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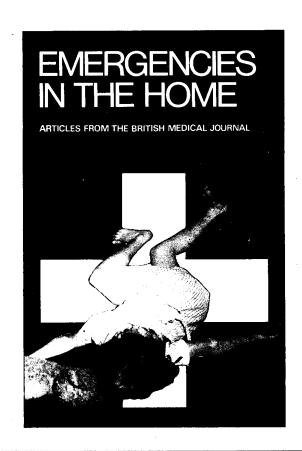
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REATMENT/4

The drugs that we use today are increasingly potent, dangerous, and expensive, and every doctor should have some understanding of clinical pharmacology and drug-induced diseases. Both these subjects, which have been badly taught in medical schools, are covered comprehensively in this new book, which consists of articles taken from the BMJ. Also included are articles that provide a clear and up-to-the-minute introduction to anaesthetics.

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PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Maxolon 'High Dose' Ampoules: Clear, colourless solution. Each 20ml ampoule contains Metoclopramide Hydrochloride B.P. equivalent to 100mg of the anhydrous substance.

USES

Maxolon 'High Dose' is indicated for the treatment of nausea and vomiting associated with intolerance to cytotoxic drugs.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Maxolon 'High Dose' may be given in doses of up to 2mg/kg body weight by IV infusion suitably diluted. The initial dose should be given prior to commencement of cytotoxic chemotherapy. Dosage may be repeated twohourly up to a maximum of 10mg/kg body weight in any 24 hour period. It is recommended that each dose be added to at least 50ml of an appropriate diluent (see below), and infused over at least 15 minutes.

The cytotoxic agent should be administered as a separate infusion. Note: The high dose ampoule presentation is not suitable for multidose use Stability in intravenous fluids.

Intravenous solutions should be prepared as near as possible to the time of infusion. However, Maxolon has been shown to be stable in the solutions listed below for at least 24 hours at room temperature.

Intravenous infusions.

Sodium Chloride Intravenous Infusion B.P. (0.9% w/v) Dextrose Intravenous Infusion B.P. (5% w/v)
Sodium Chloride and Dextrose Intravenous Infusion B.P. (sodium chloride 0.18% w/v; dextrose 4% w/v) Compound Sodium Lactate Intravenous Infusion B.P.

(Ringer-Lactate Solution; Hartmann's Solution) CONTRA-INDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC.

There are no absolute contra-indications to the use of Maxolon.

When given at high dose in association with cancer chemotherapy. Maxolon has been found to be well tolerated with few adverse effects, the most common being mild sedation.

Various extrapyramidal reactions to Maxolon, usually of the dystonic type, have been reported. Studies to date of Maxolon given up to 10mg/kg body weight/day by IV infusion report a low incidence of extrapyramidal reactions of less than 10%.

Reactions to Maxolon have included: Spasm of the facial muscles trismus, rhythmic protrusion of the tongue, a bulbar type of speech, spasm of extra-ocular muscles including oculogyric crises, unnatural positioning of the head and shoulders and opisthotonos. There may be a generalised increase in muscle tone. The majority of reactions occur within 36 hours of starting treatment and the effects usually disappear within 24 hours of withdrawal of the drug. Should treatment of a reaction be required an anticholinergic anti-Parkinsonian drug, or a benzodiazepine may be used. Since extrapyramidal symptoms may occur with both Maxolon and phenothiazines, care should be were in the occur of both drugs being negative to require the production.

exercised in the event of both drugs being prescribed concurrently.

Raised serum prolactin levels have been observed during metoclopramide therapy; this effect is similar to that noted with many other compound

Maxolon's action on the gastro-intestinal tract is antagonised by anticholinergics.

Although animal tests in several mammalian species have shown no teratogenic effects, treatment with Maxolon is not advised during the first trimester of pregnancy.

 $Following \ operations \ such as \ pyloroplasty \ or \ gut \ an astomosis \ Maxolon \ the rapy should be withheld for three or four days as \ vigorous \ muscular$ contractions may not help healing

FURTHER INFORMATION

Maxolon 'High Dose' is specifically for use in the management of cytotoxic intolerance. It is not intended for use in the wider range of indications for which Maxolon at standard dose is indicated. The Maxolon Data Sheet should

AVAILABILITY AND NHS PRICE

(Price correct at November 1982

'High Dose' Ampoules (100mg/20ml) £26.90 for 10

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BRL 4035 PL0038/0300

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A new approach to the treatment of nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy.

Maxolon

'High Dose'

Introduction

Nausea and vomiting commonly occur after the administration of a variety of chemotherapeutic agents used for the treatment of cancer and frequently constitute a major problem resulting from such treatment. This is especially true when cisplatin is used either alone I or in combination with other anti-neoplastic drugs including dacarbazine, doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide. An otherwise effective treatment regime is often extremely difficult for patients to tolerate and for these reasons some patients miss appointments or delay prescribed courses of chemotherapy, thus affecting their chance of cure. 3

Routinely used antiemetic agents, such as the phenothiazines and antihistamines appear to be of only marginal value against strongly emetic agents^{4, 5, 6}

A New Approach

In 1979, several antiemetics, administered parenterally in high doses were tested in dogs receiving intravenous cisplatin at 3mg/kg.7

Metoclopramide [Maxolon] resulted in 72% and 99% protection against cisplatin-induced emesis when given at doses of 1.0 mg/kg and 3.0 mg/kg respectively. The antiemetic efficacy of metoclopramide [Maxolon] was superior to that of chlorpromazine (3.0 mg/kg –57%), haloperidol (1.0 mg/kg –54%), nabilone (0.1 mg/kg –20%) and saline control.

