

**VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL
CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
SPECIAL ACCESS (SAP) DRUG DATA SHEET**

DRUG NAME

Valproate Sodium

ALTERNATE NAME

Valproic Acid, Depacon®

MANUFACTURER

Abbott

STRENGTH

100 mg (of valproic acid) per mL IV solution (5 mL vials)

DOSAGE FORM

Injection

INDICATIONS

- Used for the treatment of seizure disorders when oral therapy or other IV anticonvulsants are temporarily not feasible.
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DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Adults: *Monotherapy* - initially 5 to 15 mg / kg daily. Increase dose by 5 to 10 mg / kg daily at one-week intervals.
Polytherapy - initially 10 to 30 mg / kg daily. Increase dose by 5 to 10 mg / kg daily at one-week intervals.
Replacement for oral therapy – the total daily IV dose should be equivalent to the total daily oral dose of the valproic acid or divalproex product and should be administered at the same frequency as the oral product.
 - Maximum dose 60 mg / kg.
 - Dilute in at least 50 mL of D5W, NS.
 - Diluted solution is stable for 24 hours in glass bottles or PVC minibags at room temperature.
 - Solution remaining in the vial after preparation should be discarded.
 - Valproate sodium injection and diluted solutions should be free from particulate matter and discoloration.
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KNOWN SIDE EFFECTS

- Local effects at the site of injection (pain, injection site reaction, inflammation).
 - Dizziness, taste disturbances, and injection site pain occur more frequently with faster infusion rates (see special precautions).
 - Other adverse reactions seen with parenteral valproic acid include all of the effects associated with oral administration.
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SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

- Infuse over a minimum of 60 minutes. For larger doses, maximum infusion rate = 20 mg per minute.
 - Patients should be switched to oral valproate products as soon as clinically possible.
 - Monitor serum levels.
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REPORT ANY ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS TO CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

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