

## Botulism antitoxin

- **DRUG ACTION** A preparation containing the specific antitoxic globulins that have the power of neutralising the toxins formed by types A, B, and E of *Clostridium botulinum*.

### ● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

#### Post exposure prophylaxis of botulism

- ▶ BY INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION
- ▶ Adult: (consult product literature)

- **SIDE-EFFECTS** Hypersensitivity
- SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION** It is essential to read the contra-indications, warnings, and details of sensitivity tests on the package insert. Prior to treatment checks should be made regarding previous administration of any antitoxin and history of any allergic condition, e.g. asthma, hay fever, etc.
- **PRE-TREATMENT SCREENING** All patients should be tested for sensitivity (diluting the antitoxin if history of allergy).
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Available from local designated centres, for details see TOXBASE (requires registration) [www.toxbase.org](http://www.toxbase.org). For supplies outside working hours apply to other designated centres or to the Public Health England Colindale duty doctor (Tel (020) 8200 6868). For major incidents, obtain supplies from the local blood bank.  
The BP title Botulinum Antitoxin is not used because the preparation currently in use may have a different specification.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** No licensed medicines listed.

## Diphtheria antitoxin

### (Dip/Ser)

### ● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

#### Passive immunisation in suspected cases of diphtheria

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION
- ▶ Adult: Dose should be given without waiting for bacteriological confirmation (consult product literature)

### ● CAUTIONS



#### CAUTIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION

- ▶ Hypersensitivity Hypersensitivity is common after administration; resuscitation facilities should be available.  
Diphtheria antitoxin is no longer used for prophylaxis because of the risk of hypersensitivity; unimmunised contacts should be promptly investigated and given antibacterial prophylaxis and vaccine.
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
- ▶ **Common or very common** Hypersensitivity
- **PRE-TREATMENT SCREENING** Diphtheria antitoxin is derived from horse serum and reactions are common; tests for hypersensitivity should be carried out before use.
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Available from Centre for Infections (Tel (020) 8200 6868) or in Northern Ireland from Public Health Laboratory, Belfast City Hospital (Tel (028) 9032 9241).

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

#### Solution for injection

##### ▶ Diphtheria antitoxin (Non-proprietary)

Diphtheria antitoxin 1000 unit per 1 ml Antidiphtheria serum 10,000Units/10ml solution for injection ampoules | 1 ampoule  

## 3 Tuberculosis diagnostic test

### DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

## Tuberculin purified protein derivative (Tuberculin PPD)

### ● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

#### Mantoux test

- ▶ BY INTRADERMAL INJECTION
- ▶ Child: 2 units for one dose
- ▶ Adult: 2 units for one dose

#### Mantoux test (if first test is negative and a further test is considered appropriate)

- ▶ BY INTRADERMAL INJECTION
- ▶ Child: 10 units for 1 dose
- ▶ Adult: 10 units for 1 dose

#### DOSE EQUIVALENCE AND CONVERSION

- ▶ 2 units is equivalent to 0.1 mL of 20 units/mL strength.
- ▶ 10 units is equivalent to 0.1 mL of 100 units/mL strength.

### ● CAUTIONS


#### CAUTIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION


- ▶ Mantoux test Response to tuberculin may be suppressed by viral infection, sarcoidosis, corticosteroid therapy, or immunosuppression due to disease or treatment and the MMR vaccine. If a tuberculin skin test has already been initiated, then the MMR should be delayed until the skin test has been read unless protection against measles is required urgently. If a child has had a recent MMR, and requires a tuberculin test, then a 4 week interval should be observed. Apart from tuberculin and MMR, all other live vaccines can be administered at any time before or after tuberculin.
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** Available from ImmForm (SSI brand).  
The strength of tuberculin PPD in currently available products may be different to the strengths of products used previously for the Mantoux test; care is required to select the correct strength.

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

#### Solution for injection

##### ▶ Tuberculin purified protein derivative (Non-proprietary)

Tuberculin purified protein derivative 20 tuberculin unit per 1 ml Tuberculin PPD RT 23 SSI 20 tuberculin units/ml solution for injection 1.5ml vials | 1 vial 

Tuberculin purified protein derivative 100 tuberculin unit per 1 ml Tuberculin PPD RT 23 SSI 100 tuberculin units/ml solution for injection 1.5ml vials | 1 vial 

## 4 Vaccination

### Vaccination, general principles

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#### Active immunity

Active immunity can be acquired by natural disease or by vaccination. **Vaccines** stimulate production of antibodies and other components of the immune mechanism; they consist of either: