

- ▶ **Adenocor** (Sanofi)
Adenosine 3 mg per 1 ml Adenocor 6mg/2ml solution for injection vials | 6 vial [PoM] £6.45 (Hospital only)

Solution for infusion

ELECTROLYTES: May contain Sodium

- ▶ **Adenosine (Non-proprietary)**
Adenosine 3 mg per 1 ml Adenosine 30mg/10ml solution for infusion vials | 5 vial [PoM] £30.00 (Hospital only) | 6 vial [PoM] £70.00-£85.57 (Hospital only)
- ▶ **Adenoscan** (Sanofi)
Adenosine 3 mg per 1 ml Adenoscan 30mg/10ml solution for infusion vials | 6 vial [PoM] £16.05

Vernakalant

15-Jul-2019

- **DRUG ACTION** Vernakalant is an anti-arrhythmic drug that blocks potassium and sodium channels in the atria, thereby restoring normal heart rhythm.

● **INDICATIONS AND DOSE****Rapid conversion of recent onset atrial fibrillation to sinus rhythm (specialist supervision in hospital)**

▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

- ▶ Adult: Initially 3 mg/kg (max. per dose 339 mg), followed by 2 mg/kg (max. per dose 226 mg), if conversion to sinus rhythm does not occur within 15 minutes after the end of initial infusion, maximum 5 mg/kg per 24 hours; maximum 565 mg per day

DOSE EQUIVALENCE AND CONVERSION

- ▶ Doses expressed as vernakalant hydrochloride.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Acute coronary syndrome within the last 30 days · baseline QT interval 440 milliseconds or greater · congestive heart failure with left ventricular ejection fraction \leq 35% · heart failure (New York Heart Association class III/IV) · second- or third-degree heart block (unless pacemaker fitted) · severe aortic stenosis · severe bradycardia · sinus node dysfunction · systolic blood pressure less than 100 mmHg
- **CAUTIONS** Haemodynamically stable patients with congestive heart failure (increased risk of hypotension and ventricular arrhythmia) · patients receiving oral anti-arrhythmics (class I or III) (risk of atrial flutter) · valvular heart disease (increased incidence of ventricular arrhythmia)
- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: antiarrhythmics
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Arrhythmias · cough · dizziness · feeling hot · headache · hypotension · nasal complaints · nausea · oral disorders · sensation abnormal · skin reactions · sweat changes · taste altered · vomiting
 - ▶ **Uncommon** Altered smell sensation · cardiac conduction disorders · cardiogenic shock · chest discomfort · choking sensation · defaecation urgency · diarrhoea · drowsiness · dry mouth · dyspnoea · excessive tearing · eye irritation · fatigue · malaise · pain in extremity · pallor · palpitations · QT interval prolongation · suffocation feeling · syncope · throat irritation · vasodilation · visual impairment
- **SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION** Discontinue and initiate appropriate treatment if hypotension, bradycardia, ECG changes, or a sudden drop in blood pressure or heart rate occur.
- **PREGNANCY** Manufacturer advises avoid—no information available.
- **BREAST FEEDING** Manufacturer advises caution—no information available.
- **MONITORING REQUIREMENTS** Manufacturer advises monitor blood pressure and ECG during and for at least 15 minutes after completion of the infusion.
- **DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION** Manufacturer advises for *intermittent intravenous infusion* in patients with body-

weight up to and including 100 kg, dilute to a concentration of 4 mg/mL with 100 mL of Glucose 5% or Sodium Chloride 0.9% or Lactated Ringer's Solution; give over 10 minutes. Manufacturer advises for *intermittent intravenous infusion* in patients with body-weight more than 100 kg, dilute to a concentration of 4 mg/mL with 120 mL of Glucose 5% or Sodium Chloride 0.9% or Lactated Ringer's Solution; give over 10 minutes.

- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** The manufacturer of *Brinavess*® has provided a *Pre-infusion Checklist* and a *Healthcare Professional Card*.
- **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE** Driving and skilled tasks Manufacturer advises patients and carers should be counselled on the effects on driving and performance of skilled tasks—increased risk of dizziness.
- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.
Solution for infusion
ELECTROLYTES: May contain Sodium
▶ **Vernakalant (Non-proprietary)**
Vernakalant hydrochloride 20 mg per 1 ml Brinavess 500mg/25ml concentrate for solution for infusion vials | 1 vial [PoM] £290.00 (Hospital only)

**BETA-ADRENOCEPTOR BLOCKERS >
NON-SELECTIVE**

159

Sotalol hydrochloride

12-Dec-2019

● **INDICATIONS AND DOSE**

Symptomatic non-sustained ventricular tachyarrhythmias | Prophylaxis of paroxysmal atrial tachycardia or fibrillation, paroxysmal AV re-entrant tachycardias (both nodal and involving accessory pathways), and paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia after cardiac surgery | Maintenance of sinus rhythm following cardioversion of atrial fibrillation or flutter

▶ BY MOUTH

- ▶ Adult: Initially 80 mg daily in 1–2 divided doses, then increased to 160–320 mg daily in 2 divided doses, dose to be increased gradually at intervals of 2–3 days

Life-threatening arrhythmias including ventricular tachyarrhythmias

▶ BY MOUTH

- ▶ Adult: Initially 80 mg daily in 1–2 divided doses, then increased to 160–320 mg daily in 2 divided doses, dose to be increased gradually at intervals of 2–3 days, higher doses of 480–640 mg daily may be required for life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias (under specialist supervision)

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Sotalol may prolong the QT interval, and it occasionally causes life threatening ventricular arrhythmias (**important**: manufacturer advises particular care is required to avoid hypokalaemia in patients taking sotalol—electrolyte disturbances, particularly hypokalaemia and hypomagnesaemia should be corrected before sotalol started and during use).

Manufacturer advises reduce dose or discontinue if corrected QT interval exceeds 550 msec.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Long QT syndrome (congenital or acquired) · torsade de pointes
- **CAUTIONS** Diarrhoea (severe or prolonged)
- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: beta blockers, non-selective
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Anxiety · arrhythmia · chest pain · dyspepsia · fever · flatulence · hearing impairment · mood altered · muscle spasms · oedema · palpitations · sexual