



Bonus Monographs



Sodium ferric gluconate complex

PREGNANCY CATEGORY: B

CLASSIFICATION(S):

Antianemic, iron

Rx: Ferrlecit, Ferrlecit

ACTION/KINETICS

A stable macromolecular complex used to replete total body iron content. Iron requirements increase from erythropoietin therapy, blood loss, decreased dietary intake or absorption, surgery, malignancy, and iron sequestration due to inflammation.

USES

Iron deficiency in clients undergoing chronic hemodialysis who are receiving supplemental erythropoetin therapy.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to sodium ferric gluconate complex. Any anemia not associated with iron deficiency. Use in neonates; product contains benzyl alcohol.

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Use with caution in the elderly and during lactation. Safety and efficacy have not been determined in children.

SIDE EFFECTS

Due to rapid IV administration of iron. Hypotension, flushing, lightheadedness, malaise, fatigue, weakness, severe pain in the chest, back, flanks, or groin. **Hypersensitivity: CV collapse, cardiac arrest, bronchospasm, oral or pharyngeal edema,** dyspnea, angioedema, urticaria, pruritus, pain and

muscle spasm of the chest or back. **GI:** N&V, diarrhea, rectal disorder, dyspepsia, eructation, flatulence, melena. **CNS:** Cramps, dizziness, leg cramps, paresthesias, agitation, insomnia, somnolence. **CV:** Hypotension, hypertension, syncope, tachycardia, bradycardia, angina pectoris, MI, pulmonary edema. **Hematologic:** Abnormal erythrocytes, anemia, lymphadenopathy. **Respiratory:** Dyspnea, coughing, URTI, rhinitis, pneumonia. **Musculoskeletal:** Myalgia, arthralgia. **Metabolic:** Generalized edema, leg edema, edema, hypervolemia. **Dermatologic:** Pruritus, increased sweating, rash. **Ophthalmic:** Conjunctivitis, abnormal vision. **Body as a whole:** Pain, asthenia, headache, fatigue, fever, malaise, infection, rigors, chills, flu-like syndrome, **sepsis, carcinoma.** **Miscellaneous:** Injection site reaction, chest pain, abdominal pain, back pain, arm pain, UTI.

LABORATORY TEST CONSIDERATIONS

Hyperkalemia, hypoglycemia, hypokalemia.

OD OVERDOSE MANAGEMENT

Symptoms: Abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, pallor, cyanosis, lassitude, drowsiness, hyperventilation due to acidosis, CV collapse. *Treatment:* Treat symptoms. Product is not dialyzable.

HOW SUPPLIED

Injection: 12.5 mg/mL of elemental iron

DOSAGE

• INJECTION

Iron deficiency in chronic hemodialysis with erythropoetin therapy.

Therapeutic dose for iron deficiency: 10 mL (125 mg elemental iron) dilut-

2 SODIUM FERRIC GLUCONATE COMPLEX

ed in 100 mL of 0.9% NaCl injection given over 1 hr. Do not exceed an infusion rate of 12.5 mg/min. Most will require a minimum cumulative dose of 1 g elemental iron, given over 8 sessions, at sequential dialysis treatments.

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

ADMINISTRATION/STORAGE

- IV** 1. Clients may continue to require iron therapy at the lowest dose required to maintain target levels of hemoglobin, hematocrit, and lab parameters of iron storage within acceptable limits.
2. If test dose given without reaction, may dilute 10 mL (125 mg elemental iron) in 100 mL of 0.9% NaCl injection and give over 1 hr. Do not exceed an infusion rate of 12.5 mg/min.
3. Can be infused during the dialysis session itself.
4. Do not mix with other medications or add to parenteral nutrition solutions for IV infusion.
5. Store at 20–25°C (68–77°F).

6. Use immediately after diluting with saline.

ASSESSMENT

1. Note indications for therapy, onset, characteristics and etiology of deficiency and other agents trialed.
2. Ensure that test dose has been performed before initiating therapy (25 mg in 50 mL NSS over 60 min).
3. List drugs prescribed.
4. Monitor VS, CBC, iron panel, renal and LFTs.

CLIENT/FAMILY TEACHING

1. Drug is used to replace low iron stores. The drug erythropoetin does not work to improve red blood cells effectively if the iron level is too low.
2. May be given during dialysis to prevent additional sticks.
3. Report any unusual or persistent side effects.

OUTCOMES/EVALUATE

- Restoration of serum iron levels
- Improvement in exercise tolerance and level of fatigue
- Improvement in skin pallor, color of nail beds, Hb and iron levels