Atropine injections 1 mg/ml

This information is a summary only. It does not contain all information about this medicine. If you would like more information about the medicine you are taking, check with your doctor or other health care provider. No rights can be derived from the information provided in this medicine leaflet.

READ ALL OF THIS LEAFLET CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU START TAKING THIS MEDICINE.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

The name of your medicine is Atropine 1 mg/ml Solution for Injection. It will be referred to as Atropine Injection for ease hereafter.

1. WHAT IS ATROPINE INJECTION AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Atropine Injection belongs to a group of medicines called cholinesterase inhibitors. It has the effect of reversing the action of certain muscle-relaxing drugs. The effects of atropine include an increase in heart rate, a decrease in production of saliva, sweat, bronchial and intestinal secretions, and a decrease in the movements of the intestine.

Atropine Injection is used in the following conditions:
- During anaesthesia to dry up secretions in the mouth and chest and to keep heart beat normal
- In the treatment of poisoning caused by certain substances like pesticides
- To reverse the effects of certain drugs given during surgery to relax muscles
- To prevent slowing of the heartbeat during CPR (emergency procedure undertaken to revive the heart when it has suddenly stopped)
- To reverse over activity of certain substances (cholinergic crises) in myasthenia gravis (a condition where muscles become easily fatigued and weak due to defect in nerve-muscle stimulation).

2. BEFORE YOU ARE GIVEN ATROPINE INJECTION

You should not be given Atropine Injection if:
- you know that you are allergic to Atropine, other anticholinergic drugs or any of the other ingredients present in this injection (listed at the end of this leaflet)
- you have muscle weakness (myasthenia gravis)
- you suffer from a disease of the colon and rectum (severe ulcerative colitis)
- you suffer from glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye)
- you suffer from paralytic ileus (a condition of the gut that causes severe constipation and bloating caused by inactivity of your intestines)
- you suffer from pyloric stenosis (a narrowing of the opening from the stomach to the intestine)
- you suffer from toxic megacolon (dilated colon accompanied by bloating, fever and abdominal pain)
- you have an overactive thyroid gland
- you suffer from reflux oesophagitis (a condition that causes severe heartburn)
- you suffer from enlargement of the prostate

Make sure your doctor knows if you suffer from any of these. Before you are given Atropine Injection, you should tell your doctor if:
- you are elderly (65 years of age or older)
- the person receiving this medicine is a child
- you have problems associated with mental and physical growth (Down's syndrome)
- you have loose watery stool
- you have had a heart transplantation
- you have chronic pulmonary disease where the airflow to your lungs is restricted and you may cough and feel breathless
- you have heartburn or indigestion
- you have an abnormally fast heart beat due to an overactive thyroid gland or due to heart surgery
- you have kidney or liver disease
- you suffer from high blood pressure
- you have loose watery stools
- you have a rapid, irregular heartbeat
- you have had a heart transplantation
- you have a fever
- you are suffering from angina (a type of chest pain), heart failure, heart disease or are having a heart attack
- you are pregnant or breast feeding.

Tell your doctor if any of these apply to you.

Taking other medicines:

Please talk to your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without prescription.
- disopyramide, mexiletine, quinidine (for irregular heart beats)
- clozapine, olanzepine (for treatment of mental disorders)
- domperidone, metoclopramide (for vomiting)
- ketoconazole (for fungal infection)
- medicines that you take by allowing them to dissolve slowly in your mouth - atropine may cause your mouth to become dry, making it more difficult for these medicines to dissolve (e.g. nitrates used to treat chest pain)

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Atropine Injection should only be given during pregnancy and breast feeding if your doctor considers it essential. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

Driving and using machines

Atropine may cause drowsiness, blurred vision, confusion and hallucinations and patients should be advised not to drive or operate machinery if affected.

3. HOW TO TAKE ATROPINE INJECTION

Atropine Injection is administered by injection into a vein, into the muscle or into the tissue just beneath the skin.

Your doctor will decide the correct dose for you, depending on your circumstances. Your dose may be calculated according to your weight.

What to do if you have been given more Atropine Injection than you should: This is unlikely because the dose will be administered by a healthcare professional. An overdose may cause difficulty in breathing, restlessness, hallucinations (seeing things that are not there) and occasionally convulsions. If you suspect you have been given too much, you should tell the doctor immediately.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product ask your doctor.
4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

All medicines can cause allergic reactions although serious allergic reactions are rare. Any sudden wheeziness, difficulty in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching (especially affecting your whole body) should be reported to a doctor immediately. Like all medicines Atropine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

- drowsiness
- blurred vision
- difficulty in adjusting the vision for various distances, inability to tolerate light, an increase in pressure within the eyes
- pain behind the breast bone (retrosternal pain).
- dry mouth with difficulty in swallowing
- thirst
- dilation of pupils
- flushing
- increase in the severity of heart attack
- dryness of the skin
- slow heart beat followed by fast heart beat
- rapid heart beat (palpitation).
- irregular heart beat
- difficulty in passing urine or constipation
- vomiting (being sick), nausea (feeling sick)
- rashes, peeling of the skin
- confusion, dizziness, restlessness, delirium
- sensing things that do not exist (hallucinations)
- fever
- reduced phlegm (this can make phlegm more difficult to cough up)
- worsening of heart attack (characterized by chest pain, sweating, anxiety, difficulty in breathing)
- increase in body temperature.

If any of these become serious, or you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor.

5. HOW TO STORE ATROPINE INJECTION

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label, carton.

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 25°C.

Keep in original container in order to protect from light.

If only part used, discard the remaining solution.