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Martindale Pharma Artwork Dept
To confirm that all artwork checks have been completed prior to circulation

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me&you
1 Blighs Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1DA, UK
t: +44 (0) 1732 749 748
e: nick@meandyou.co.uk
e: sarah@meandyou.co.uk
www.meandyou.co.uk

3742 PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER D04610

Phenylephrine 0.1 mg/ml, solution for injection

phenylephrine

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Phenylephrine is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Phenylephrine
3. How to use Phenylephrine
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Phenylephrine
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Phenylephrine is and what it is used for

This drug belongs to a group called adrenergic or dopaminergic agents. Phenylephrine is used to treat low blood pressure that can occur during different types of anaesthesia.

2. What you need to know before you use Phenylephrine

Do not use Phenylephrine if:

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to phenylephrine or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- you suffer from hypertension (increased blood pressure)
- you are suffering from peripheral vascular disease (poor blood circulation)
- you take a non-selective monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) (or within 2 weeks of their withdrawal) for treatment of depression (iproniazide, nialamide).
- you suffer from a severe overactive thyroid gland (hyperthyroidism)

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using Phenylephrine:

- if you are elderly
- if you have an overactive thyroid gland
- if you suffer from heart problems as a slow pulse, heart block (partial), heart muscle disease, poor blood circulation in the heart, severe peripheral vascular insufficiency, heart rhythm disorders, tachycardia (high heart rate), bradycardia (low heart rate), angina pectoris
- if you have poor blood circulation in the brain
- if you have atherosclerosis (hardening and thickening of the blood vessel walls)
- if you have diabetes mellitus
- if you are treated with oxytocin as the effect on the blood vessels can be enhanced and cause very high blood pressure and stroke in the period immediately after childbirth

Other medicines and Phenylephrine
Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Do not use Phenylephrine with:

- iproniazide, nialamide (for depression)

The following medicines may affect or be affected by concomitant use:

- dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergometrine, methysergide (for migraine)
- linezolid (an antibiotic)
- bromocriptine, cabergoline, lisuride, pergolide (for Parkinson's disease)
- desipramine, imipramine, nortriptyline, moclobemide, toloxatone, minalcipram, venlafaxine (for depression)
- anaesthetics that are inhaled (desflurane, enflurane, halothane, isoflurane, methoxyflurane, sevoflurane)
- medicine used to treat high blood pressure (guanethidine)
- medicines used to treat heart failure and certain irregular heartbeats (cardiac glycosides)
- medicine used to treat abnormal heart rhythm (quinidine)
- medicine used during labour (oxytocin).

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice before taking this medicine.

Pregnancy
This medication should not be used during pregnancy unless absolutely necessary.

Breast-feeding
This medication should not be used during breast-feeding unless it is absolutely necessary. However, in the event of a single administration during childbirth, breast-feeding is possible.

Driving and using machines
Not relevant.

Phenylephrine contains sodium

- Each 10 ml ampoule contains 1,6 mmol (36,8 mg) sodium per dose. This should be considered by patients on a controlled sodium diet.
- Each 5 ml ampoule contains 0,8 mmol (18,4 mg) sodium per dose. This means that it contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, which means it is almost free from sodium.

Continued overleaf

3. How to take Phenylephrine

The administration will be performed by a health-care professional with appropriate training and relevant experience.

Use in Adults
Your doctor or nurse will give you Phenylephrine into a vein (intravenously). Your doctor will decide the right dose for you and when and how it should be injected.

Use in patients with impaired renal function
Lower doses of phenylephrine may be needed in patients with impaired renal function.

Use in patients with impaired liver function
Higher doses of phenylephrine may be needed in patients with cirrhosis of the liver.

Use in older people
Treatment in older people should be carried out with care.

Use in children
It is not recommended for use in children due to insufficient data on efficacy, safety and dosage recommendations.

If you use more Phenylephrine than you should
Signs that indicates that you have received too much Phenylephrine is a faster and irregular heart beat, headache, nausea, vomiting, paranoid psychosis, hallucinations and hypertension. It is unlikely that this will happen because you will get this medicine at a hospital.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The following adverse reactions have been reported: Some side effects may be serious. Tell your doctor straight away if you get any of the following:

- chest pain or pain due to the angina
- irregular heartbeat
- feeling the heart pumping in the chest
- bleeding in the brain (speech disorder, dizziness, paralysis of one side of the body)
- psychosis (losing contact with reality)

Other side effects may include (frequencies are not known):

- reaction of hypersensitivity (allergy)
- excessive dilation of the pupils
- increased pressure in the eye (aggravation of glaucoma)
- excitability (excessive sensitivity of an organ or body part)
- agitation (restlessness)
- anxiety
- confusion
- headache
- nervousness,
- insomnia (difficulty falling or staying asleep)
- shaking (tremor)
- burning of the skin
- pricking of the skin
- itching or tingling skin sensation (paraesthesia)
- slow or high heart rate
- high blood pressure
- difficulty in breathing
- fluids in the lung
- nausea
- vomiting
- sweating
- pallor or skin blanching (pale colour of the skin)

5. How to store Phenylephrine

Keep the ampoules in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Phenylephrine contains

- The active substance is phenylephrine as phenylephrine hydrochloride 0.1 mg/ml
- The other ingredients are sodium chloride, sodium citrate, citric acid, water for injection and hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxid for pH adjustment

What Phenylephrine looks like and contents of the pack
Clear and colourless solution. Phenylephrine 0.1 mg/ml, solution for injection, is available in glass ampoules of 5 ml and 10 ml.

The ampoules are packaged in trays of plastic and then in cartons of 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 ampoules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder
Unimedic Pharma AB
PO Box 6216
SE-102 34 Stockholm
Sweden

Manufacturer
Unimedic AB, Storjordenvägen 2
SE-864 31 Matfors, Sweden

Distributor
Martindale Pharmaceuticals Ltd,
(Trading as Martindale Pharma)
Bampton Road, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 8UG,
United Kingdom.

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M MARTINDALE PHARMA
Bampton Road, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 8UG, UK