

PHENYLEPHRINE

SYNONYMS	Phenylephrine hydrochloride
BRAND NAME	NEO-SYNEPHRINE, PHENYLEPHRINE ACCORD, BNM
DRUG CLASS	Sympathomimetic
AVAILABILITY	Neo-Synephrine ampoule and Phenylephrine Accord vial contains 10 mg/mL of phenylephrine hydrochloride. Also contain sodium chloride, sodium citrate, citric acid and sodium metabisulfite. Accord also contains hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide. ¹ Phenylephrine BNM ampoule contains 500 microgram/5 mL (100 microgram/mL) of phenylephrine hydrochloride. Also contains sodium chloride and hydrochloric acid. ¹ The solution is clear and colourless. ¹
pH	Neo-Synephrine: 4.5–6.5 ¹ Phenylephrine Accord: 4.5–6.5 ² Phenylephrine BNM: 3–5 ¹
PREPARATION	Not required
STABILITY	Ampoule and vial: store below 25 °C. Protect from light. ¹ Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours below 25 °C or at 2 to 8 °C. ^{3,4}
ADMINISTRATION	
IM injection	Suitable for Neo-Synephrine and Phenylephrine Accord only. Do not give more than 5 mg for the first dose. ¹
SUBCUT injection	Suitable for Neo-Synephrine and Phenylephrine Accord only. Do not give more than 5 mg for the first dose. ¹
IV injection	Dilute 1 mL of Neo-Synephrine or Phenylephrine Accord with 9 mL of water for injections to make a concentration of 1 mg/mL. Inject slowly over 3 to 5 minutes. ¹ Inject Phenylephrine BNM undiluted. ¹ Do not give more than 0.5 mg for the first dose. ¹
IV infusion	Suitable for Neo-Synephrine and Phenylephrine Accord . Use an infusion pump. Dilute 10 mg (1 mL) in 500 mL of glucose 5% or sodium chloride 0.9% to make a concentration of 20 microgram/mL. Start the infusion at a rate of 100–180 microgram/minute (5–9 mL/minute) and titrate to effect. Usual maintenance rates are 40–60 microgram/minute (2–3 mL/minute). ¹ See <i>INFUSION RATE CALCULATIONS</i> on page 27 for assistance if required.
COMPATIBILITY	
Fluids	Glucose 5% ¹ , sodium chloride 0.9% ¹ , glucose 10% ³ , glucose in sodium chloride solutions ³ , Hartmann's ³ , Ringer's ³ , sodium chloride 0.45% ³
Y-site	Giving other drugs via Y-site may change the infusion rate of phenylephrine. Amiodarone ³ , anidulafungin ³ , argatroban ³ , atracurium ⁴ , bivalirudin ³ , calcium chloride ⁴ , calcium gluconate ⁴ , caspofungin ³ , cisatracurium ³ , dexmedetomidine ¹ , haloperidol lactate (in glucose) ³ , heparin sodium ⁴ , hydrocortisone sodium succinate ⁴ , micafungin ³ , noradrenaline (norepinephrine) ⁴ , remifentanyl ³ , zidovudine ³
INCOMPATIBILITY	
Fluids	No information
Drugs	Aciclovir ⁵ , azathioprine ⁵ , furosemide ³ , ganciclovir ⁵ , insulin (Actrapid) ⁵ , pentamidine ⁵ , thiopental sodium ⁵
SPECIAL NOTES	Monitor blood pressure. IM, SUBCUT or IV doses should not be repeated more often than every 10 to 15 minutes. ¹ Monitor blood pressure continuously during IV infusion. Neo-Synephrine and Phenylephrine Accord contain sodium metabisulfite which may cause allergic reactions in susceptible people.

REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 28/07/2023.
2. Medical information. Phenylephrine [email]. Melbourne: Accord Healthcare; 13/07/2023.
3. ASHP Injectable drug information 2021. Bethesda, MD: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2021.
4. Trissel LA, Leissing NC. Trissel's Tables of physical compatibility. Lake Forest IL: Multimatrix; 1996.
5. Phenylephrine hydrochloride. In: IV Index [internet]. Trissel's 2 clinical pharmacetics database (parenteral compatibility). Greenwood Village, CO: IBM Watson Health. Accessed 17/11/2022.

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