



ADULT Medication Monograph

# HYDROCORTISONE



This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

[Formulary: Unrestricted](#)

<b>Class</b>	Corticosteroid
<b>Presentation</b>	<p><b>Tablet:</b> 20mg</p> <p><b>Vial (powder for reconstitution):</b> 100mg</p> <p><b>Cream:</b> 0.5%, 1%</p> <p><b>Ointment:</b> 1%</p> <p><b><u>Combination Products:</u></b></p> <p><b>Cream:</b> Hydrocortisone 1% with Clotrimazole 1%</p> <p><b>Ointment:</b> Cinchocaine 5mg/g Hydrocortisone 5mg/g</p>
<b>Storage</b>	<p>Store at room temperature, below 25°C</p> <p><b>Vial:</b> Protect from light</p> <p><b>Reconstituted solution:</b> Stable for 24 hours at 2-8°C</p>
<b>Dose</b>	<p><b><u>Prophylaxis of adverse reaction to iron infusion (history of previous ADR)</u></b></p> <p>Refer to KEMH Clinical Guideline: <a href="#">Iron Therapy - Intravenous</a></p> <p><b><u>Glucocorticoid replacement during surgery</u></b></p> <p><i>For patients usually taking oral corticosteroids who require general anaesthesia</i></p> <p><b>IV:</b> 100mg intravenously, initially, then 50mg intravenously 6 hourly until oral therapy is tolerated</p> <p><b><u>Nausea and vomiting in pregnancy / Hyperemesis gravidarum</u></b></p> <p>Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: <a href="#">Pregnancy Care: First Trimester Complications</a></p> <p><b><u>Topical Preparations for inflammatory skin disorders:</u></b></p> <p>Apply to the affected area(s) once or twice daily. Avoid long term daily use – 2 to 3 times weekly for chronic dermatoses is</p>

	recommended.
<b>Administration</b>	<p><b><u>Reconstitution of powder for injection:</u></b></p> <p>Reconstitute with 2mL of water for injections (WFI) or sodium chloride 0.9%</p> <p><b><u>IM injection:</u></b> Suitable</p> <p><b><u>IV injection:</u></b></p> <p>Inject undiluted over 30 seconds to 5 minutes (100mg dose)</p> <p>For doses over 500mg, dilute with 10mL of WFI or sodium chloride 0.9% and inject over 10 minutes</p> <p><b><u>IV infusion:</u></b></p> <p>Dilute the dose to a maximum concentration of 1mg/mL with a compatible fluid, and infuse over 20 minutes to 4 hours.</p> <p>In fluid-restricted patients, doses up to 3g may be added to 50mL of a compatible fluid (60mg/mL).</p> <p><b><i>Compatible fluids:</i></b> Glucose 5%, glucose in sodium chloride solutions, Hartmann's, Ringer's or sodium chloride 0.9%</p>
<b>Pregnancy</b>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:</b> Considered safe to use (Topical)</p> <p>Consider alternative (Oral, IM, IV)</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:</b> Safe to use</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:</b> Safe to use</p> <p>For more information, please contact <a href="#">KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service</a>.</p>
<b>Breastfeeding</b>	Considered safe to use
<b>Monitoring</b>	Blood glucose, electrolytes, lipids, weight and BP at baseline, then monitor regularly during treatment
<b>Clinical Guidelines and Policies</b>	<p><b>KEMH Clinical Guidelines:</b></p> <p>Clinical Practice Guideline: <a href="#">Iron Therapy - Intravenous</a></p> <p>Transfusion Medicine Protocols: <a href="#">Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events</a></p> <p>Clinical Guideline: <a href="#">Severe Vulvitis Associated with Candidiasis</a></p> <p>Clinical Practice Guideline: <a href="#">Pre-operative Medication Management</a></p> <p>Clinical Practice Guideline: <a href="#">Pregnancy Care: First Trimester Complications</a></p>

	<p><b>KEMH Pharmaceutical &amp; Medicines Management Guidelines:</b> KEMH Pharmaceutical &amp; Medicines Management Guideline: <a href="#">Medication Administration</a></p>
<b>References</b>	<p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Hydrocortisone. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2020 [cited 2020 March 19]. Available from: <a href="https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/">https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</a></p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Hydrocortisone. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2020 [cited 2020 March 31]. Available from: <a href="http://aidh.hcn.com.au">http://aidh.hcn.com.au</a></p> <p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Hydrocortisone. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2020 [cited 2020 March 31]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a></p> <p>Therapeutic Guidelines. Glucocorticoid replacement during intercurrent illness and surgery. In: eTG complete [Internet]. West Melbourne (Victoria): Therapeutic Guidelines; 2020 [cited 2020 March 30]. Available from: <a href="https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au">https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au</a></p>

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**For any enquiries relating to this guideline, please email [KEMH.PharmacyAdmin@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:KEMH.PharmacyAdmin@health.wa.gov.au)**

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