Blue dyes used peri-operatively

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Methylene Blue Methylene Blue Methylene blue trihydrate For intravenous injection or ut Equivalent to 42.77mg of methyle	Patent Blue V 50mg in 2ml (25mg/ml) 2.5% solution*	Indigo Carmine Indigo Carmine 20mg in 5 ml (4mg/ml)*
Actions		
Hastens conversion of ferric iron in haemoglobin to the ferrous form. Potent MAO inhibitor. Restores vascular tone via inhibition of eNOS.	Patent blue binds to serum proteins, which are drained by the lymphatic system. Blue colour delineates vessels from surrounding tissue.	Filtered rapidly by kidneys and turns urine blue allowing visualisation of the urinary tract, approximately 10 minutes after IV administration.
Indications and Dosage		
 Methaemoglobinaemia: 1 - 2mg/kg IV over 5-10 minutes, may repeat in 1hour if necessary. Sentinel node mapping: 5mg in 5ml sterile water administered S/C once during procedure. Chromendoscopy: 0.1 - 1% solution directly applied to gastrointestinal mucosa. Vasoplegia syndrome: 1.5 - 2mg/kg IV over 20-60 minutes administered once. Improvement of vasoplegia observed within 1-2 hours. 	> Lymphatic mapping: 50mg (2ml) of Patent Blue V solution is diluted with an equal volume of normal saline and administered S/C.	 > Intra-op detection of ureteral injuries: 20mg IV undiluted. > Dilution or administration with other solutions may cause precipitation. > Also used in endoscopic procedures, lymph node and vessel delineation, tumour localisation, and injected into amniotic fluid to test for premature rupture of the membranes.
Route of Administration		
IV or S/C only	S/C only	IV or IM only
 Monitoring: Pulse, BP, SpO₂; due to risk of hypersensitivity reactions. Transient false decrease in SpO₂. If in doubt confirm with arterial blood gas sample. Resuscitation equipment should be available. 	 Monitoring: Pulse, BP, Sp0₂ due to risk of hypersensitivity reactions. Transient false decrease in SpO₂. If in doubt confirm with arterial blood gas sample. Resuscitation equipment should be available. 	 Monitoring: Pulse, BP, Sp0₂; due to risk of hypersensitivity reactions. Transient false decrease in SpO₂. If in doubt confirm with arterial blood gas sample. Resuscitation equipment should be available.
Precautions		
 Patients with G-6-P dehydrogenase deficiency. Severe hepatic/renal impairment. Serotonergic drugs. Contraindicated in pregnancy (Category D) and breastfeeding. Adverse Reactions 	 Contraindicated in pregnancy and breastfeeding. Hypersensitivity to Patent Blue V or triphenylmethane dyes. 	 > Use with caution in arterial hypertension and heart failure due to mild pressor effect. > Contraindicated in pregnancy and breastfeeding
Common:	Common:	Common:
Headache, nausea, feeling hot, sweating, dizziness, syncope and chest discomfort. Blue green urine, sweat and stool. Uncommon: Serotonin syndrome, haemolysis, hypersensitivity reactions.	Nausea, hypotension, muscle tremors. Skin discoloration - may persist for 8 - 10 days. Uncommon: Hypersensitivity reactions - anaphylaxis, bronchospasm, angioedema.	Nausea, vomiting, hypertension, and bradycardia. Skin discolouration after large IV doses in children & underweight patients. Uncommon: Hypersensitivity reactions - rash, puritis, bronchoconstriction, anaphylaxis.

References: Product information, Uptodate, Mims Online

* Images and brands are representative only as ampoule and vial presentation may vary

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