

## Who can administer

Administration RESTRICTED - see [Appendix 1](#)

## Important information

- See 'Monitoring requirements' below

## Available preparations

Isoptin 5mg per 2ml ampoule

## Reconstitution

Already in solution

**Draw up using a 5 micron filter needle**

## Infusion fluids

Sodium chloride 0.9% or Glucose 5%

## Methods of intravenous administration

### **Slow intravenous injection (preferred method)**

- Administer required dose over 2 minutes (3 minutes in elderly patients) (ref 1)

### **Continuous intravenous infusion** (ref 1)

- Add required dose to a suitable volume of infusion fluid
- Administer as per 'Dose' below

## Dose in adults

### **Usual dose**

- Give 5mg initially, as a slow intravenous injection
- If the therapeutic response is inadequate, a further 5mg may be injected after five or ten minutes
- If required an infusion of 5 to 10mg per hour can be given, up to a usual maximum of 100mg/day to maintain the therapeutic effect
- If there is any signs of tachycardia-induced heart failure, digitalisation is necessary before administration of verapamil intravenously

### **Hypertensive crisis**

- Initial treatment: 0.05 to 0.1mg/kg/**hour** (= 3.5 to 7mg/hour for a 70kg patient)
- If the effect is insufficient, increase the dose at thirty to sixty minute intervals until twice the dose or more is reached
- Average total dose is up to 1.5mg/kg/**day** (105mg daily for a 70kg patient)

## **Hepatic impairment**

- The half-life of verapamil is prolonged in patients with impaired liver function owing to lower oral clearance and a higher volume of distribution. When given intravenously, verapamil has been shown to be rapidly metabolised

## **Monitoring**

- Continuous ECG and blood pressure monitoring required

## **Storage**

Store below 25°C

## **References**

SPC December 2021

1: Injectable Medicines Administration Guide Medusa 14th December 2021

## **Therapeutic classification**

Calcium channel blocker