

# Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET®

## Consumer Medicine Information

You may have been given this product in an emergency situation by a non-medical health professional.

### WHAT IS IN THIS LEAFLET?

This leaflet contains information about Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET. Please read it carefully and keep it for future reference. The information in this leaflet is only a summary and is not intended to replace advice from your doctor.

Please consult your doctor or pharmacist if you have any comments or questions.

### WHAT IS ADRENALINE?

Adrenaline is a chemical which is produced naturally by our bodies. It helps to regulate most of the important functions such as heart rate, blood pressure and breathing. When we have a fright or have to fight or run, extra adrenaline is released into our blood. As this adrenaline circulates round the body it makes our heart beat faster, helps us to get more air into our lungs and increases the blood supply to the muscles. This helps us to cope with emergencies and is why we often get palpitations when we are frightened. Adrenaline injections are used to treat some emergency situations which can occur in the heart and lungs. It can only be given by injection and it acts very quickly.

### WHEN IS ADRENALINE USED?

Adrenaline injections are only used in medical emergencies. They are not used as regular treatment.

Adrenaline 1:10,000 is used in people whose hearts have suddenly stopped (cardiac arrest). The adrenaline can help to restart the heart and stimulates it to beat strongly.

As adrenaline is only used in medical emergencies, the injection may be given by paramedical personnel such as ambulance or nursing staff.

### WHO SHOULD NOT HAVE ADRENALINE INJECTIONS?

As adrenaline is an emergency life-saving product it should not be withheld from anyone who needs it.

However it should be given cautiously to elderly people, to those with high blood pressure, thyroid problems and some people with high pressure in the eye.

Care must also be taken when giving adrenaline to diabetics, those with heart disease, people allergic to adrenaline, persons with brain damage and persons who are having an anaesthetic.

### BEFORE YOU HAVE AN ADRENALINE INJECTION

If you are conscious, you should tell your doctor if you:

- have high blood pressure
- have high pressure in the eye (glaucoma)
- have diabetes
- have asthma
- have heart problems
- have thyroid problems
- have difficulty urinating or have prostate problems
- have a spinal cord injury or other condition affecting the spinal cord

- are taking any medicines and what they are
- are pregnant
- have ever had an allergic reaction to sodium metabisulfite.

### SIDE EFFECTS OF ADRENALINE

As with any medicine, some side effects may occur. Mild side effects are common with adrenaline. Common side effects include: palpitations, tremor, restlessness, anxiety, weakness, dizziness, headache, shortness of breath, cold hands and feet.

More severe side effects can occur occasionally and are due to the effect of adrenaline stimulating the heart and increasing the blood pressure. These side effects can, rarely, cause a stroke, lung upsets, severe heart abnormalities or severe heartbeat irregularities (see **OVERDOSE**).

Adrenaline may cut off the blood supply if given a number of times in the same area or into fingers and toes.

Adrenaline may also cause reduced blood flow and reduce the amount of oxygen to the moist linings of the body such as in the airways. This can lead to the body's counter-effect causing more swelling of the moist linings.

The reduced blood flow can also affect the bowels and lead to death of the tissue, especially if there is already reduced blood flow to this area.

Paleness and changes to the blood are also possible side effects of Adrenaline.

Always tell your doctor if you have any unpleasant effects after receiving Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET.

### THE DOSE OF ADRENALINE

The dose varies depending on the severity of the condition being treated but the usual doses are as follows:

#### Adrenaline 1:10,000

*Adults:* 10 mL (1 mg) injected slowly into a vein and repeated every 5 minutes if necessary.

*Children:* 0.1 mL per kg of bodyweight.

### OVERDOSE

Too much adrenaline will give the severe reactions mentioned above in **SIDE EFFECTS OF ADRENALINE**. Overstimulation of the heart can cause it to stop and an abnormal increase in blood pressure can cause a stroke or breathing difficulties.

There are medicines available which will reverse the effects of adrenaline.

### WHAT DOES Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET CONTAIN?

Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET contains adrenaline at a concentration of 1 mg in each 10 mL (1:10,000) of injection solution.

Each Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET also contains: citric acid, sodium citrate, sodium chloride, sodium bisulfite, hydrochloric acid, water.

### HOW TO STORE Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET

Adrenaline 1:10,000 Injection MINIJET should be protected from light and stored below 25°C.

They should not be used after the expiry date on the package or if the solution is brown or contains sediment.

### WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can get more information from your doctor or pharmacist.

#### Sponsor

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