


SURFACTANT (Porcine) PORACTANT Alfa (Curosurf®)

Read in conjunction with [Disclaimer](#)

Formulary: Restricted Requires Neonatologist review within 24 hours of initiation.	
Presentation	Vial: 120 mg/1.5 mL Vial: 240 mg/3 mL
Classification	Pulmonary surfactant – derived from natural porcine lung extract.
Indication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment and prevention of respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) for preterm neonates born at 25 weeks gestation or less, Or as per Neonatal Consultant.
Special Considerations	For all indications, Beractant (Survanta®) is the most cost-effective and hence preferred surfactant preparation, except in extremely preterm infants (25 weeks and less) where Poractant Alfa (Curosurf®) is to be used or as per the Neonatal Consultant.
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous oxygen saturation and cardiorespiratory monitoring. Evaluate clinical condition before administration and for 30 minutes after each dose.
Side Effects	Common: Transient bradycardia and oxygen desaturation.
	Infrequent: Transient hypotension and endotracheal tube blockage.
Storage & Stability	Refrigerate at 2 to 8°C, do not freeze. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store in the original package to protect from light and moisture. Discard 12 hours after opening. Unopened, unused vials of Poractant Alfa (Curosurf®) that have been warmed to room temperature can be returned to the refrigerator within 24 hours, for future use. Document on the packaging the date and time that the product was removed from the fridge. Poractant Alfa (Curosurf®) should not be warmed to room temperature and returned to the refrigerator more than once. Contact Pharmacy for further details.
Comments	Poractant Alfa (Curosurf®) should not be mixed with any other medications or fluids.

INTRATRACHEAL	Presentation	Vial: 120 mg/1.5 mL Vial: 240 mg/3 mL	
		<i>Intratracheal administration only.</i>	
	Dosage	<u>Rescue treatment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial dose: 2.5 mL/kg/dose (200 mg/kg/dose) • Subsequent doses: 1.25 mL/kg/dose (100 mg/kg/dose). Up to 2 subsequent doses at 12 hourly intervals may be administered. Maximum total dose: 5 mL/kg (400 mg/kg).	
		<u>Prophylaxis</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial dose: 1.25 to 2.5 mL/kg/dose (100 to 200 mg/kg/dose) administered within 15 minutes of birth. • Subsequent doses: 1.25 mL/kg/dose (100 mg/kg/dose) may be given 6 to 12 hours after the first dose and then 12 hours later in babies who remain ventilator dependent. Maximum total dose: 3.75 to 5 mL/kg (300 to 400 mg/kg).	
	Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow to warm to room temperature prior to use, stand at room temperature for 20 minutes or warm vial in hands. • Do not use artificial warming methods. • Gently turn upside-down to obtain uniform suspension. Do not shake vial. • Inspect for discolouration – colour should be white to creamy white. 	
	Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not shake vial. • For intratracheal administration only. • Poractant Alfa (Curosurf®) should not be instilled into a main stem bronchus. • Refer to Surfactant Therapy Guideline for administration. 	

Related Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[CAHS Neonatology – Surfactant Therapy](#)

Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[CAHS Neonatology – Medication Administration Guideline](#)

[WNHS Cold Chain Management for Medications and Vaccines](#)

[CAHS Medication Refrigerators and Freezers](#)

References



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