

- **BREAST FEEDING** Present in milk but not known to be harmful.
- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Use with caution in significant impairment.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

**Tablet**

► **Loniten** (Pfizer Ltd)

**Minoxidil 2.5 mg** Loniten 2.5mg tablets | 60 tablet [PoM] £8.88 DT = £8.88

**Minoxidil 5 mg** Loniten 5mg tablets | 60 tablet [PoM] £15.83 DT = £15.83

**Minoxidil 10 mg** Loniten 10mg tablets | 60 tablet [PoM] £30.68 DT = £30.68

## 4.1a Hypertension associated with pheochromocytoma

**Other drugs used for Hypertension associated with pheochromocytoma** Propranolol hydrochloride, p. 162

### VASODILATORS > PERIPHERAL VASODILATORS

## Phenoxybenzamine hydrochloride

01-Apr-2020

- **INDICATIONS AND DOSE**

### Hypertension in pheochromocytoma

► BY MOUTH

► **Adult:** Initially 10 mg daily, increased in steps of 10 mg daily until hypertension controlled or treatment not tolerated; maintenance 1–2 mg/kg daily in 2 divided doses

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** During recovery period after myocardial infarction (usually 3–4 weeks) · history of cerebrovascular accident
- **CAUTIONS** Avoid in Acute porphyrias p. 1120 · carcinogenic in *animals* · cerebrovascular disease · congestive heart failure · elderly · severe ischaemic heart disease
- **SIDE-EFFECTS** Abdominal distress · dizziness · ejaculation failure · fatigue · miosis · nasal congestion · postural hypotension · reflex tachycardia
- **PREGNANCY** Hypotension may occur in newborn.
- **BREAST FEEDING** May be present in milk.
- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Use with caution.
- **HANDLING AND STORAGE** Owing to risk of contact sensitisation healthcare professionals should avoid contamination of hands.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: oral suspension, oral solution

**Capsule**

► **Phenoxybenzamine hydrochloride (Non-proprietary)**

**Phenoxybenzamine hydrochloride 10 mg** Phenoxybenzamine 10mg capsules | 30 capsule [PoM] £118.00 DT = £118.00

## 4.1b Hypertensive crises

**Other drugs used for Hypertensive crises** Hydralazine hydrochloride, p. 192 · Labetalol hydrochloride, p. 160

### VASODILATORS > VASODILATOR ANTIHYPERTENSIVES

## Sodium nitroprusside

06-Feb-2020

- **INDICATIONS AND DOSE**

### Hypertensive emergencies

► BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

► **Adult:** Initially 0.5–1.5 micrograms/kg/minute, adjusted in steps of 500 nanograms/kg/minute every 5 minutes, usual dose 0.5–8 micrograms/kg/minute, use lower doses if already receiving other antihypertensives, stop if response unsatisfactory with max. dose in 10 minutes, lower initial dose of 300 nanograms/kg/minute has been used

### Maintenance of blood pressure at 30–40% lower than pretreatment diastolic blood pressure

► BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

► **Adult:** 20–400 micrograms/minute, use lower doses for patients being treated with other antihypertensives

### Controlled hypotension in anaesthesia during surgery

► BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

► **Adult:** Up to 1.5 micrograms/kg/minute

### Acute or chronic heart failure

► BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

► **Adult:** Initially 10–15 micrograms/minute, increased every 5–10 minutes as necessary; usual dose 10–200 micrograms/minute normally for max. 3 days

- **UNLICENSED USE** Not licensed for use in the UK.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Compensatory hypertension · impaired cerebral circulation · Leber's optic atrophy · severe vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency

- **CAUTIONS** Elderly · hyponatraemia · hypothermia · hypothyroidism · ischaemic heart disease

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: nitroprusside

- **SIDE-EFFECTS** Abdominal pain · anaemia · arrhythmias · chest discomfort · cyanide toxicity · dizziness · flushing · headache · hyperhidrosis · hypothyroidism · hypovolaemia · ileus · intracranial pressure increased · methaemoglobinaemia · muscle twitching · nausea · palpitations · rash · thiocyanate toxicity

### SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION

Side-effects associated with over rapid reduction in blood pressure: Headache, dizziness, nausea, retching, abdominal pain, perspiration, palpitation, anxiety, retrosternal discomfort—reduce infusion rate if any of these side-effects occur.

**Overdose** Side-effects caused by excessive plasma concentration of the cyanide metabolite include tachycardia, sweating, hyperventilation, arrhythmias, marked metabolic acidosis (discontinue and give antidote, see cyanide in Emergency treatment of poisoning p. 1430).

- **PREGNANCY** Avoid prolonged use—potential for accumulation of cyanide in fetus.
- **BREAST FEEDING** No information available. Caution advised due to thiocyanate metabolite.
- **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Use with caution. Avoid in hepatic failure—cyanide or thiocyanate metabolites may accumulate.
- **RENAL IMPAIRMENT** Avoid prolonged use—cyanide or thiocyanate metabolites may accumulate.
- **MONITORING REQUIREMENTS** Monitor blood pressure (including intra-arterial blood pressure) and blood-cyanide concentration, and if treatment exceeds 3 days, also blood thiocyanate concentration.
- **TREATMENT CESSATION** Avoid sudden withdrawal—terminate infusion over 15–30 minutes.