

outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2-4% and 15-20%, respectively.

Clinical Considerations

Disease-associated maternal and/or embryo/fetal risk

Severe or life-threatening muscarinic events such as acute organophosphate poisoning and symptomatic bradycardia are medical emergencies in pregnancy which can be fatal if left untreated. Life-sustaining therapy for the pregnant woman should not be withheld due to potential concerns regarding the effects of atropine on the fetus.

Data

Human Data

No adequate and well-controlled studies are available regarding use of atropine in pregnant women. In a cohort study of 401 pregnancies in the first trimester and 797 pregnancies in the second or third trimester, atropine use was not associated with an increased risk of congenital malformation. In a surveillance study, 381 newborns were exposed to atropine during the first trimester; 18 major birth defects were observed when 16 were expected. No specific pattern of major birth defects was identified. In another surveillance study of 50 pregnancies in the first trimester, atropine use was not associated with an increased risk of malformations. Methodological limitations of these observational studies including the inability to control for the dosage and timing of atropine exposure, underlying maternal disease, or concomitant maternal drug use, cannot definitively establish or exclude any drug-associated risk during pregnancy.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

Trace amounts of atropine have been reported in human milk after oral intake. There are no available data on atropine levels in human milk after intravenous injection, the effects on the breastfed infant, or the effects on milk production. The lack of clinical data during lactation precludes a clear determination of the risk of atropine to an infant during lactation.

Clinical Considerations

Minimizing exposure

The elimination half-life of atropine is more than doubled in children less than 2 years of age [see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]. To minimize potential infant exposure to Atropine Sulfate Injection, a woman may pump and discard her milk for 24 hours after use before resuming to breastfeed her infant.

8.5 Geriatric Use

An evaluation of current literature revealed no clinical experience identifying differences in response between elderly and younger patients. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

10 OVERDOSAGE

Excessive dosing may cause palpitation, dilated pupils, difficulty in swallowing, hot dry skin, thirst, dizziness, restlessness, tremor, fatigue and ataxia. Toxic doses lead to restlessness and excitement, hallucinations, delirium and coma. Depression and circulatory collapse occur only with severe intoxication. In such cases, blood pressure declines and death due to respiratory failure may ensue following paralysis and coma.

The fatal adult dose of atropine is not known. In pediatric populations, 10 mg or less may be fatal.

In the event of toxic overdosage, a short acting barbiturate or diazepam may be given as needed to control marked excitement and convulsions. Large doses for sedation should be avoided because central depressant action may coincide with the depression occurring late in atropine poisoning. Central stimulants are not recommended.

Physostigmine, given as an atropine antidote by slow intravenous injection of 1 to 4 mg (0.5 to 1 mg in pediatric populations), rapidly abolishes delirium and coma caused by large doses of atropine. Since physostigmine is rapidly destroyed, the patient may again lapse into coma after one to two hours, and repeated doses may be required.

Artificial respiration with oxygen may be necessary. Ice bags and alcohol sponges help to reduce fever, especially in pediatric populations.

Atropine is not removed by dialysis.

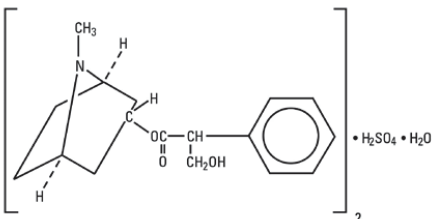
11 DESCRIPTION

Atropine Sulfate Injection, USP is a sterile, nonpyrogenic, isotonic, clear colorless solution of atropine sulfate in water for injection with sodium chloride sufficient to render the solution isotonic. It is administered parenterally by subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravenous injection.

Each mL contains atropine sulfate, 0.4 mg; benzyl alcohol, 9 mg; sodium chloride 9 mg. May contain sulfuric acid for pH adjustment. pH 3.5 (3.0 to 3.8).

Sodium chloride added to render the solution isotonic for injection of the active ingredient is present in amounts insufficient to affect serum electrolyte balance of sodium (Na⁺) and chloride (Cl⁻) ions.

Atropine Sulfate, USP is chemically designated 10 H, 50 H-Tropan-3-01 (±)-tropate (ester), sulfate (2:1) (salt) monohydrate, (C₁₇H₂₃NO₃)₂ · H₂SO₄ · H₂O, colorless, almost white to white solid powder very soluble in water. It has the following structural formula:



Atropine, a naturally occurring belladonna alkaloid, is a racemic mixture of equal parts of d- and l-hyocamine, whose activity is due almost entirely to the levo isomer of the drug.

Sodium Chloride, USP is chemically designated NaCl, a colorless, cubic crystals or white crystalline powder freely soluble in water.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Atropine is an antimuscarinic agent since it antagonizes the muscarine-like actions of acetylcholine and other choline esters.

