

DEXMEDETOMIDINE

Trade Name	Precedex® Pfizer			
Class	Selective alpha2-adrenergic agonist			
Mechanism of Action	<p>Dexmedetomidine activates guanine –nucleotide regulatory binding proteins (G-Proteins) which in turn decrease cAMP resulting in modulation of ion channel activity in alpha2 adrenergic receptors. The presynaptic effect on alpha 2 adrenergic receptors is to inhibit release of noradrenaline which prevents transmission of pain signals. The inhibitory effect on postsynaptic neuronal receptors in the brain and spinal cord is to cause hypotension, bradycardia, sedation and analgesia. In other areas of the body dexmedetomidine causes decreased saliva production, alterations in bowel motility, contraction of vascular and other smooth muscle, increased renal secretion of water and sodium, decreased intraocular pressure and reduced insulin release by the pancreas. ¹</p>			
Indication	Sedative, opioid sparing agent			
Contraindications	Use with caution in patients with hypotension, severe bradycardia, ventricular dysfunction, hypovolaemia, diabetes or renal/hepatic impairment.			
Supplied As	200 microgram / 2 mL vial			
Dilution	Drug	0.9% Saline Added	Final Volume	Concentration
	50mcg (0.5mL)	49.5mL	50mL	1 microgram/mL
Dosage	<p>Limited data for infants <35 weeks corrected gestational age</p> <p>Continuous infusion: Start at 0.2 microgram/kg/hour (range 0.05 - 0.6 microg/kg/hour with a max of 1.2 microg/kg/hour)</p> <p>Maximum recommended concentration = 4 microgram / mL</p>			
Guardrails	Min Conc: 1 microgram/mL Soft Min: 0.03 microgram/kg/hr Soft Max: 0.6 microgram/kg/hr		Max Conc: 4 microgram/mL Hard Max: 1.2 microgram/kg/hr Default: 0.2 microgram/kg/hr	
Administration	<p>Demedetomidine is most commonly used for short periods of 24 - 72 hours in the setting of procedural sedation. However it can also be used for longer periods as an opioid sparing agent. When a decision to withdraw dexmedetomidine treatment is made dosing should be tapered rather than being stopped abruptly in order to avoid risk of rebound side effects.</p>			
Compatible with	<p>Glucose 5% and Sodium chloride 0.9%</p> <p>Y-site: aciclovir, adrenaline, allopurinol, amikacin, aminophylline, amiodarone amphotericin B liposomal, ampicillin, atenolol , atropine sulfate, azithromycin, aztreonam, buprenorphine hydrochloride, calcium chloride, calcium gluconate cefazolin,</p>			

	<p>cefepime, cefotaxime, ceftazidime, cefuroxime, ciprofloxacin, clindamycin, dexamethasone, digoxin, dobutamine, dopamine, ephedrine sulfate, erythromycin, fentanyl, fluconazole, gentamicin, heparin, imipenem/cilastatin, insulin magnesium sulfate, mannitol, meropenem, methylprednisolone, metoclopramide, metronidazole, midazolam, morphine, naloxone, noradrenaline, octreotide, pancuronium, phenobarbital, phenylephrine, piperacillin/tazobactam, potassium chloride, potassium phosphates, procainamide, prochlorperazine, promethazine, propofol, propranolol, ranitidine, remifentanyl, rocuronium, sodium acetate, sodium bicarbonate, sodium phosphates, sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim, tacrolimus, teniposide, theophylline, thiopental sodium, ticarcillin/clavulanate, tobramycin, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, vancomycin, vasopressin, vecuronium, verapamil, voriconazole, zidovudine.</p>
Incompatible with	Amphotericin B conventional, colloidal, amphotericin B lipid complex, diazepam, garenoxacin, gemtuzumab, irinotecan, pantoprazole, phenytoin.
Interactions	<p>Increased risk of hypotension when used concurrently with propofol or midazolam.</p> <p>Enhancement of effects expected when used in combination with sedative, hypnotics and opioids</p>
Monitoring	Heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, respiratory rate, urine output.
Stability	Store at room temperature.
Storage	Single use, discard any remaining contents of the vial after opening
Adverse Reactions	<p>Bradycardia, hypotension, sinus arrest, (with rapid infusion).</p> <p>Fever, nausea, vomiting, atrial fibrillation, anaemia, leucocytosis, oliguria, hypoxia, pulmonary oedema, pleural effusion, thirst.</p> <p>Withdrawal and rebound symptoms (hypertension, agitation, tachycardia, dilated pupils, diarrhoea, increased muscle tone, emesis)</p>
Metabolism	Metabolised by the liver, metabolites 95% excreted in urine 4% in faeces. It is unknown whether metabolites are active. Half life of parent compound = 6 minutes, metabolite = 2 hours.
References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.micromedexsolutions.com/micromedex2/librarian/# Drug Profile: Dexmedetomidine KEMH and PCH Pharmacy Neonatal Clinical Care Unit. Dept of Health Western Australia 2017 Finkel JC and Elrefai A The use of dexmedetomidine to facilitate Opioid and Benzodiazepine detoxification in an infant. <i>Anesth Analg</i> 2004;98:1658-9 Carter BS and Brunkhorst J. Neonatal Pain Management. www.seminperinat.com Whalen LD, DiGennaro JL, Irby GA et al. Longterm dexmedetomidine use and safety profile among critically ill children and neonates. <i>Pediatr Crit Care Med</i>. 2014 Oct;15(8):706-14.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Chrysostomou C, Schulman SR, Herrera Castellanos M, Cofer BE, Mitra S, da Rocha MG, Wisemandle WA, Gramlich L. A phase II/III, multicenter, safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetic study of dexmedetomidine in preterm and term neonates. <i>J Pediatr.</i> 2014;164:276-82.e1-3.7. Potts AL, Anderson BJ, Warman GR, Lerman J, Diaz SM, Vilo S. Dexmedetomidine pharmacokinetics in pediatric intensive care--a pooled analysis. <i>Paediatr Anaesth.</i> 2009;19:1119-29.8. Potts AL, Warman GR, Anderson BJ. Dexmedetomidine disposition in children: a population analysis. <i>Paediatr Anaesth.</i> 2008;18:722-30.9. www.uptodate.com10. www.anmfonline.org
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