West of Scotland NEONATAL Parenteral Drug Monographs

Carnitine (Levocarnitine)

FORM Ampoule containing 1g in 5ml

INDICATION Treatment of primary and secondary carnitine deficiency

N.B. Consultant Paediatrician must authorise use.

DOSE RANGE

AGE	DOSE	FREQUENCY	ROUTE
Birth to 6 months	*initially 25mg/kg/dose	every 6 hours	IV
	may increase to 175mg/kg/day or		
	3g/day		

^{*} Specialist consultants may recommend different doses on an individual baby basis.

RECONSTITUTION Already in solution

DILUTION (if required) L-Carnitine 200mg/ml inj (Carnitor®) 5ml

Glucose 5% to total 10ml

This gives 100mg/ml Carnitine solution. Use the required volume.

METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

Slow IV injection over 2 – 3 minutes.

COMPATIBILITY

Solution compatibility	Glucose 5%, Glucose 10%, sodium chloride 0.9%, Ringers solution		
Solution incompatibility	No information		
IV Line compatibility	Infuse at y-site with arginine, sodium benzoate and sodium		
	phenylbutyrate		
IV Line incompatibility	No information		

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE PLEASE CONTACT PHARMACY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON COMPATIBILITY WITH ANY MEDICINES NOT INCLUDED

CAUTIONS, CONTRA-INDICATIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

- See Summary of Product Characteristics and most recent edition of BNF for Children (links below)

FURTHER INFORMATION Extravasation risk.

PH 6.0 to 6.5

LICENSED STATUS Injection licensed in neonates and children. Single dose vial only

licensed for patients > 12 years

LINKS BNF for Children: / Electronic Medicines Compendium

APPLICABLE POLICIES West of Scotland Neonatal Guidelines:

Consult local policy if applicable

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Prepared by:	WoS Neo Pharm Group	Checked by	Marie L Currie
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Administer reconstituted solutions immediately.

All vials, ampoules and infusion bags are for single use only unless otherwise stated.

Dose may vary depending on indication, age, renal function, hepatic function, and concomitant medications.

This monograph should be used in conjunction with the package insert, BNF for Children, and Summary of Product Characteristics. For further advice contact your clinical pharmacist or pharmacy department.

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