Recent clinical trials, in patients receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy, have demonstrated the effectiveness of high dose intravenous metoclopramide [Maxolon] in the control of vomiting.

Results

High dose metoclopramide [Maxolon] has been shown to be effective in controlling nausea and vomiting associated with many antineoplastic regimes 8-15; cisplatin, either alone or in combination (eg with doxorubicin, lomustine and cyclophosphamide) 8-11; also mixtures of other commonly used agents (eg cyclophosphamide/etoposide/methotrexate and vincristine/doxorubicin/procarbazine).12

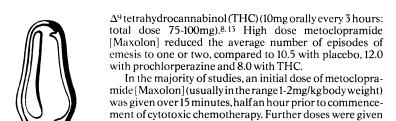
Some of the trials of metoclopramide [Maxolon] in cisplatin chemotherapy have been double blind with placebo, prochlorperazine, (10mg IM: total dose 50mg) or

Further information is available on request from



Beecham Research Laboratories Brentford, England

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at two or three hourly intervals.

Patients receiving cisplatin at doses greater than 100mg/sq m had an improved clinical response when the higher dose level of metoclopramide (2mg/kg body weight) was used⁹; although 1mg/kg gave adequate protection in patients receiving less than 100mg/sq m cisplatin.^{10. 11} The total metoclopramide dosage per course was usually in the range 5-10mg/kg body weight.

Tolerance

In these trials, the most commonly occurring side effect was mild sedation.

The majority of studies quote a low incidence of extrapyramidal reactions. In several extended trials involving a total of 300 patients, such reactions occurred in 3% of patients overall; however, they were significantly more frequent in patients aged below 30.13 When extrapyramidal symptoms did occur many settled quickly and did not require treatment; the others responded promptly to diphenhydramine or diazepam.

Increased perspiration occurred in some patients.

An increased frequency of bowel movements has been noted in cisplatin clinical studies with high intravenous doses of metoclopramide. However, in a double blind trial the mean number of stools during the 24 hour observation period was no higher in metoclopramide-treated patients than in those who received placebo or prochlorperazine.8

Conclusion

At high dosage intravenous metoclopramide [Maxolon] has been found to be effective against nausea and vomiting induced by cytotoxic chemotherapy. In clinical trials it has been found to be well tolerated, the most common side effect being mild sedation.

MAXOLON 'HIGH DOSE' AMPOULES (100mg/20ml) FOR INTRAVENOUS INFUSION ARE NOW AVAILABLE





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Prescribing Information

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Dosage and administration Dosage to be determined by the physician. Site of injection to be changed according to suitable routine. Avoid unintentional intravascular

Meusulin, Soluble Insulin: Administered s.c., i.m. or i.v. S.c., onset of action within 30-60 minutes, duration 6-8 hours. I.m., onset is faster and duration is shorter. I.v. administration has fastest onset and shortest duration, usually reserved for investigational use or diabetic ketoacidosis.

Neuphane, Neulente: Administered s.c. or i.m. Not to be given i.v. S.c., onset of action within 2 hours, duration (Neuphane) 20-24 hours, duration (Neulente) 24-28 hours. I.m., onset is faster and duration shorter. Mix well by gently inverting the vial several times before use.

Mixing: Neusulin may be mixed in the syringe, on medical advice, with Neuphane or Neulente if required, provided the mixture is injected immediately. However, it is preferable

the mixture is injected immediately. However, it is preferable to avoid mixing insulins of different pH.

See data sheet for procedure.

Contra-indications Hypoglycaemia.

Precautions Dosage requirement may alter with variation of lifestyle, infection, pregnancy and with change in species, type or purity of insulin.

Hypo- and hyperglycaemia may be enhanced by drugs which interact with insulin. Beta-blockers may affect

which interact with insulin. Beta-blockers may affect insulin requirement and mask hypoglycaemia. MAO inhibitors may potentiate insulin.

Side-effects Hypoglycaemia. Possible altered visual refraction. Transient local reactions at the site of injection.

Storage Store at 2-8°C. Do not freeze. Avoid direct sunlight.

Presentation Neusulin, Neuphane and Neulente are available in strengths of 40 and 80 units per ml in vials of 10 ml.

Basic NHS costs

Neusulin 40 units/ml PL3/0137 £2.31 80 units/ml PL3/0138 £4.14

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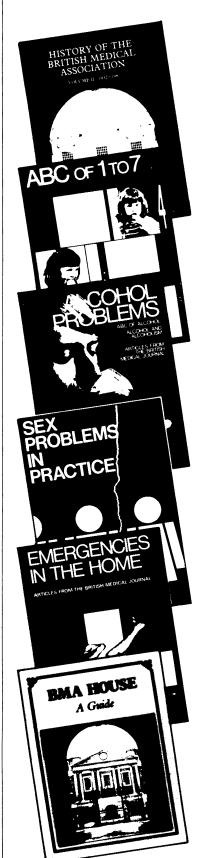
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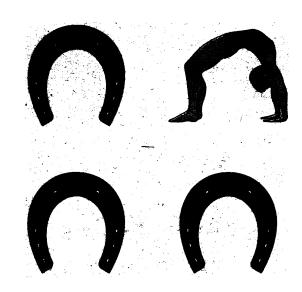
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