonatal Guidelines
NHS GGC Malaria Treatment Guidelines, Paediatrics
World Health Organisation, Guidelines For Malaria October 2023

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Administer reconstituted solutions immediately.

All vials, ampoules and infusion bags are for single use only unless otherwise stated.

Dose may vary depending on indication, age, renal function, hepatic function, and concomitant medications.
This monograph should be used in conjunction with the terms of reference document prepared by the West of Scotland Pharmacist Network. Information is correct at the time of publication and as per local practice agreement.
For further advice please contact your clinical pharmacist or pharmacy department
