

Module 1

Betolina 50mg/20ml Solution for Injection

1.3.2 Insert Leaflet

Please find the Leaflet enclosed.



Bupivacaine Hydrochloride



BETOLINA®

Bupivacaine Hydrochloride

Pharmacodynamics Properties:

Bupivacaine is a long acting, amide-type local anaesthetic with both anaesthetic and analgesic effects. At high doses it produces surgical anaesthesia, while at lower doses it produces sensory block (analgesia) with less pronounced motor block. Onset and duration of the local anaesthetic effect of bupivacaine depend on the dose and site of administration.

Bupivacaine, like other local anaesthetics, causes a reversible blockade of impulse propagation along nerve fibres by preventing the inward movement of sodium ions through the cell membrane of the nerve fibres. The sodium channel of the nerve membrane is considered a receptor for local anaesthetic molecules.

Local anaesthetics may have similar effects on other excitable membranes e.g. in the brain and myocardium. If excessive amounts of drug reach the systemic circulation, symptoms and signs of toxicity may appear, emanating from the central nervous and cardiovascular systems.

Central nervous system toxicity usually precedes the cardiovascular effects as central nervous system toxicity occurs at lower plasma concentrations. Direct effects of local anaesthetics on the heart include slow conduction, negative inotropism and eventually cardiac arrest.

Indirect cardiovascular effects (hypotension, bradycardia) may occur after epidural administration depending on the extent of the concomitant sympathetic block.

Pharmacokinetics Properties:

The plasma concentration of bupivacaine depends upon the dose, the route of administration and the vascularity of the injection site.

Bupivacaine shows complete and biphasic absorption from the epidural space with half-lives in the order of 7 min and 6 h respectively.

Bupivacaine has a total plasma clearance of 0.58 l/min, a volume of distribution at steady state of 73 L, a terminal half-life of 2.7 h and an intermediate hepatic extraction ratio of 0.38 after IV administration. It is mainly bound to alpha-1-acid glycoprotein with plasma binding of 96%. Clearance of bupivacaine is almost entirely due to liver metabolism and more sensitive to changes in intrinsic hepatic enzyme - function than to liver perfusion.

In children between 1 to 7 years the pharmacokinetics is similar to that in adults.

About 1% of bupivacaine is excreted in the urine as unchanged drug in 24 h.

Indications:

BETOLINA® can be used for a number of anaesthetic techniques, including local infiltration, minor and major nerve blocks and epidural block.

Dosage and administration:

Adults and children above 12 years of age: The following table is a guide to dosage for the more commonly used techniques. The clinician's experience and knowledge of the patient's physical status are of importance in calculating the required dose. When prolonged blocks are used, either by continuous infusion or by repeated bolus administration, the risks of reaching a toxic plasma concentration or inducing a local neural injury must be considered.

Dosage recommendations for adults:

These solution are not for spinal anaesthesia.

	Conc. Mg/ml	Volume ml	Dose mg	Onset min	Duration of effect hours
SURGICAL ANAESTHESIA					
Lumbar Epidural Administration 1)					
Surgery	5.0	15-30	75-150	15-30	2-3
Lumbar Epidural Administration 1)					
caesarean Section	5.0	15-30	75-150	15-30	2-3
Thoracic Epidural Administration 1)					
Surgery	5.0	5-10	25-50	10-15	2-3
Caudal Epidural Block 1)	5.0	20-30	100-150	15-30	2-3
Major Nerve Block 2)					
(e.g. brachial plexus femoral sciatic)	5.0	10-35	50-175	15-30	4-8
Field block					
(e.g. minor nerve blocks and infiltration)	5.0	≤30	≤150	1-10	3-8

Remarks:

1) Dose includes test dose.

2) The dose of a major nerve block must be adjusted according to site of administration and patient status. Interscalene and supraclavicular brachial plexus blocks may be associated with a higher frequency of serious adverse reactions, regardless of the local anaesthetic used (see section Special Warnings and precautions for use).

The doses in the table are those considered to be necessary to produce a successful block and should be regarded as a guide for use in adults. Individual variations in onset and duration occur. The figures reflect the expected average dose range needed. Standard textbooks should be consulted for factors affecting specific block techniques and for individual patient requirements.

In order to avoid intravascular injection, aspiration should be repeated prior to and during administration of the main dose, which should be injected slowly or in incremental doses, at a rate of 25-50 mg/min, while closely observing the patient's vital functions and maintaining verbal contact. An inadvertent intravascular injection may be recognized by a temporary increase in heart rate and an accidental intrathecal injection by signs of a spinal block. If toxic symptoms occur, the injection should be stopped immediately.

Experience to date indicates that 400 mg administered over 24 hours is well tolerated in the average adult.

In children the dosage should be calculated on a weight basis up to 2 mg/kg.

Contraindications:

- Hypersensitivity to local anaesthetics of the amide type or to any of the excipients.
- Intravenous regional anaesthesia (Biers block) since unintentional leakage of bupivacaine into the circulation might cause acute systemic toxic reactions.

