

**VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL
CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG DATA SHEET**

DRUG NAME

hydroxocobalamin

ALTERNATE NAME

Cyanokit®

MANUFACTURER

Merck Sante

STRENGTH

2.5g vial

DOSAGE FORM

injection

INDICATIONS

- Preferred antidote for the treatment of known or suspected cyanide poisoning
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DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 5g (2 vials) administered IV over 15-30 minutes.
- Additional doses may be given in 2.5g increments if required up to 15g. Optimal regimen for subsequent doses not established.
- Do NOT mix with other drugs.
- Administer through a separate IV line using the intravenous infusion set provided in the kit.
- Consult the BC Drug and Poison Information Centre for current information on patient management and administration (604-682-5050 or 1-800-567-8911)

Preparation instructions:

- Reconstitute each 2.5g vial with 100mL of sodium chloride 0.9% using the sterile transfer spike supplied. The diluent is not included in the kit.
(Dextrose 5% solution may also be used for reconstitution)
 - Rotate or rock the vial for at least 30 seconds prior to administration (Do NOT shake)
 - The final solution is a deep red colour with a concentration of 25mg/mL
 - Reconstituted solution is stable for 6 hours at room temperature.
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KNOWN SIDE EFFECTS*

- Transient hypertension & bradycardia
 - Red urine colour within 2 hours of IV infusion and may last up to 6 weeks
 - Harmless red discolouration of skin and mucous membranes which may begin 10 to 15 minutes after start of IV infusion and last several days
 - Rare allergic reactions. Pustular rash seen 7- 28 days after treatment
 - Red colour of hydroxocobalamin may interfere with results of certain lab tests including AST, bilirubin, serum creatinine, magnesium, iron and co-oximetry (carboxyhemoglobin, methemoglobin and oxyhemoglobin)
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SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

- Hydroxocobalamin is not currently available on the Canadian market. Future use approval from the Health Canada Special Access Programme has been received for the use in cyanide poisoning at Vancouver General Hospital.
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The use of hydroxocobalamin is experimental. Knowledge of its side effects is incomplete and may involve risks that are unknown and currently unforeseen.

***REPORT ANY ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS TO CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
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