APOMORPHINE

BRAND NAME
APOMINE, APOMINE INTERMITTENT, MOVAPO

DRUG CLASS
Dopamine agonist

AVAILABILITY
Movapo ampoule contains 20 mg/2 mL or 50 mg/5 mL of apomorphine hydrochloride hemihydrate. Also contains sodium metabisulfite, hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide.[1]

Apomine Intermittent cartridge and Movapo Pen contain 30 mg/3 mL of apomorphine hydrochloride hemihydrate. Also contain sodium metabisulfite, hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide.[1]

Movapo prefilled syringe contains 50 mg/10 mL of apomorphine hydrochloride hemihydrate. Also contains sodium metabisulfite. May also contain hydrochloric acid.[1]

Apomine solution for infusion vial contains 100 mg/20 mL of apomorphine hydrochloride hemihydrate. Also contains sodium metabisulfite, sodium chloride and hydrochloric acid.[1]

The solution is clear and colourless to slightly yellow.[1]

pH
2.5–4[1]

PREPARATION
Not required

STABILITY
Store below 25 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.[1]

Solutions drawn up into a disposable syringe from **Movapo ampoules** are stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C.[1]

Apomine Intermittent is stable for 72 hours at 25 °C after opening.[1]

Movapo Pen is stable for 48 hours after first use.[1]

Apomine solution for infusion vial is stable for 24 hours at 25 °C after opening.[1]

Discard solutions that have turned green.[1]

ADMINISTRATION

IM injection
Not recommended

SUBCUT injection
For intermittent injection use the 10 mg/mL presentations (ampoules, cartridge or pen). Inject undiluted into the lower abdomen or outer thigh.[1]

For continuous subcutaneous infusion use the 5 mg/mL presentations (vial or prefilled syringe) or dilute the ampoule with an equal volume of sodium chloride 0.9% to make a concentration of 5 mg/mL.[1]

Change the infusion site every 12 hours to reduce tissue damage.[1]

Give the infusions during waking hours unless the patient is experiencing severe motor symptoms at night. Allow a treatment-free period of at least four hours to avoid tolerance.[1]

IV injection
Not recommended

IV infusion
Not recommended

COMPATIBILITY
Sodium chloride 0.9%[1]

INCOMPATIBILITY
No information

SPECIAL NOTES
Patients must be pretreated with domperidone for at least 48 to 72 hours before the first dose of apomorphine to prevent nausea and vomiting. After the patient is stabilised on apomorphine, domperidone can be slowly withdrawn or reduced to the minimum effective dose.[1]

When commencing apomorphine, all antiparkinson drugs are withheld overnight. Monitor the patient for 30 minutes after each injection for a suitable motor response to determine the required dose.[1]

Patients who are sensitive to morphine may be sensitive to apomorphine.[1]

Contains sodium metabisulfite which may cause allergic reactions in susceptible people.[1]

REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 19/07/2021.