# Information For the User Artesunate (120mg) Arteslide 120 Injection

# Artesunate (120 mg) Injection: Product Information

Brand Name: Artesunate Injection Generic Name: Artesunate Strength: 120 mg per vial Dosage Form: Injectable powder for reconstitution

#### Indications:

Artesunate 120 mg Injection is indicated for:

- Treatment of severe malaria, particularly severe Plasmodium falciparum malaria in both adults and children.
- Emergency management of malaria cases in patients unable to take oral medications or when rapid treatment is necessary.

Artesunate is often used as part of a combination therapy with other antimalarial drugs to reduce the risk of drug resistance.

# **Mechanism of Action**:

Artesunate is a water-soluble derivative of artemisinin and works by:

- Generating reactive oxygen species inside the malaria parasite, leading to oxidative damage and death of the parasite.
- Rapidly acting against all blood stages of the malaria parasite, which helps to quickly reduce the parasite load in severe malaria cases.

# **Dosage and Administration:**

• **Preparation**: Reconstitute the 120 mg vial with the recommended diluent (typically sterile water) as per package instructions to achieve the required concentration.

- Adult and Pediatric Dosing: The typical dose is 2.4 mg/kg body weight administered intravenously or intramuscularly at 0, 12, and 24 hours, followed by once-daily doses until the patient can switch to oral antimalarial therapy or for at least 48 hours.
- **Duration**: Continue Artesunate injections until the patient can tolerate oral antimalarials or as recommended by a healthcare provider.

# Administration Instructions:

- Administer by slow intravenous injection or intramuscular injection.
- Reconstituted solution should be used promptly; consult the product insert for storage details of reconstituted solutions if immediate administration is not possible.

#### Contraindications:

Artesunate 120 mg Injection is contraindicated in patients who:

- Have a known **hypersensitivity** to Artesunate, artemisinin derivatives, or any component of the injection.
- Are in the first trimester of pregnancy, except when the potential benefit outweighs the risk, as determined by a healthcare provider.

# Warnings and Precautions:

- **Delayed Hemolysis**: Monitor for posttreatment hemolysis, as artesunate may cause delayed hemolysis after treatment, particularly in patients treated for severe malaria.
- Liver and Kidney Function: Use with caution in patients with hepatic or renal

impairment; monitor liver and kidney function as Artesunate is metabolized in the liver.

• **Hypersensitivity Reactions**: Use with caution in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to artemisinin derivatives.

#### Side Effects:

Common side effects of Artesunate Injection may include:

- Dizziness, headache, and nausea
- Injection site reactions, such as pain or redness
- Fever or chills

Serious but rare side effects include:

- Hemolytic anemia: Delayed hemolysis can occur days to weeks after treatment; monitor hemoglobin levels in patients receiving Artesunate.
- Allergic reactions: Such as rash, itching, or difficulty breathing, which require immediate medical attention.

If serious side effects occur, discontinue use and provide appropriate medical treatment.

#### **Drug Interactions:**

Due to its rapid action and short half-life, Artesunate has minimal interactions with most other drugs. However, inform the healthcare provider of any concurrent medications, particularly other antimalarials, as combination therapy is commonly recommended to prevent drug resistance.

#### Storage:

- Store Artesunate powder at **room temperature** (15°C to 25°C / 59°F to 77°F), away from light.
- Reconstituted solution should be used immediately or as per the manufacturer's instructions.

#### Patient Counseling Information:

- Follow-up: Complete the full course of malaria treatment, including any additional antimalarial therapy, even if symptoms improve to prevent relapse.
- **Report symptoms of anemia**: Such as fatigue, dizziness, or shortness of breath after treatment, as Artesunate may cause delayed hemolysis.
- **Pregnancy**: Inform the healthcare provider if pregnant or planning to become pregnant, as treatment decisions may be adjusted.

This information provides a general overview of **Artesunate 120 mg Injection**. Always follow healthcare provider instructions and consult them for any specific questions or concerns regarding this medication.

Manufactured in India for:

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