

Noradrenaline BNM

Concentrate for IV injection 1 mg/1 mL & 4 mg/4 mL

Noradrenaline (norepinephrine) (as acid tartrate monohydrate)

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you are given Noradrenaline BNM.

This leaflet answers some common questions about Noradrenaline BNM. It does not contain all the available information. The most up-to-date Consumer Medicine Information can be downloaded from www.ebs.tga.gov.au.

Reading this leaflet does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of giving you Noradrenaline BNM against the benefits this medicine is expected to have for you.

If you have any concerns about being given this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may want to read it again.

What Noradrenaline BNM is used for

Noradrenaline BNM contains noradrenaline (norepinephrine) acid tartrate monohydrate. It belongs to a group of medicines called sympathomimetic amines. It works by making the heartbeat more forcefully and constricting blood vessels. This results in a higher blood pressure and greater blood flow to the heart and other organs of the body.

Noradrenaline BNM is given in emergency situations as a result of medical conditions which cause a dramatic drop in blood pressure. Such situations/conditions could be:

- associated with surgical procedures
- infections caused by poliovirus
- a heart attack
- infection in the blood
- severe reaction to a medicine
- severe reaction to a blood transfusion
- allergic reactions.

Noradrenaline BNM is used to restore blood pressure back to normal. It is given only by a doctor or nurse, usually in hospital.

Your doctor may have prescribed this medicine for another reason.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why it has been prescribed for you.

Noradrenaline BNM is only available with a doctor's prescription.

There is no evidence that Noradrenaline BNM is addictive.

Before you are given Noradrenaline BNM

Noradrenaline BNM is not suitable for everyone.

When you must not be given it

You must not be given Noradrenaline BNM if you have:

- low blood pressure due to low blood volume
- blood clots in certain vessels.

If given in these cases, it can further reduce blood supply to important organs.

You must not be given Noradrenaline BNM if you are allergic to any medicine containing noradrenaline (norepinephrine), or any other similar medicines such as adrenaline, phenylephrine, pseudoephedrine, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Noradrenaline BNM must not be used after the expiry date printed on the pack, or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering. The solution must be clear before use.

If you are not sure whether you should be given this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you are given it

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you have or have had an overactive thyroid gland.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Noradrenaline BNM may be given to pregnant women and women who are breastfeeding, but your doctor must be told if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefits of you being given Noradrenaline BNM during pregnancy and breastfeeding.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are over 65 years old

Elderly persons may be more sensitive to the effects of the medicine.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you are given Noradrenaline BNM.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Noradrenaline BNM may interfere with each other. These include:

- antidepressants including moclobemide, imipramine and amitriptyline.
- Guanethidine

The above medicines may be affected by Noradrenaline BNM, or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of Noradrenaline BNM, or you may need to use different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while being given Noradrenaline BNM.

How Noradrenaline BNM is given

How it will be given

Noradrenaline BNM must be diluted before use and will be given by slow intravenous infusion (drip) into a large vein. This medicine must only be given by a doctor or a nurse.

How much will be given

Your doctor will decide how many infusions you need, and how often you should receive them. The need for more doses will depend

on how the medicine is affecting your blood pressure.

How long it will be given for

This medicine will be given until blood pressure and blood circulation to all organs is back to normal and remains normal even when the medicine is no longer given.

While you are being given Noradrenaline BNM

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are being given Noradrenaline BNM. Likewise, tell any other doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are being given this medicine. Tell your doctor immediately if you develop a rash or other symptoms of an allergic reaction.

These symptoms may be:

- shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin.

In case of overdose

If you are given too much

As Noradrenaline BNM is given to you in hospital under the supervision of your doctor, it is very unlikely that you will receive an overdose.

Symptoms of an overdose may include headache, dizziness, sensitivity to light, slow heartbeat, chest pain, sweating and pale skin, vomiting, or trouble breathing and shortness of breath.

Immediately tell your doctor or nurse if you think that you or anyone else may have been given too much Noradrenaline BNM.

They have information on how to recognise and treat an overdose.

Side effects

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are being given Noradrenaline BNM.

Like all medicines, Noradrenaline BNM may occasionally cause side effects in some people. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of the following:

- skin and tissue damage close to the site of injection
- anxiety
- headache
- dizziness
- difficulty breathing and shortness of breath
- low or irregular heart-beat
- tingling or numbness in the feet

- coldness, numbness or discolouration of your limbs.

If any of the following happen, tell your doctor or a nurse immediately:

- serious allergic reaction (symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, rash, itching or hives on the skin)
- difficulty breathing
- slow or irregular heartbeat
- severe high blood pressure (symptoms may include violent headaches, extreme light sensitivity, intense sweating, vomiting, pale skin, or pain behind the breastbone)

This is a very serious side effects; you may need urgent medical attention.

If you are over 65 years of age, you may have an increased chance of getting side effects.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some patients.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.

You may not experience any of them.

After being given Noradrenaline BNM

Storage

Noradrenaline BNM will be stored in the pharmacy or on the ward under the recommended storage conditions.

It must be kept in a cool dry place, protected from light, where the temperature stays below 25°C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

Disposal

Any Noradrenaline BNM which has passed its expiry date, or is left in the container after use, will be disposed of in a safe manner by your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Product description

What it looks like

Noradrenaline BNM is a clear sterile concentrated solution for injection.

It is available in 1 mL and 4 mL glass ampoules. A box contains 10 ampoules.

Each 1 mL ampoule contains 1 mg of noradrenaline (norepinephrine) base.

Each 4 mL ampoule contains 4 mg of noradrenaline (norepinephrine) base.

Not all presentations may be available.

Ingredients

Active ingredient:

- noradrenaline (norepinephrine)

Inactive ingredients:

- sodium chloride
- water for injections.

Noradrenaline BNM is sulfite free and does not contain any preservatives.

Sponsor details

Boucher & Muir Pty Ltd
Level 9, 76 Berry Street
North Sydney NSW 2060

Distributed in New Zealand by:

BNM Group
39 Anzac Road
Browns Bay
Auckland 0753
1 mg/1 mL: AUST R 248492
4 mg/4 mL: AUST R 248512

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