## METHYLENE BLUE

**PRESENTATION:** Ampoule: 50mg in 5mL

**ACTION & INDICATION:** A normally dormant reductase enzyme system is activated, which reduces methylene blue to leucomethylene blue, which in turn reduces methaemoglobin to haemoglobin.

Higher than recommended doses may accentuate methaemoglobinaemia

For the treatment of drug-induced methaemoglobinaemia

**DOSE:** 1-2mg/kg/dose

Dose may be repeated after one hour.

**PREPARATION:** May be diluted with Sodium chloride 0.9% if needed to aid administration

**ADMINISTRATION:** Give IV over 5 minutes.

**ADVERSE EFFECTS:**
- Blue green discolouration of urine/faeces
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain
- Hypertension
- Cyanosis
- Diaphoresis
- May cause methaemoglobinaemia

**REFERENCES:** Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13th Ed Royal Women’s Hospital Melbourne

**DATE:** October 2013