

MIVACRON[®]

2 mg/mL Injection

mivacurium

New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Mivacron. It does not contain all the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Mivacron against the benefits he/she expects it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

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

What Mivacron is used for

Mivacron is a medicine that relaxes muscles. It is used when you are under a general anaesthetic. It allows a tube to go down the windpipe for your breathing while you are under a general anaesthetic. It is not the same as muscle relaxant tablets doctors sometimes prescribe. It doesn't relieve pain.

There is no evidence that Mivacron is addictive.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before you are given Mivacron

When you must not be given it

Mivacron should not be used if:

- You are allergic to mivacurium
- You are known to be homozygous for the atypical plasma cholinesterase gene (this affects 1 in 2500 patients)

Before you are given it

Tell your doctor if:

- You have a history of asthma, hayfever or allergies
- You have recently lost a lot of fluids, e.g. been vomiting, diarrhoea (frequent watery faeces/poos), sweating excessively, been doing high levels of exercise, or lost a lot of blood.
- You may have salt imbalances e.g. you have been drinking excessive quantities of water or have been taking large amounts of salts, or have had diarrhoea or have a bowel problem or no large bowel
- You have myasthenia gravis
- You have any other disease of nerves and muscles (neuromuscular disease)
- You have heart disease
- You have kidney disease e.g. kidney failure
- You have liver disease

- You have tetanus, tuberculosis or any other severe or chronic infections
- You have any chronic debilitating disease, malignancy, chronic anaemia or malnutrition
- You have myxoedema or a collagen disease
- You have a peptic ulcer
- You have burns. Patients with burns may require a different dosage of Mivacron.
- You have an adverse condition resulting from plasma exchange, plasmapheresis, cardiopulmonary bypass or following treatment with another medicine
- You have previously been allergic to other neuromuscular blocking agents
- You are pregnant or breastfeeding. Your doctor will discuss with you the risks and benefits of using Mivacron while you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop. Some medicines may interfere with Mivacron. These include:-

- Antibiotics, including doxycycline (Doxine, Doxy tabs), minocycline (Mino-tabs, Minomycin), clindamycin (Dalacin).

- Medicines for irregular heartbeats including propranolol (Cardinol) or oxprenolol, calcium channel blockers, e.g. diltiazem (Dilzem, Cardizem), felodipine (Felo, Plendil), nifedipine (Adalat, Nyefax), amlodipine (Norvasc), verapamil (Verpamil, Isoptin), lidocaine (Xylocard), procainamide and quinidine.
- Water tablets (diuretics), e.g. furosemide (Diurin, Frusid, Lasix), bendrofluzide (Neonaclex), chlorothiazide, chlorthalidone (Hygroton), cyclopentiazide (Navidrex), indapamide (Napamide, Naplin), mannitol, acetazolamide (Diamox).
- Magnesium
- Ketamine
- Lithium (Lithicarb, Priadel)
- A type of antidepressant called a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) e.g. tranylcypromine (Parnate).
- Bambuterol (Bambec)
- Inhalational anaesthetics, e.g. enflurane, isoflurane, sevoflurane and halothane.
- Ganglion blocking agents, e.g. trimetaphan or hexamethonium
- Medicines that may prolong the neuromuscular blocking action of Mivacron, e.g. anti-mitotic agents, ecothiopate iodide, pancuronium organophosphates, anticholinesterases, certain hormones, and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors.
- Antirheumatic medicines, e.g. chloroquine or D-penicillamine
- Chlorpromazine
- Steroids
- Phenytoin
- Depolarising muscle relaxants, e.g. suxamethonium

These medicines may be affected by Mivacron, or may affect how well it works. Your doctor will advise you.

Some medicines may affect the way others work. Your doctor or pharmacist will be able to tell you what to do when using Mivacron with other medicines.

How Mivacron is given

Mivacron is given by slow injection into the vein.

Mivacron must only be given by a doctor or nurse.

Your doctor will decide what dose of Mivacron to give you.

If you are given too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Centre (telephone 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766), or go to accident and emergency at your nearest hospital if you think that you or anyone else may have taken or may have been given too much Mivacron.

Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

While you are using Mivacron

Things to be careful of

There is no information about the effect of Mivacron on driving or operating machinery. However, it is not recommended that driving or operating machinery is carried out immediately after having a general anaesthetic, which is usually given with the Mivacron.

Side Effects

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you have any problems while taking Mivacron, even if you do not think the problems are connected with the medicine or are not listed in this leaflet.

Like other medicines, Mivacron can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

The following side effect is common and usually mild and lasts only a short time:

- Flushing (having red colour to the skin)

The following side effects are uncommon:

- Fast or irregular heart rate (tachycardia)
- Low blood pressure (hypotension) causing feelings of light-headedness or dizziness
- Hives on the skin

Contact your doctor if you are bothered by these effects or if they continue.

If any of the following happen, tell your doctor immediately or go to casualty at your nearest hospital:

- Swelling of the face, tongue or throat
- Difficulty breathing, feeling short of breath
- Feeling very faint or collapsing

These are very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation. These side effects are very rare.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some patients. Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you don't understand anything in this list.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Product Description

What it looks like

MIVACRON injection is a clear, pale yellow, liquid in glass ampoules (a special little container for injections).

Ingredients

Each 5 mL ampoule contains 10 mg mivacurium and each 10 mL ampoule contains 20 mg mivacurium.

Mivacron also contains the following inactive ingredients: hydrochloric acid, water for injection.

Further Information

Distributor

Distributed in New Zealand by:
GlaxoSmithKline NZ
Private Bag 106600
Downtown Auckland
New Zealand

Ph (09) 367 2900
Fax (09) 367 2910

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