Sodium valproate injection should not be administered via the same IV line as other IV additives.

Dosage using continuous or repeated infusion. Other patients may be given a slow intravenous injection over 3-5 minutes, followed by continuous or repeated infusion up to a maximum of 2500mg/day. Doses may be reduced or stopped if improvement occurs at these lower levels. Where adequate control is not achieved within this range, the dose may be increased at intervals of 250mg per day, up to a maximum of 1000mg per day in adults and 50mg/kg/day in children. The dose of sodium valproate injection should be adjusted according to the severity of the condition. Sodium valproate injection should be continued for at least 4 weeks after clinical improvement and for at least 6 months after the last clinical seizure. The combination of sodium valproate injection and carbamazepine should be avoided because it may decrease the effect of your medicine.

Weight gain

• Take care to monitor your weight. If your weight increases, tell your doctor or nurse. If you have weight loss, you may need to increase your dose of sodium valproate injection.

• Weight gain is more likely in children, women and patients with hepatic insufficiency.

• Inadequate weight gain may be due to a lack of sodium valproate injection or to the effects of the underlying disease.

• A small number of patients, mainly children, may develop very high sodium valproate injection levels, with a risk of serious side effects, during treatment with sodium valproate injection. The risk of serious side effects is highest in children with severe epilepsy and with uncontrollable seizures. In these cases, sodium valproate injection should be used at the lowest effective dose and the dose should be increased gradually. The risk of serious side effects is also higher in children and adolescents with hepatic insufficiency.

• Sodium valproate injection should be used with caution in patients with a mitochondrial disorder (e.g. Alpers-Huttenlocher syndrome).

• If you have liver disease, you may need to take a lower dose of sodium valproate injection.

• If you have kidney disease, you may need to take a lower dose of sodium valproate injection.

• If you have diabetes, this medicine may affect the results of urine tests for diabetes. This medicine may also affect the results of tests for ketones in the breath. This medicine may also affect the results of tests for glucose in the breath, if you have diabetes.

• If you have a mitochondrial disorder, you may need to monitor your body weight and fluid balance more closely than usual.

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Your doctor may stop giving you Sodium Valproate Injection immediately if you have these symptoms:

- Your blood in the urine or stools is blood.
- Swelling of the legs and feet (oedema).
- A sudden weight gain, leading to obesity in rare cases - as your appetite may increase.
- Fever, including very high fevers (systemic lupus erythematosus), breathing problems, swallowing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.
- Blood disorders, such as leukemia and aplastic anemia.
- Peeling of the skin and nails.
- A sudden change in your mood or behavior.
- Having hallucinations or fits.

If you forget to take Sodium Valproate Injection

Your doctor or nurse will have instructions on when to give you this medicine. It is unlikely that you will not be given the medicine as it has been prescribed. However, if you think you may have missed a dose, then talk to your doctor or nurse.

It is unlikely that your doctor or nurse will give you too much medicine. Your doctor will be checking your progress and will adjust the dose if necessary.

Sodium Valproate Injection is always given to you by a doctor or nurse.

Your doctor may order that you take Sodium Valproate Injection with food to minimize any side effects.

Always tell your doctor or nurse any medication you take, including vitamins and herbal remedies, even if you think they are of no importance. It is especially important to tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Other anticonvulsants.
- Other medicines to treat fits (epilepsy).
- Other medicines to treat mental disorders, for example antidepressants and antipsychotics.
- Other medicines for asthma.
- Other medicines for migraine.
- Other medicines to treat blood disorders, for example anticoagulants and any medicines to treat blood clots.

If you are taking any other medicine for another condition, your doctor may order that you take Sodium Valproate Injection at a different time of the day or at a different time of the day.

Sodium Valproate Injection is given as a slow injection. This means that it is given over a period of time. The amount of time that it is given over a period of time is determined by the amount of medicine that you are given.

Special precautions for storage

Unopened: 3 years. After dilution according to the directions detailed in the section entitled ‘Special precautions for storage’ the solution should be not longer than 24 hours at 2 to 8°C, unless dilution has taken place in controlled and validated aseptic conditions.

List of Excipients

- Disodium hydrogen phosphate dodecahydrate
- Sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate
- Phosphoric acid (for pH adjustment)
- Sodium hydroxide (for pH adjustment)
- Water for injections

Your doctor or nurse will have instructions on how to mix this medicine into your body. It is unlikely that you will not be given the medicine as it has been prescribed. However, if you think you may have missed a dose, then talk to your doctor or nurse.

It is unlikely that your doctor or nurse will give you too much medicine. Your doctor will be checking your progress and will adjust the dose if necessary.

Dilution will be made by your doctor or nurse. If the dilution solution is not available, you may have to make the dilution solution yourself. If you are given an injection, you may have to make the dilution solution yourself.

If you are taking any other medicine for another condition, your doctor may order that you make the dilution solution at a different time of the day or at a different time of the day.

This medicine will be kept by your doctor or pharmacist in a safe place where children cannot see or reach it.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting systems listed below:


For Malta, please call +44 1978 661261.

In the event of an emergency, call +44 1978 661261.

For Ireland, please call +353 1 206 7111.

For Norway, please call +47 22 15 60 00.

For Sweden, please call +46 8 588 07 00 0.

For the EEA under the following names:

- For Malta, please call +44 1978 661261.

For Ireland, please call +353 1 206 7111.

For Norway, please call +47 22 15 60 00.

For Sweden, please call +46 8 588 07 00 0.

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