

# EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE

*ephedrine hydrochloride, 30 mg/10 mL, solution for injection*

## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

It does not contain all the available information.

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

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor.**

**Keep this leaflet with the medicine.**

You may need to read it again.

### What EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE injection is used for

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is used to treat the low blood pressure which may occur during spinal or epidural anaesthesia.

It works by contracting the blood vessels in your limbs, so that more blood is available for your heart.

Your doctor may have prescribed this medicine for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why it has been prescribed for you.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is available only with a doctor's prescription.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is not approved for use in children.

### Before you are given EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE Injection

#### When you must not use it

**DO not use EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE if:**

- **you have an allergy to ephedrine or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet**  
Symptoms of an allergic reaction to ephedrine may include:
  - shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty in breathing
  - swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
  - rash, itching or hives on the skin.
- **if you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:**
  - heart problems
  - pheochromocytoma (a rare tumour of the adrenal gland near the kidney)
  - close angle glaucoma (a condition in which there is a build up of pressure in the eye)
  - mood/though disorders and were given

monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors in the last two weeks or about to commence on this group of medicines.

- Using an antibiotic medicine called linezolid
- Undergoing general anaesthesia
- **the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering**
- **the expiry date on the pack has passed** if you are given this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work as well or it may make you feel sick.

#### Before you start to use it

Tell your doctor:

1. **if you have or have ever had any other health problems or medical conditions, including:**
  - high or low blood pressure
  - prostrate problems or difficulty in passing urine
  - mental health disorders
  - thyroid problems
  - diabetes
2. **if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant**  
Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of using EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.
3. **if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed**

EPHEDRINE  
HYDROCHLORIDE is  
not recommended for  
use if you are  
breastfeeding.

#### 4. if you are an athlete or competing in sports

EPHEDRINE  
HYDROCHLORIDE  
contains an active  
substance that may  
cause a positive  
reaction in anti- doping  
tests.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you are given EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.**

#### ***Taking other medicines***

**Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.**

Some medicines may interfere with EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

These include:

- Medicines used to treat heart failure (e.g. digoxin)
- Alpha blockers (e.g. prazosin and methyldopa) or beta blockers (e.g. propranolol) used to treat high blood pressure
- Medicines used to treat mental health disorders such as amitriptyline, moclobemide, phenelzine, venlafaxine and dothiepin
- Medicines used in the treatment of migraine such as ergotamine and any derivatives

- Theophylline (a medicine used to treat asthma)
- Acetazolamide, dichlorphenamide, sodium bicarbonate, sodium citrate (medicines that make urine less acidic)
- Linezolid (an antibiotic)
- Medicines used to treat epilepsy such as phenytoin
- Medicines used to treat ADHD such as methylphenidate
- Medicines found commonly in over the counter cold and flu preparations such as pseudoephedrine and phenylephrine.
- Atropine (medicine used in heart problems or bowel problems)
- Medicine used in general anaesthetics such as cyclopropane and halothane
- Clonidine (medicine used to treat high blood pressure)
- Dexamethasone, a corticosteroid

These medicines may be affected by EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE, or may affect how well it works.

You may need different amounts of your medicine, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while being given EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

If you are not sure whether you

should be given EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE, talk to your doctor.

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## **How to use Ephedrine Hydrochloride injection**

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### ***How much to take***

Ephedrine Hydrochloride is administered as a slow injection into a vein

EPHEDRINE  
HYDROCHLORIDE must  
only be given by a doctor or nurse.

Your doctor will decide what dose of EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE you will receive. This depends on your medical condition and other factors, such as your weight.

Sometimes only a single dose of is required.

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## **While you are using Ephedrine Hydrochloride injection**

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### ***Things you must do***

If you are about to be started on any new medicine tell your doctor and pharmacist that you have been given Ephedrine Hydrochloride.

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## **In case of overdose**

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### ***If you take too much (overdose)***

As EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is given to you under the supervision of a doctor, it is unlikely that you will receive an overdose.

However, if you experience severe side effects tell your doctor immediately.

**Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (call 13 11 26) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

You may need urgent medical attention.

Symptoms of an overdose include the side effects listed in the "Side Effects" section (see below), but are usually of a more severe nature.

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## Side effects

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Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are having EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE may have unwanted side-effects in a few people. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side-effects.

**Ask your doctor to answer any questions you may have.**

**Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following:**

- headache
- dry nose, mouth or throat
- fever or sweating
- nausea, vomiting or stomach pain
- mood or mental

changes, such as nervousness, anxiety or irritability

- difficult or painful urination
- chest pain
- breathing difficulties
- irregular, fast or slow heartbeat

Some people may get other side effects while being given EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.

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

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## After having EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE injection

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### Storage

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE will be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward. The injection is kept in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C and protected from light.

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## Product description

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### What it looks like

Ephedrine Hydrochloride is a clear and colourless solution.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is available in the following strength and pack size: 30 mg/10 mL strength, 10 clear glass 10 mL ampoules per pack.

### Ingredients

The active ingredient in EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE is ephedrine hydrochloride.

Each ampoule contains 30

mg/10 mL of ephedrine hydrochloride.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE also contains: sodium chloride, sodium citrate, citric acid and water for injections.

EPHEDRINE HYDROCHLORIDE does not contain gluten, lactose, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

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## Sponsor Details

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In Australia:  
Wockhardt Bio Pty Limited  
Suite 103, 39 East Esplanade  
Manly NSW 2095

Distributed in New Zealand by:  
Healthcare Logistics  
On behalf of InterPharma Pty Ltd  
58 Richard Pearse Drive  
Airport Oaks Mangere 2022  
Phone 09 9185100

### Supplier

In Australia:  
InterPharma Pty Ltd  
PO Box 115, MANLY, NSW,  
1655  
Australia

### Australian Registration Number

Ephedrine Wockhardt

30 mg/10 mL: AUST R 283638

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## Date of Preparation

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