Atropine inhibits the muscarinic actions of acetylcholine on structures innervated by postganglionic cholinergic nerves, and on smooth muscles which respond to endogenous acetylcholine but are not so innervated. As with other antimuscarinic agents, the major action of atropine is a competitive or surmountable antagonism which can be overcome by increasing the concentration of acetylcholine at receptor sites of the effector organ (e.g., by using anticholinesterase agents which inhibit the enzymatic destruction of acetylcholine). The receptors antagonized by atropine are the peripheral structures that are stimulated or inhibited by muscarine (i.e., exocrine glands and smooth and cardiac muscle). Responses to postganglionic cholinergic nerve stimulation also may be inhibited by atropine but this occurs less readily than with responses to injected (exogenous) choline esters.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Atropine-induced parasympathetic inhibition may be preceded by a transient phase of stimulation, especially on the heart where small doses first given by itself, atropine does not exert a striking or uniform effect on blood vessels or blood pressure. Systemic doses slightly raise systolic and lower diastolic pressures and can produce significant postural hypotension. Such doses also slightly increase cardiac output and decrease central venous pressure. Occasionally, therapeutic doses dilate cutaneous blood vessels, particularly in the "blush" area (atropine flush), and may cause atropine "fever" due to suppression of sweat gland activity in infants and small children.

Adequate doses of atropine abolish various types of reflex vagal cardiac slowing or asystole. The drug also prevents or abolishes bradycardia or asystole produced by injection of choline esters, anticholinesterase agents or other parasympathomimetic drugs, and cardiac arrest produced by stimulation of the vagus. Atropine also may lessen the degree of partial heart block when vagal activity is an etiologic factor. In some patients with complete heart block, the idioventricular rate may be accelerated by atropine; in others, the rate is stabilized. Occasionally a large dose may cause atrioventricular (A-V) block and nodal rhythm.

Atropine in clinical doses counteracts the peripheral dilatation and abrupt decrease in blood pressure produced by choline esters. However, when given by itself, atropine does not exert a striking or uniform effect on blood vessels or blood pressure. Systemic doses slightly raise systolic and lower diastolic pressures and can produce significant postural hypotension. Such doses also slightly increase cardiac output and decrease central venous pressure. Occasionally, therapeutic doses dilate cutaneous blood vessels, particularly in the "blush" area (atropine flush), and may cause atropine "fever" due to suppression of sweat gland activity in infants and small children.

The effects of intravenous atropine on heart rate (maximum heart rate) and saliva flow (minimum flow) after I.V. administration (rapid, constant infusion over 3 min.) are delayed by 7 to 8 minutes after drug administration and both effects are non-linearly related to the amount of drug in the peripheral compartment. Changes in plasma atropine levels following intramuscular administration (0.5 to 4 mg doses) and heart rate are closely overlapped but the time course of the changes in atropine levels and behavioral impairment indicates that pharmacokinetics is not the primary rate-limiting mechanism for the central nervous system effect of atropine.

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

After intramuscular administration, atropine is absorbed with peak concentration occurring at 30 min following injection.

Effects of exercise:

Exercise following intramuscular administration of atropine significantly increases the absorption of atropine due to increased perfusion in the muscle, with an increase in AUC by approximately 20% and Cmax by approximately 80%.

Distribution

Atropine is distributed throughout the body. Atropine's plasma protein binding is about 44% and saturable in the 2 to 20 mcg/mL concentration range.

Elimination

The pharmacokinetics of atropine is nonlinear after intravenous administration of 0.5 to 4 mg. Atropine disappears from the blood following injection with a plasma half-life of about 2-4 hours. Much of the drug is destroyed by enzymatic hydrolysis, particularly in the liver, with 13 to 50% is excreted unchanged in the urine.

Metabolism

The major metabolites of atropine are noratropine, atropin-n-oxide, tropine, and tropic acid. The metabolism of atropine is inhibited by organophosphate pesticides.

Specific Populations

Pregnant Women

Atropine readily crosses the placental barrier and enters the fetal circulation, but is not found in amniotic fluid.

Nursing Mother

Traces are found in various secretions, including milk.

Pediatric and Geriatric Patients

The elimination half-life of atropine is more than doubled in children under two years, and the elderly (> 65 years old) compared to other age groups.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Studies have not been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic or mutagenic potential of atropine or its potential to affect fertility adversely.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

Atropine Sulfate Injection, USP is a non-pyrogenic, isotonic, clear colorless solution and is supplied as follows:

Presentation	Single Vial	10 Vial Pack
NDC#	70069-481-01	70069-481-10
Description	8 mg per 20 mL (0.4 mg per mL) Multiple-dose vial	20 mL multiple-dose vial, packaged in a carton containing 10 vials.

Store at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. After initial use, store between 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) and discard within 24 hours.

Manufactured for:


Somerset Therapeutics, LLC
Somerset, NJ 08873

Made in India

Code No.: KR/DRUGS/KTK/28/289/97

1201089

ST-ATR11/P/00

SOMERSET THERAPEUTICS LIMITED			ARTWORK APPROVAL FORM		
Product	Atropine Sulfate Injection, USP 8 mg/20 mL (0.4 mg/mL)		Style:	NA	
Specification:	Printed on 40-45 GSM ITC Newsprint Paper Ink : <i>Siegwerk</i> (VEGA SPRINT PROCESS BLACK -60-922415-9) <i>Toyo</i> (TK ARIS BLACK) (Benzophenone free)		Colours:	 Black	
			Dimension:	Open 120 x 480 mm (LxW) Folded : 60 x 60 mm	
Item Code	1201089	Remarks	NIL		
Prepared by PDD	Verified by FD	Approved by Regulatory Affairs	Checked by QA		Approved by QA