### FLECAINIDE

**DRUG:** FLECAINIDE  
**PRESENTATION:**  
- Ampoule: 10mg/mL (15mL in each ampoule)  
- Oral Solution: 5mg/mL (SAS authority required)  

**ACTION & INDICATION:**  
Membrane stabilizing antiarrhythmic agent  
Used for the suppression and prevention of ventricular arrhythmias and supraventricular tachycardia.  

**DOSE:**  
- IV: 0.5mg/kg/dose 12 hourly (maximum dose 2mg/kg)  
- ORAL: Initially 2mg/kg/dose twice daily. Dose may be titrated at intervals of 4 days to a maximum of 6mg/kg/day  

**ADMINISTRATION:**  
- Intravenous infusion: over 30 minutes  
- Diluent: 5% glucose  
- Oral: Milk may reduce absorption. Separate doses from feeds  

**ADVERSE EFFECTS & COMMENTS:**  
- Monitor cardiac function - proarrhythmic effects can occur.  
- Heart failure – may worsen or cause CCF.  
- Reduce dose in impaired renal or liver function.  
- Palpitations, diarrhoea, rash, tremor, dyspnoea  
- Monitor electrolytes.  
- Monitor urine pH - rate of excretion increases with drop in urine pH.  
- Do not refrigerate oral mixture. May crystallise.  

**MONITORING DRUG LEVELS:**  
- Sampling time: Just before next dose.  
- Therapeutic range: 200 – 1000 microgram/L  
- Time to reach steady state: 5 - 7 days  

**REFERENCES:**  
Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13th Ed Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne  
Neofax 2012  

**DATE:** August 2013