

**VANCOUVER HOSPITAL & HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE  
CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES  
SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAM DRUG**

**DRUG NAME**

Quinine dihydrochloride salt

**ALTERNATE NAME**

1. Quininject®

**MANUFACTURER**

1. Formulations plc
2. Ophthalmic Laboratories

**STRENGTH**

1. 300 mg salt / mL in benzyl alcohol 0.5% w/v  
(equivalent to 250 mg base / mL)
2. 600 mg salt/10 mL (6%)

**DOSAGE FORM**

Injection (IM/IV)

**INDICATIONS**

- Treatment of severe and complicated malaria and infections due to chloroquine-resistant or multi-drug resistant strains of malaria

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**- Loading dose (LD):

Quinine dihydrochloride 20 mg salt/kg **OR** quinine 16.7 mg base/kg in 10 mL/kg D5W (preferred) or NS IV x 1  
Infuse over 4 hours

- Avoid LD if patient received quinine, quinidine or mefloquine 12-24 hours prior. Use maintenance dosing for these patients

- Maintenance dose (start 8-12 hours after LD):

Quinine dihydrochloride 10 mg salt/kg **OR** quinine 8.3 mg base/kg IV in 10 mL/kg D5W or NS q8h (in adults) or q12h (in children)  
Infuse over 4 hours

- When patient can swallow, switch to PO therapy to complete 3-7 days  
If > 48 hours of parenteral therapy required, reduce quinine maintenance dose by 1/3 to 1/2 to 5-7 mg salt/kg to avoid accumulation

**KNOWN SIDE EFFECTS\***

- Cinchorism (tinnitus, impaired hearing, headache, nausea, blurred vision, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vertigo), hypersensitivity (urticaria, pruritus, skin flushing, thrombocytopenia), fever, rashes, dyspnea, angioedema, haemoglobinuria, hypoglycaemia, hypoprothrombinaemia, renal failure, cardiotoxicity (dysrhythmias, asystole, hypotension, angina), CNS disturbances, oculotoxicity (sudden blindness), injection site (abscess, focal necrosis, pain)

**SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS**

- Avoid if hypersensitivity to quinine or quinidine
- Avoid IM administration
- Infuse slowly (over 4 hours) to avoid cardiovascular toxicity (dysrhythmias)
- Monitor vital signs and blood glucose
- Replace with oral therapy as soon as possible (quinine sulphate)
- In renal failure, use full dosage regimen for at least 48 hours
- Store below 25°C and protect from light

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