South Australian Neonatal Medication Guidelines

beractant 200mg/8mL suspension

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Synonyms

Survanta®.



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Dose and Indications

Treatment and prevention of respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) in preterm infants

Endotracheal

100mg/kg (4mL/kg) per dose.

Repeat doses may be given every 6 to 12 hours for up to 4 doses in total

Meconium Aspiration Pneumonitis

Endotracheal

100mg/kg (4mL/kg) per dose only on consultant's recommendation

Preparation and Administration

Endotracheal

Administer via an endotracheal tube. Follow appropriate Neonatal Unit specific procedures and guidelines.

- > Store in the refrigerator (4°), but warm to room temperature before use
- > Invert vial gently without shaking to re-suspend the material
- > Any remaining in vial should be discarded.

Compatible Fluids

Do not dilute with any fluid.

Adverse Effects

Common

Transient endotracheal tube obstruction, transient bradycardia and decreased oxygen

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saturation

Infrequent

Hypotension

Rare

Pulmonary haemorrhage (particularly in very premature infants)

Practice Points

- Surfactants can be used to treat established RDS (rescue treatment) or as preventive treatment, administered shortly after birth to infants considered to be at significant risk of developing RDS
- Preventive or rescue treatment with surfactant reduces mortality and morbidity of preterm infants (<32 weeks gestation) with RDS; preventive treatment is more effective than rescue treatment
- > Use with care when using high frequency ventilation because of the risk of airway obstruction
- > Pulmonary surfactants are also used to treat meconium aspiration syndrome although evidence is limited
- > Unopened vials that have been warmed to room temperature at one time may be returned to the refrigerator within 24 hours. Vials should not be warmed and returned to the refrigerator more than once.

Version control and change history

PDS reference: OCE use only

Version	Date from	Date to	Amendment
1.0	November 2012	current	Original version