Warnings and precautions:

There have been reports of cardiac arrest or death during use of Bupivacaine for epidural anaesthesia or peripheral nerve blockade. In some instances; resuscitation has been difficult or impossible despite apparently adequate preparation and management. Like all local anaesthetic drugs bupivacaine may cause acute toxicity effects on the central nervous and cardiovascular systems if utilised for local anaesthetic procedures resulting in high blood concentrations of the drug. This is especially the case after unintentional intravascular administration or injection into highly vascular areas. Ventricular arrhythmia ventricular fibrillation sudden cardiovascular collapse and death have been reported in connection with high systemic concentrations of bupivacaine.

Regional or local anaesthetic procedures should always be performed in a properly equipped and staffed area. Equipment and drugs necessary for monitoring and emergency resuscitation should be immediately available. Patients receiving major blocks should be in an optimal condition and have an IV line inserted before the blocking procedure. The clinician responsible should take the necessary precautions to avoid intravascular injection and be appropriately trained and familiar with the diagnosis and treatment of side effects systemic toxicity and other complications.

Major peripheral nerve blocks may imply the administration of a large volume of local anaesthetic in areas of high vascularity, often close to large vessels where there is an increased risk of intravascular injection and/or systemic absorption which can lead to high plasma concentrations.

Although regional anaesthesia is frequently the optimal anaesthetic technique, some patients require special attention in order to reduce the risk of dangerous side effects:

- The elderly and patients in poor general condition.
- Patients with partial or complete heart block - due to the fact that local anaesthetics may depress myocardial conduction.
- Patients with advanced liver disease or severe renal dysfunction.
- Patients in late stages of pregnancy.
- Patients treated with anti-arrhythmic drugs class III (e.g. amiodarone) should be under close surveillance and ECG monitoring considered, since cardiac effects may be additive.

Certain local anaesthetic procedures may be associated with serious adverse reac-

tions, regardless of the local anaesthetic drug used.

• Central nerve blocks may cause cardiovascular depression, especially in the presence of hypovolaemia and therefore epidural anaesthesia should be used with caution in patients with impaired cardiovascular function.

• Retrobulbar injections may very occasionally reach the cranial subarachnoid space causing temporary blindness, cardiovascular collapse, apnoea, convulsions etc.

• Retro- and peribulbar injections of local anaesthetics carry a low risk of persistent ocular muscle dysfunction. The primary causes include trauma and/or local toxic effects on muscles and/or nerves. The severity of such tissue reactions is related to the degree of trauma, the concentration of the local anaesthetic and the duration of exposure of the tissue to the local anaesthetic. For this reason, as with all local anaesthetics, the lowest effective concentration and dose of local anaesthetic should be used. Vasoconstrictors may aggravate tissue reactions and should be used only when indicated. Injections in the head and neck regions may be made inadvertently into an artery may cause immediate cerebral symptoms even at low doses.

• Paracervical block can sometimes cause foetal bradycardia/tachycardia and careful monitoring of the foetal heart rate is necessary

• There have been reports of chondrolysis in patients receiving post-operative intra articular continuous infusion of local anaesthetics The majority of reported cases of chondrolysis have involved the shoulder joint. Due to multiple contributing factors and inconsistency in the scientific literature regarding mechanism of action, causality has not been established. Intra-articular continuous infusion is not an approved indication for Betolina.

Epidural anaesthesia may lead to hypotension and bradycardia. The risk can be reduced by pre-loading the circulation with crystalloidal or colloidal solutions Hypotension should be treated promptly with a sympathomimetic intravenously and repeated as necessary. Children should be given doses commensurate with their age and weight.

Use during pregnancy and lactation:

Pregnancy:

It is reasonable to assume that a large number of pregnant women and women of child-bearing age have been given bupivacaine. No specific disturbances to the reproductive process have so far been reported, e.g. no increased incidence of malformations. Foetal adverse effects due to local anaesthetics, such as foetal bradycardia, seem to be most apparent in paracervical block anaesthesia. Such effects may be due to high concentrations of anaesthetic reaching the foetus.

Lactation:

Like other local anaesthetics bupivacaine may enter the mother's milk, but in such small amounts that there is generally no risk of this affecting the neonate.

Effect on Ability to Drive and Use Machines:

Besides the direct anaesthetic effect, local anaesthetics may have a very mild effect on mental function and co-ordination even in the absence of overt CNS toxicity and may temporarily impair locomotion and alertness.

Drug interactions:

Bupivacaine should be used with caution in patients receiving other local anaesthetic or agents structurally related to amide-type local anaesthetics, e.g. certain anti-arrhythmic drugs, since the systemic effects of the combination may be additive. Specific interaction studies with bupivacaine and anti-arrhythmic drugs class III (e.g. amiodarone) have not been performed, but caution should be advised.

