

Epirubicin hydrochloride

05-May-2017

INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Recurrent acute lymphoblastic leukaemia | Rhabdomyosarcoma | Other soft-tissue tumours of childhood

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION
- ▶ Child: (consult local protocol)

● **UNLICENSED USE** Not licensed for use in children.

● **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Bladder inflammation or contraction (when used as a bladder instillation) · catheterisation difficulties (when used as a bladder instillation) · haematuria (when used as a bladder instillation) · invasive tumours penetrating the bladder (when used as a bladder instillation) · myocardioathy · previous treatment with maximum cumulative doses of epirubicin or other anthracycline · recent myocardial infarction · severe arrhythmia · severe myocardial insufficiency · unstable angina · urinary tract infections (when used as a bladder instillation)

CONTRA-INDICATIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION

Anthracycline antibiotics should not normally be used in children with left ventricular dysfunction.

● **CAUTIONS** Caution in handling—irritant to tissues

● **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: anthracyclines

SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ **Common or very common** Alopecia · anaemia · appetite decreased · bone marrow depression · dehydration · diarrhoea · increased risk of infection · leucopenia · mucositis · nausea · neutropenia · oesophagitis · stomatitis · urine red · vasodilation · vomiting
- ▶ **Uncommon** Embolism and thrombosis · thrombocytopenia
- ▶ **Rare or very rare** Amenorrhoea · arrhythmias · ascites · asthenia · azoospermia · cardiac conduction disorders · cardiomyopathy · cardiotoxicity · chills · congestive heart failure · dizziness · dyspnoea · fever · hepatomegaly · hyperuricaemia · malaise · neoplasms · oedema · pleural effusion · pulmonary oedema · skin reactions
- ▶ **Frequency not known** Eye inflammation · haemorrhage · hypoxia · nail discolouration · paraesthesia · photosensitivity reaction · radiation injuries · sepsis · shock · urinary frequency increased

SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION **Cardiotoxicity** All anthracycline antibiotics have been associated with varying degrees of cardiac toxicity—this may be idiosyncratic and reversible, but is commonly related to total cumulative dose and is irreversible.

Cumulative doses of other anthracycline Epirubicin is considered less toxic than other anthracycline antibiotics, and may be suitable for children who have received high cumulative doses of other anthracyclines.

● **CONCEPTION AND CONTRACEPTION** Contraceptive advice required, see *Pregnancy and reproductive function* in Cytotoxic drugs p. 551.

● **PREGNANCY** Avoid (carcinogenic in *animal* studies). See also *Pregnancy and reproductive function* in Cytotoxic drugs p. 551.

● **BREAST FEEDING** Discontinue breast-feeding.

● **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises caution in mild to moderate impairment; avoid in severe impairment.

Dose adjustments In adults, manufacturer advises dose reduction according to bilirubin level.

RENAL IMPAIRMENT

Dose adjustments Dose reduction may be necessary in severe impairment.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Cardiac toxicity Cardiac function should be monitored before and at regular intervals throughout treatment and afterwards.

● **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 infusion

Solution for injection

▶ Epirubicin hydrochloride (Non-proprietary)

Epirubicin hydrochloride 2 mg per 1 ml Epirubicin 10mg/5ml solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £17.38-£20.18
Epirubicin 50mg/25ml solution for injection vials | 1 vial [PoM] £86.89-£100.88

▶ Pharmorubicin (Pfizer Ltd)

Epirubicin hydrochloride 2 mg per 1 ml Pharmorubicin 50mg/25ml solution for injection Cytosafe vials | 1 vial [PoM] £106.19 (Hospital only)
Pharmorubicin 10mg/5ml solution for injection Cytosafe vials | 1 vial [PoM] £21.24 (Hospital only)

Solution for infusion

▶ Epirubicin hydrochloride (Non-proprietary)

Epirubicin hydrochloride 2 mg per 1 ml Epirubicin 200mg/100ml solution for infusion vials | 1 vial [PoM] £306.20-£366.85
Epirubicin 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials | 1 vial [PoM] £201.76

▶ Pharmorubicin (Pfizer Ltd)

Epirubicin hydrochloride 2 mg per 1 ml Pharmorubicin 200mg/100ml solution for infusion Cytosafe vials | 1 vial [PoM] £386.16 (Hospital only)

Mitoxantrone

(Mitozantrone)

INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Acute myeloid leukaemia | Recurrent acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

- ▶ BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION
- ▶ Child: (consult local protocol)

● **UNLICENSED USE** Not licensed for use in children.

● **CONTRA-INDICATIONS**

CONTRA-INDICATIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION

Anthracycline antibiotics should not normally be used in children with left ventricular dysfunction.

● **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: anthracyclines

● **SIDE-EFFECTS** Abdominal pain · acute leukaemia · alopecia · amenorrhoea · anxiety · appetite decreased · arrhythmia · asthenia · bone marrow depression · confusion · constipation · diarrhoea · drowsiness · dyspnoea · fever · gastrointestinal haemorrhage · heart failure · mucositis · nail discolouration · nail dystrophy · nausea · neurological effects · paraesthesia · scleral discolouration · skin discolouration · stomatitis · thrombocytopenia · urine blue · vomiting

SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION All anthracycline antibiotics have been associated with varying degrees of cardiac toxicity—this may be idiosyncratic and reversible, but is commonly related to total cumulative dose and is irreversible.

● **CONCEPTION AND CONTRACEPTION** Manufacturer advises effective contraception during and for at least 6 months after treatment in men or women.

● **PREGNANCY** Avoid. See also *Pregnancy and reproductive function* in Cytotoxic drugs p. 551.

● **BREAST FEEDING** Discontinue breast-feeding.

● **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises caution (limited information available).

Dose adjustments Manufacturer advises consider dose reduction.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Cardiac toxicity Cardiac function should be monitored before and at regular intervals throughout treatment and afterwards.