

Emergency treatment of anaphylactic reactions

- ▶ BY INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION, OR BY INTRAVENOUS INJECTION
- ▶ Child 1–5 months: 250 micrograms/kg (max. per dose 2.5 mg), repeated if necessary; maximum 4 doses per day
- ▶ Child 6 months–5 years: 2.5 mg, repeated if necessary; maximum 4 doses per day
- ▶ Child 6–11 years: 5 mg, repeated if necessary; maximum 4 doses per day
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 10 mg, repeated if necessary; maximum 4 doses per day

- **UNLICENSED USE** *Injection* not licensed for use in neonates. *Tablets* not licensed for use in children under 6 years. *Syrup* not licensed for use in children under 1 year.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

MHRA/CHM ADVICE (MARCH 2008 AND FEBRUARY 2009) OVER-THE-COUNTER COUGH AND COLD MEDICINES FOR CHILDREN
Children under 6 years should not be given over-the-counter cough and cold medicines containing chlorphenamine.

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Neonate (due to significant antimuscarinic activity)
- **CAUTIONS** Epilepsy · pyloroduodenal obstruction · susceptibility to angle-closure glaucoma · urinary retention
- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: antihistamines, sedating
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**

GENERAL SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ **Common or very common** Concentration impaired · coordination abnormal · dizziness · dry mouth · fatigue · headache · nausea · vision blurred
- ▶ **Frequency not known** Agitation · appetite decreased · blood disorder · bronchial secretion viscosity increased · depression · diarrhoea · haemolytic anaemia · hypotension · irritability · muscle twitching · muscle weakness · nightmare · palpitations · photosensitivity reaction · skin reactions · tinnitus · urinary retention · vomiting

SPECIFIC SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ **Common or very common**
 - ▶ With oral use Drowsiness
 - ▶ **Frequency not known**
 - ▶ With oral use Angioedema · arrhythmias · chest tightness · confusion · gastrointestinal discomfort · hepatic disorders
 - ▶ With parenteral use Central nervous system stimulation · dyspepsia · gastrointestinal disorder · hepatitis · sedation

SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION Children are more susceptible to side-effects.

- **PREGNANCY** Most manufacturers of antihistamines advise avoiding their use during pregnancy; however, there is no evidence of teratogenicity. Use in the latter part of the third trimester may cause adverse effects in neonates such as irritability, paradoxical excitability, and tremor.
- **BREAST FEEDING** Most antihistamines are present in breast milk in varying amounts; although not known to be harmful, most manufacturers advise avoiding their use in mothers who are breast-feeding.
- **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises caution.
- **DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION** For *intravenous injection*, give over 1 minute; if small dose required, dilute with Sodium Chloride 0.9%.
- **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE** Medicines for Children leaflet: Chlorphenamine maleate for allergy symptoms www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/chlorphenamine-maleate-allergy-symptoms-0

Driving and skilled tasks Drowsiness may affect performance of skilled tasks (e.g. cycling or driving); sedating effects enhanced by alcohol.

PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION**Dental practitioners' formulary**

Chlorphenamine tablets may be prescribed.
Chlorphenamine oral solution may be prescribed.

EXCEPTIONS TO LEGAL CATEGORY

- ▶ With intramuscular use or intravenous use Prescription only medicine restriction does not apply to chlorphenamine injection where administration is for saving life in emergency.

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

Solution for injection**▶ Chlorphenamine maleate (Non-proprietary)**

Chlorphenamine maleate 10 mg per 1 ml Chlorphenamine 10mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules | 5 ampoule **[PoM]** £22.48-£22.50 DT = £22.50

Oral solution

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 2

▶ Chlorphenamine maleate (Non-proprietary)

Chlorphenamine maleate 400 microgram per 1 ml Chlorphenamine 2mg/5ml oral solution sugar free sugar-free | 150 ml **[P]** £2.78 DT = £2.21

▶ Allierief (Crescent Pharma Ltd)

Chlorphenamine maleate 400 microgram per 1 ml Allierief 2mg/5ml oral solution sugar-free | 150 ml **[P]** £2.21 DT = £2.21

▶ Pirton (GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare)

Chlorphenamine maleate 400 microgram per 1 ml Piriton 2mg/5ml syrup | 150 ml **[P]** £2.78 DT = £2.78

Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 2

▶ Chlorphenamine maleate (Non-proprietary)

Chlorphenamine maleate 4 mg Chlorphenamine 4mg tablets | 28 tablet **[P]** £1.00 DT = £0.76

▶ Allierief (Crescent Pharma Ltd)

Chlorphenamine maleate 4 mg Allierief 4mg tablets | 28 tablet **[P]** £1.74 DT = £0.76

▶ Hayleve (Genesis Pharmaceuticals Ltd)

Chlorphenamine maleate 4 mg Hayleve 4mg tablets | 28 tablet **[P]** £0.76 DT = £0.76

▶ Pirton (GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare)

Chlorphenamine maleate 4 mg Piriton 4mg tablets | 500 tablet **[P]** £6.96

Pirton Allergy 4mg tablets | 30 tablet **[P]** £2.06 | 60 tablet **[P]** £3.73

▶ Pollenase (chlorphenamine) (E M Pharma)

Chlorphenamine maleate 4 mg Pollenase Antihistamine 4mg tablets | 30 tablet **[P]** £1.00

Hydroxyzine hydrochloride

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- **DRUG ACTION** Hydroxyzine is a sedating antihistamine which exerts its actions by antagonising the effects of histamine.

INDICATIONS AND DOSE**Pruritus****▶ BY MOUTH**

- ▶ Child 6 months–5 years: 5–15 mg daily in divided doses, dose adjusted according to weight; maximum 2 mg/kg per day
- ▶ Child 6–17 years (body-weight up to 40 kg): Initially 15–25 mg daily in divided doses, dose increased as necessary, adjusted according to weight; maximum 2 mg/kg per day
- ▶ Child 6–17 years (body-weight 40 kg and above): Initially 15–25 mg daily in divided doses, increased continued →