### METHOTREXATE

**PRESENTATION**

Injection: 1. Prefilled Syringes:
- 5mg in 0.2mL
- 10mg in 0.4mL
- 50mg in 0.5ml
- 75mg in 0.75mL
- 100mg in 1mL
- 125mg in 1.25mL

2. Patient Dose Specific Prefilled Syringes (to be ordered from Pharmacy the day prior to procedure – contact Pharmacy)

**ACTION**

Folic acid antagonist. Cytotoxic

**INDICATION**

- Tubal ectopic pregnancy
- Gestational Trophoblastic Disease

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Clinically significant renal, hepatic or haematological impairment, immunodeficiency, concurrent use of corticosteroids

**DOSE**

- **Ectopic pregnancy:**
  - IM: 50mg/m²
  - See Clinical Guidelines Section C.9.4.2

- **Gestational Trophoblastic Disease:**
  - 50mg IM on days 1,3,5,7
  - with Folinic Acid 15mg orally on days 2,4,6,8
  - Repeat every 2 weeks, continue for 2 cycles beyond a negative hCG
  - See Clinical Guidelines Section C: 9.5

**ADMINISTRATION**

Clinical Guidelines P 2.11 Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Agents must be followed when handling methotrexate.

**ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Stomatitis, conjunctivitis. Rarely gastritis, enteritis, dermatitis, pneumonitis, alopecia, elevated liver enzymes, bone marrow suppression

**COMMENTS**

- Refrigerate syringes (2-8°C)
- Avoid sun exposure.
- Avoid NSAIDs
- Ectopic Pregnancy: avoid pregnancy for 3 months
- Gestational Trophoblastic Disease: avoid pregnancy for 12 months
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