PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

SCHEDULING STATUS

S6

PROPRIETARY NAMES AND DOSAGE FORMS

PETHIDINE HCl 25 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS

PETHIDINE HCl 50 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS

PETHIDINE HCl 100 mg/2 mL FRESENIUS

Injection

COMPOSITION

Active ingredient:

1 mL Ampoules containing 25 mg pethidine hydrochloride.

1 mL Ampoules containing 50 mg pethidine hydrochloride.

2 mL Ampoules containing 100 mg pethidine hydrochloride.

Inactive ingredients:

Water for injection and hydrochloric acid (for pH adjustment).

PHARMACOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

A 2.9 Other analgesics

PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS has an analgesic potency approximately equal to one-fifth that of morphine. Pethidine binds to the opioid receptors in the central nervous system and exerts

its main pharmacological action on the central nervous system and the neural elements of the bowel.

INDICATIONS

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS is indicated for the relief of pain such as post-operative pain. It may be used in obstetric practice to relieve labour pain.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS is contraindicated in respiratory depression, obstructive airways disease, hepatic insufficiency and pain following cholecystectomy and for the relief of pain associated with renal colic.

Opioid analgesics such as PETHIDINE FRESENIUS are contraindicated or should be used with great caution in acute alcoholism, convulsive disorders, head injuries and conditions in which intracranial pressure is raised. They should not be given to comatose patients.

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS is contraindicated in patients who are being treated with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (including moclobemide and selegiline), or within 2 weeks of the discontinuation of such treatment (see “Interactions”)

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS has been reported to provoke episodes of hypertension in a patient with phaeochromocytoma. It should be used with caution in such patients.

Concomitant use with SSRIs, tramadol, St. John’s wort and triptans.

WARNINGS AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

Opioid dependence can occur.

Intravenous injection may produce vasodilation and hypotension.

If given in conjunction with meprobamate or phenothiazines, hypotension may develop.

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS should be given with caution or in reduced doses to patients with hypothyroidism, adrenocortical insufficiency, asthma, or decreased respiratory reserve,

impaired kidney or liver function, prostatic hyperplasia, hypotension, shock, inflammatory or obstructive bowel disorders or myasthenia gravis.

Opioid analgesics such as PETHIDINE FRESENIUS should be given with great care to infants, more especially neonates. Their use during labour may prolong labour and cause respiratory depression in the neonate.

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS should be given with caution to elderly patients and to patients with supraventricular tachycardia.

Driving and handling of machines

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS may cause drowsiness that may affect the ability to perform skilled tasks; those affected should not drive or operate machinery.

INTERACTIONS

PETHIDINE FRESENIUS must not be administered to patients receiving phenothiazines or meprobamate. PETHIDINE FRESENIUS is contraindicated in patients who are being treated with monoamine oxidase inhibitors, or within 2 weeks of the discontinuation of such treatment. Monoamine oxidase inhibitors potentiate the action of pethidine, and this may have severe consequences, including coma, severe respiratory depression, cyanosis and hypertension (see “Contraindications”).

The depressant effects of opioid analgesics including pethidine are enhanced by other CNS depressants such as alcohol, anaesthetics, anxiolytics, hypnotics, tricyclic antidepressants and antipsychotics. Cyclizine may counteract the haemodynamic benefits of opioids. Cimetidine inhibits the metabolism of pethidine.

Concomitant use with SSRIs, tramadol, St. John’s wort and triptans.

PREGNANCY AND LACTATION

Safety in pregnancy and lactation has not been established.

DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Children: 1 - 1, 5 mg per kg body-mass given intramuscularly or subcutaneously, but not exceeding the adult dose.

Adults: 50 - 100 mg subcutaneous, intramuscular or in reduced doses intravenous repeated every 3 - 4 hours if required, but not exceeding a maximum of 150 mg as a single dose.

Obstetric Analgesia: 50 mg - 100 mg subcutaneous or intramuscular as soon as contractions occur at regular intervals. This dose may be repeated after 1 - 3 hours if necessary.

SIDE EFFECTS

General disorders and administration site conditions:

Frequency unknown:

Dry mouth, dizziness, perspiration, drowsiness.

Local reactions often follow injections of pethidine; general hypersensitivity reactions occur.

Renal and urinary disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Urinary retention.

Gastrointestinal disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Nausea, vomiting, constipation.

Nervous system disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Dysphoria, confusion, raised intracranial pressure, headache, vertigo, restlessness, changes in mood and hallucinations may occur.

Cardiac disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Intravenous injection may produce vasodilation and hypotension.

Bradycardia, tachycardia, palpitations, and orthostatic hypotension may occur.

Hepato-biliary disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Biliary spasm.

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Sweating, facial flushing, and hypothermia may occur.

Reproductive system and breast disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Decreased libido or potency may occur.

Eye disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Miosis may occur more commonly in ambulant patients than in those at rest in bed.

Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and bone disorders:

Frequency unknown:

Muscle rigidity following high doses.

KNOWN SYMPTOMS OF OVERDOSAGE AND PARTICULARS OF ITS TREATMENT

Overdosage with PETHIDINE FRESENIUS causes muscular twitching, tremors, hyperactive reflexes, dilated pupils and convulsions followed by respiratory depression, hypotension with circulatory failure and deepening coma. Death may occur from respiratory failure.

Rhabdomyolysis progressing to renal failure has been reported in overdosage.

Treatment of toxic effects

The stomach should be emptied by aspiration and lavage if oral ingestion occurs. The antidote is naloxone hydrochloride, 400 - 2 000 µg given subcutaneously, intramuscularly or intravenously, repeated at intervals of 2 - 3 minutes if necessary. In children a dose of 5 - 10 µg/kg body mass may be given, similarly repeated at intervals of 2 - 3 minutes. Further treatment is supportive and symptomatic. The circulation should be maintained with infusions of dextrose injection and suitable electrolyte solutions. Assisted respiration may be necessary.

IDENTIFICATION

Clear solution in clear glass ampoules.

PRESENTATIONS

Boxes of 1 mL ampoules in 10's and 100's - **25 mg /1 mL** (with a green ring above neck of the ampoule)

Boxes of 1 mL ampoules in 10's and 100's - **50 mg /1 mL** (with an orange ring above neck of the ampoule)

Boxes of 2 mL ampoules in 10's and 100's - **100 mg /2 mL** (with a black ring above neck of the ampoule)

STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

Store at or below 30 °C. Protect from light.

Keep out of reach of children.

Shelf life

PETHIDINE HCl 25 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS: 48 months

PETHIDINE HCl 50 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS: 60 months

PETHIDINE HCl 100 mg/2 mL FRESENIUS: 36 months

REGISTRATION NUMBERS

PETHIDINE HCl 25 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS: B/2.9/928

PETHIDINE HCl 50 mg/1 mL FRESENIUS: B/2.9/925

PETHIDINE HCl 100 mg/2 mL FRESENIUS: B/2.9/1630

NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE HOLDER OF CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION

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