

93%; half-life 8.3 hr, decreased in children, increased in renal/hepatic disease

INTERACTIONS

Increase: CNS depression—alcohol, opiates, sedative/hypnotics, other CNS depressants

Increase: anticholinergic/sedative effect—MAOIs

Drug/Lab Test

False negative: skin allergy tests

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- **Allergy symptoms:** pruritus, urticaria, watering eyes at baseline and during treatment
- Respiratory status: rate, rhythm, increase in bronchial secretions, wheezing, chest tightness

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: absence of running or congested nose, rashes

Teach patient/family:

- About all aspects of product use; to notify prescriber if confusion, sedation, or hypotension occurs
- To avoid driving, other hazardous activity if drowsiness occurs; to take at night as drowsiness may occur, especially in children
- To avoid alcohol, other CNS depressants, OTC antihistamines
- To avoid exposure to sunlight; burns may occur
- To use sugarless gum, candy, frequent sips of water to minimize dry mouth

TREATMENT OF OVERDOSE:

Administer diazepam, vasopressors, phenytoin IV

USES: For inhibition of premature LH surges in women undergoing controlled ovarian hyperstimulation

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Pregnancy, breastfeeding, hypersensitivity, latex allergy, renal disease, KRA5 mutation

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

Single-dose regimen

- **Adult:** SUBCUT 3 mg when serum estradiol level at appropriate stimulation response, usually on stimulation day 7; if hCG not given within 4 days after inj of 3 mg cetorelix, give 0.25 mg daily until day of hCG administration

Multiple-dose regimen

- **Adult:** SUBCUT 0.25 mg given on stimulation day 5 (either morning or evening) or 6 (morning) and continued daily until day hCG is given

BPH (unlabeled)

- **Adult (male):** SUBCUT 5 mg bid \times 2 days, then 1 mg/day

Endometriosis (unlabeled)

- **Adult (female):** SUBCUT 3 mg weekly

⚠ HIGH ALERT

cetuximab (Rx)

(se-tux'i-mab)

Erbitux

Func. class.: Antineoplastic—miscellaneous, monoclonal antibody

Chem. class.: Epidermal growth factor receptor inhibitor

⚠ HIGH ALERT

RARELY USED

cetorelix (Rx)

(set-roe-ree'lix)

Cetrotide

Func. class.: Gonadotropin-releasing hormone antagonist

Chem. class.: Synthetic decapeptide

ACTION: Not fully understood; binds to K-RAS wild-type epidermal growth factor receptors (EGFRs); inhibits phosphorylation and activation of receptor-associated kinase, thereby resulting in inhibition of cell growth

USES: Alone or in combination with irinotecan for K-RAS wild-type EGFRs expressing metastatic colorectal carcinoma, head/neck cancer