If you are wheezing or have problems with your breathing, your doctor will probably give you another drug or oxygen to control this while you are taking Doxapram Injection.

1. WHAT DOXAPRAM INJECTION IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Doxapram Injection contains the active substance doxapram hydrochloride. It is used to help you breathe after you have been given an anaesthetic, when your breathing may not be as good as it should be. Also some probably in anaesthesia have the side effect of decreasing your breathing and this medicine can prevent this problem. Your doctor can also use this medicine to speed up your recovery after an anaesthetic and also from associated sleepiness.

Doxapram Injection works by increasing the amount of air that goes in and out of your lungs and increases your rate of breathing. This medicine is therefore useful in conditions where breathing properly may be difficult.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU ARE GIVEN DOXAPRAM INJECTION

You should not be given Doxapram Injection:

- If you know that you are allergic to Doxapram Hydrochloride or any of the other ingredients of Doxapram Injection
- If you have very high blood pressure
- If you are suffering from a state of sudden severe wheezing known as status asthmaticus
- If you have heart disease
- If you suffer from epiphysis or a similar condition involving fits or convulsions
- If you have what is called cerebral oedema, where there is build up of fluid in the brain
- If you have suffered from a stroke
- If you suffer from the condition known as hyperthyroidism/thyroidism (when you have an overactive thyroid gland and your body produces too much of the hormone thyroidine)
- If the airways in your lungs or the muscles in the chest wall that you use to breathe are severely blocked in any way
- If you have an injury to the head
- If you suffer from a blood clot in the lung (pulmonary embolism)

Make sure your doctor knows if you suffer from any of the above.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or nurse before you are given Doxapram Injection:

- If you are wheezing or have problems with your breathing, your doctor will probably give you another drug or oxygen to control

3. HOW DOXAPRAM INJECTION IS GIVEN TO YOU

Your doctor will give you Doxapram Injection by injecting it into one of your veins. The amount you are given will depend on your condition and on how well you are responding to the medicine.

Adults and the elderly:

The recommended dose that you would be given is between 1.0 and 1.5mg of this medicine for each kilogram that you weigh (e.g. if you weigh 70 kilograms you will probably receive between 70mg and 105mg of this medicine). This dose may be repeated hourly if necessary.

Use in children and adolescents:

Doxapram Injection is not recommended for use in children.

If you are given more Doxapram Injection than you should

If your doctor accidentally gives you too much of this medicine you may feel the following: your heartbeat becomes irregular, you develop some shortness of breath and your muscle movements become more difficult. Tell your doctor immediately if you feel any of these symptoms.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine ask your doctor or nurse.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side-effects, although not everybody gets them.

All medicines can cause allergic reactions although serious allergic reactions are very
rare. Any sudden wheeziness, difficulty in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching (especially affecting your whole body) should be reported to a doctor immediately.

If you develop sudden and severe increase in blood pressure or difficulty in breathing your doctor will stop Doxapram Injection. The following side effects have also been reported:

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from available data):
- feeling feverish, flushed and possibly sweating
- coughing
- shortness of breath
- tightening of the chest and throat
- increased blood pressure
- quicker or slower heartbeat than usual
- warmth at the base of the tummy
- muscle twitches
- chest pain or chest tightness
- increased muscle tone/ stiffness (Muscle spasticity)
- reflex of too in response to foot stroke (bilateral Babinski)
- weakness in the limbs, slurred speech or visual disturbances which may be caused by reduced blood supply to the brain
- slight decrease in blood supply to brain
- premature contraction of heart (extrasystoles)
- fits
- headache
- dizziness
- feeling hyperactive
- feeling confused
- having hallucinations (see, hear, smell, taste, or feel something that is not there)
- nausea (feeling sick) and vomiting (being sick)
- salivation
- series of involuntary muscular contractions (Cinemas)
- increased reflexes in brain function (increased deep tendon reflexes)
- irregular heart beat
- inability to pass urine or sudden passing of urine.

Children, infants and pre-term newborns

Although Doxapram Injection is not recommended for use in children, its use in children is known to cause the following side effects:
- Prolonged use of Doxapram in premature infants may cause neurodevelopmental delay (some parts of the brain are late in maturing).
- Doxapram use in pre-term neonates may cause cardiac problems (significant lengthening of QT interval on Electrocardiogram, sometimes associated with heart block)
- Blood in stools, painful swelling of abdominal cavity (abdominal distension), death of tissues in the portions of bowel (necrotizing enterocolitis), multiple gastric perforations (penetration of wall of the stomach)
- Early teeth eruption.

If any of the side effects persist or become more serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

8. HOW TO STORE DOXAPRAM INJECTION

Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will know how to store Doxapram Injection properly.