

1048 propafenone

GI: Constipation, dry mouth, nausea, vomiting, anorexia, diarrhea

GU: Urinary retention, dysuria, frequency

INTEG: Rash, urticaria, photosensitivity, tissue necrosis (infiltration IV site)

RESP: Increased thick secretions, wheezing, chest tightness; **apnea in neonates, infants, young children**

PHARMACOKINETICS

Metabolized in liver; excreted by kidneys, GI tract (inactive metabolites)

PO: Onset 20 min, duration 4-12 hr

IV: Onset 3-5 min

INTERACTIONS

Increase: CNS depression—barbiturates, opioids, hypnotics, tricyclics, alcohol

Increase: promethazine effect—MAOIs

Decrease: oral anticoagulants effect—heparin

Drug/Lab Test

Increase: glucose

False negative: skin allergy test, urine pregnancy test

False positive: urine pregnancy test

Interference: blood grouping (ABO), GTT

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

Black Box Warning: Child: not to be used in children <2 yr, fatal respiratory depression may occur; use cautiously in children >2 yr, seizures, paradoxical CNS stimulation may occur

• **Antiemetic/motion sickness:** nausea, vomiting before, after dose

• I&O ratio; be alert for urinary retention, frequency, dysuria; product should be discontinued

• **Respiratory depression/sedation:** degree of sedation, respiratory risk, CNS depressants may cause increased sedation

• **EPS:** pseudoparkinsonism, dystonia, akathisia, may be worse in geriatric patients

• **Anticholinergic effects:** dry mouth, confusion, urinary retention, more common in geriatric patients

• **CBC with differential, LFTs during long-term therapy; blood dyscrasias, jaundice may occur**

• Respiratory status: rate, rhythm, increase in bronchial secretions, wheezing, chest tightness

• Cardiac status: palpitations, increased pulse, hypo/hypertension, B/P in those receiving IV doses

• **Neuroleptic malignant syndrome: fever, confusion, diaphoresis, rigid muscles, elevated CPK, encephalopathy; discontinue product, notify prescriber**

• Hard candy, gum, frequent rinsing of mouth for dryness

Evaluate:

• Therapeutic response: absence of running, congested nose; rashes; absence of motion sickness, nausea; sedation

Teach patient/family:

• That product may cause photosensitivity; to avoid prolonged exposure to sunlight

• To notify prescriber of confusion, sedation, hypotension, jaundice, fever

• To avoid driving, other hazardous activity if drowsy

• To avoid concurrent use of alcohol or other CNS depressants

• That product may reduce sweating; that there is a risk of heat stroke

• How to use frequent sips of water, gum to decrease dry mouth

HIGH ALERT

propafenone (Rx)

(pro-paff'e-nown)

Rythmol, Rythmol SR

Func. class.: Antidysrhythmic (class IC)

ACTION: Slows conduction velocity; reduces membrane responsiveness; inhibits automaticity; increases ratio of effective refractory period to action potential duration; β -blocking activity

USES: Sustained ventricular tachycardia, atrial fibrillation (single dose), paroxysmal