

Myxedema coma/precoma

• **Adult:** **IV** 25-50 mcg initially, 5 mcg in geriatric patients, 10-20 mcg with cardiac disease; give doses q4-12hr

Nontoxic goiter

• **Adult:** **PO** 5 mcg/day, increase by 12.5-25 mcg q1-2wk; maintenance dose 75 mcg/day

Suppression test

• **Adult:** **PO** 75-100 mcg/day × 1 wk; radioactive ¹³¹I given before and after 1-wk dose

RARELY USED**liotrix (Rx)**

(lye'oh-trix)

Thyrolar, T₃/T₄

Func. class.: Thyroid hormone

Chem. class.: Levothyroxine/liothyronine (synthetic T₄, T₃)

USES: Hypothyroidism, thyroid hormone replacement

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Adrenal insufficiency, MI, thyrotoxicosis

Black Box Warning: Obesity treatment

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

• **Adult:** **PO** single dose of Thyrolar, 1/4 or 1/2 tab, adjust as needed at 2-wk intervals

• **Geriatric:** **PO** 1/4 tab initially; adjust q6-8wk

HIGH ALERT**liraglutide (Rx)**

(lir'a-gloo'tide)

Saxenda, Victoza

Func. class.: Antidiabetic agent

Chem. class.: Incretin mimetics

ACTION: Improved glycemic control and potential weight loss via activation of

the glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor

USES: Type 2 diabetes mellitus in combination with diet/exercise, obesity

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity, medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC), multiple endocrine neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2), thyroid cancer, pregnancy

Precautions: Breastfeeding, children, geriatric patients, alcoholism, cholelithiasis, ketoacidosis, diarrhea, fever, gastroparesis, hepatic/renal disease, hypoglycemia, infection, surgery, thyroid disease, trauma, vomiting, pancreatitis

Black Box Warning: Thyroid C-cell tumors

DOSAGES AND ROUTES

• **Adult:** **SUBCUT (Victoza)** 0.6 mg/day × 1 wk, then increase to 1.2 mg/day, max 1.8 mg/day; **Saxenda:** 0.6 mg/day × 1 wk, then 1.2 mg/day × 1 wk then 1.8 mg × 1 wk, then 2.4 mg/day × 1 wk, then 3 mg/day

Available forms: Solution for injection 0.6, 1.2, 1.8, 2.4, 3 mg prefilled pen (Saxenda); solution for injection 0.6, 1.2, 1.8 mg prefilled pen (Victoza)

Administer:**SUBCUT route**

- Use safe handling procedures
- Give subcut only, inspect for particulate matter, discoloration; do not use if unusually viscous, cloudy, discolored, or if particles present; give daily anytime, without regard to meals; pen needles must be purchased separately, use Novo Nordisk needle; before first use, prime, see manual for directions; give in thigh, abdomen, or upper arm; lightly pinch fold of skin, insert needle at 90-degree angle (45-degree angle if thin), release skin; aspiration is not needed, give over 6 sec, rotate injection sites

- If dose is missed, resume once-daily dosing at next scheduled dose; if >3 days have elapsed since last dose, reinitiate at 0.6 mg, titrate