Adverse Reaction:

General

The adverse reaction profile for Bupivacaine Hydrochloride is similar to those for other long acting local anaesthetics. Adverse reactions caused by the drug per se are difficult to distinguish from the physiological effects of the nerve block (e.g. decrease in blood pressure, bradycardia), events caused directly (e.g. nerve trauma) or indirectly (e.g. epidural abscess) by the needle puncture.

Very Common (>1/10):

Vascular disorders: hypotension

Gastrointestinal disorders: nausea

Common (> 1/100<1/10):

Nervous system disorders: paraesthesia, dizziness

Cardiac disorders: bradycardia

Vascular disorders: hypertension

Gastrointestinal disorders: vomiting

Renal and urinary disorders: urinary retention

Uncommon (>1/1,000<1/100):

Nervous system disorders: Signs and symptoms of CNS toxicity (convulsions, paraesthesia circumoral, numbness of the tongue, hyperacusis, visual disturbances, loss of consciousness, tremor light headedness, tinnitus, dysarthria)

Rare (<1/1,000):

Immune system disorders: Allergic reactions, anaphylactic reaction/shock

Nervous system disorders: Neuropathy, peripheral nerve injury, arachnoiditis, paresis and paraplegia

Eye disorders: Diplopia

Cardiac disorders: Cardiac arrest, cardiac arrhythmias

Respiratory disorders: Respiratory depression

Overdosage:

Acute systemic toxicity:

Systemic toxic reactions primarily involve the central nervous system (CNS) and the cardiovascular system (CVS). Such reactions are caused by high blood concentrations of a local anaesthetic, which may appear due to accidental intravascular injection overdose, or exceptionally rapid absorption from highly vascularised areas. CNS reactions are similar for all amide local anaesthetics while cardiac reactions are more dependent on the drug both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Accidental intravascular injections of local anaesthetics may cause immediate (within seconds to a few minutes) systemic toxic reactions. In the event of overdose, systemic toxicity appears later (15-60 minutes after injection) due to the slower increase in local anaesthetic blood concentration.

Central nervous system toxicity is a graded response with symptoms and signs of escalating severity. The first symptoms are usually light-headedness, circumoral paraesthesia numbness of the tongue hyperacusis, tinnitus and visual disturbances. Dysarthria, muscular twitching or tremors are more serious and precede the onset of generalised convulsions. These signs must not be mistaken for a neurotic behavior. Unconsciousness and grand mal convulsions may follow which may last from a few seconds to several minutes. Hypoxia and hypercarbia occur rapidly following convulsions due to the increased muscular activity, together with the interference with respiration and possible loss of functional airways. In severe cases apnoea may occur. Acidosis hyperkalemia, hypocalcaemia and hypoxia increase and extend the toxic effects of local anaesthetics.

Recovery is due to redistribution of the local anaesthetic drug from the central nervous system and subsequent metabolism and excretion. Recovery may be rapid unless large amounts of the drug have been injected.

Cardiovascular system toxicity may be seen in severe cases and is generally preceded by signs of toxicity in the central nervous system. In patients under heavy sedation or receiving a general anaesthetic, prodromal CNS symptoms may be absent. Hypotension, bradycardia, arrhythmia and even cardiac arrest may occur as a result of high systemic concentrations of local anaesthetics, but in rare cases cardiac arrest has occurred without prodromal CNS effects.

In children, early signs of local anaesthetic toxicity may be difficult to detect in cases where the block is given during general anaesthesia.

Treatment of acute toxicity:

If signs of acute systemic toxicity appear, injection of local anaesthetic should be stopped immediately and CNS symptoms (Convulsions, CNS depression) must promptly be treated with appropriate airway/respiratory support and the administration of anticonvulsant drugs.

If cardiovascular depression occurs (hypotension, bradycardia), appropriate treatment with intravenous fluids, vasopressor, inotropic agent and/or lipid emulsion should be considered children should be given doses commensurate with age and weight. circulatory arrest should occur, immediate cardiopulmonary resuscitation should be instituted. Optimal oxygenation and ventilation and circulatory support as well as treatment of acidosis are of vital importance.

should cardiac arrest occur, a successful outcome may require prolonged resuscitative efforts.

Storage conditions:

Do not store above 30°C. Do not freeze & avoid excessive heat.

The solution is free from preservative and intended for single use only, any remaining solution must be discarded.

Presentation:

BETOLINA® 50mg/20ml solution for injection: Each ml contains Bupivacaine 2.5 mg in packs of 20ml Vial.

BETOLINA® 100mg/20ml solution for injection: Each ml contains Bupivacaine 5 mg in packs of 20ml Vial.

Excipients:

Sodium Chloride, Sodium Hydroxide, Water for injections.

This is a medicament:

- Medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you.
- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament.
- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks.
- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.
- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.
- Keep medicament out of the reach of children.

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Manufacturer and Marketing Authorization Holder:
MS Pharma Jordan - King Abdullah II Industrial Estate
Amman - Jordan

166x337 mm
Color: Black

