HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use PRECEDEX safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for PRECEDEX.

Precedex (dexmedetomidine hydrochloride) Injection
Precedex (dexmedetomidine hydrochloride) Injection, Concentrate
For intravenous infusion of injection following dilution of concentrate
Initial U.S. Approval: 1999

----------INDICATIONS AND USAGE----------

Precedex is a relatively selective alpha$_2$-adrenergic agonist indicated for:

- Sedation of initially intubated and mechanically ventilated patients during treatment in an intensive care setting. Administer Precedex by continuous infusion not to exceed 24 hours. (1.1)
- Sedation of non-intubated patients prior to and/or during surgical and other procedures. (1.2)

----------DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION----------

- Individualize and titrate Precedex dosing to desired clinical effect. (2.1)
- Administer Precedex using a controlled infusion device. (2.1)
- Dilute the 200 mcg/2 mL (100 mcg/mL) vial contents in 0.9% sodium chloride solution to achieve required concentration (4 mcg/mL) prior to administration.
- The 200 mcg/50mL and 400 mcg/100 mL single-use bottles do not require further dilution prior to administration.(2.4)

For Adult Intensive Care Unit Sedation: Generally initiate at one mcg/kg over 10 **minutes**, followed by a maintenance infusion of 0.2 to 0.7 mcg/kg/**hour**. (2.2)

For Adult Procedural Sedation: Generally initiate at one mcg/kg over 10 **minutes**, followed by a maintenance infusion initiated at 0.6 mcg/kg/hour and titrated to achieve desired clinical effect with doses ranging from 0.2 to 1 mcg/kg/**hour**. (2.2)

Alternative doses recommended for patients over 65 years of age and awake fiberoptic intubation patients. (2.2)

----------DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS----------

Precedex Injection, **Concentrate**, 200 mcg/2 mL (100 mcg/mL) in a glass vial. (3)

Precedex Injection 200 mcg/50 mL (4 mcg/mL) in a 50 mL glass bottle. (3)

Precedex Injection 400 mcg/100 mL (4 mcg/mL) in a 100 mL glass bottle. (3)

----------CONTRAINDICATIONS----------

None (4)

----------WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS----------

- Monitoring: Continuously monitor patients while receiving Precedex. (5.1)
- Bradycardia and sinus arrest: Have occurred in young healthy volunteers with high vagal tone or with different routes of administration, e.g., rapid intravenous or bolus administration. (5.2)
- Hypotension and bradycardia: May necessitate medical intervention. May be more pronounced in patients with hypovolemia, diabetes mellitus, or chronic hypertension, and in the elderly. Use with caution in patients with advanced heart block or severe ventricular dysfunction. (5.2)
- Co-administration with other vasodilators or negative chronotropic agents: Use with caution due to additive pharmacodynamic effects. (5.2)
- Transient hypertension: Observed primarily during the loading dose. Consider reduction in loading infusion rate. (5.3)
- Arousability: Patients can become aroused/alert with stimulation; this alone should not be considered as lack of efficacy (5.4)
- Prolonged exposure to dexmedetomidine beyond 24 hours may be associated with tolerance and tachyphylaxis and a dose-related increase in adverse events (5.6)

----------ADVERSE REACTIONS----------

- The most common adverse reactions (incidence greater than 2%) are hypotension, bradycardia, and dry mouth. (6.1)
- Adverse reactions associated with infusions greater than 24 hours in duration include ARDS, respiratory failure, and agitation. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Hospira, Inc. at 1-800-441-4100 or electronically at ProductComplaintsPP@hospira.com, or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or *www.fda.gov/medwatch*.

----------DRUG INTERACTIONS----------

Anesthetics, sedatives, hypnotics, opioids: Enhancement of pharmacodynamic effects. Reduction in dosage of Precedex or the concomitant medication may be required. (7.1)

----------USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS----------

- Geriatric patients: Dose reduction should be considered (2.2, 2.3, 5.1, 8.5)
- Hepatic impairment: Dose reduction should be considered (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 5.6, 8.6)
- Pregnancy: Based on animal data, may cause fetal harm (8.1)
- Nursing Mothers: Caution should be exercised when administered to a nursing woman (8.3)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Revised: 06/2013

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

* Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

1.1 Intensive Care Unit Sedation

Precedex(TM) is indicated for sedation of initially intubated and mechanically ventilated patients during treatment in an intensive care setting. Precedex should be administered by continuous infusion not to exceed 24 hours.

Precedex has been continuously infused in mechanically ventilated patients prior to extubation, during extubation, and post-extubation. It is not necessary to discontinue Precedex prior to extubation.

1.2 Procedural Sedation

Precedex is indicated for sedation of non-intubated patients prior to and/or during surgical and other procedures.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Dosing Guidelines

- Precedex dosing should be individualized and titrated to desired clinical response.
- Precedex is not indicated for infusions lasting longer than 24 hours.
- Precedex should be administered using a controlled infusion device.

2.2 Dosage Information

Table 1: Dosage Information

INDICATION	DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
Initiation of Intensive Care Unit Sedation	**For adult patients:** a loading infusion of one mcg/kg over 10 **minutes**. **For adult patients being converted from alternate sedative therapy:** a loading dose may not be required [*see Dosage and Administration (2.2)*]. **For patients over 65 years of age**: a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.5)*]. **For adult patients with impaired hepatic-function:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].
Maintenance of Intensive Care Unit Sedation	**For adult patients:** a maintenance infusion of 0.2 to 0.7 mcg/kg/**hour.** The rate of the maintenance infusion should be adjusted to achieve the desired level of sedation. **For patients over 65 years of age:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.5)*]. **For adult patients with impaired hepatic function:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].
Initiation of Procedural Sedation	**For adult patients:** a loading infusion of one mcg/kg over 10 **minutes**. For less invasive procedures such as ophthalmic surgery, a loading infusion of 0.5 mcg/kg given over 10 **minutes** may be suitable. **For awake fiberoptic intubation in adult patients:** a loading infusion of one mcg/kg over 10 **minutes.** **For patients over 65 years of age**: a loading infusion of 0.5 mcg/kg over 10 **minutes** [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.5)*]. **For adult patients with impaired hepatic function:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].
Maintenance of Procedural Sedation	**For adult patients:** the maintenance infusion is generally initiated at 0.6 mcg/kg/**hour** and titrated to achieve desired clinical effect with doses ranging from 0.2 to 1 mcg/kg/**hour**. The rate of the maintenance infusion should be adjusted to achieve the targeted level of sedation. **For awake fiberoptic intubation in adult patients:** a maintenance infusion of 0.7 mcg/kg/**hour** is recommended until the endotracheal tube is secured. **For patients over 65 years of age:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.5)*]. **For adult patients with impaired hepatic function:** a dose reduction should be considered [*see Use in Specific Populations (8.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

2.3 Dosage Adjustment

Due to possible pharmacodynamic interactions, a reduction in dosage of Precedex or other concomitant anesthetics, sedatives, hypnotics or opioids may be required when co-administered [*see Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

Dosage reductions may need to be considered for **adult** patients with hepatic impairment, and geriatric patients [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.7), Use in Specific Populations (8.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

2.4 Preparation of Solution

Strict aseptic technique must always be maintained during handling of Precedex.

Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit.

Precedex Injection, Concentrate, 200 mcg/2 mL (100 mcg/ml)

Precedex must be diluted with 0.9% sodium chloride solution to achieve required concentration (4 mcg/mL) prior to administration. Preparation of solutions is the same, whether for the loading dose or maintenance infusion.

To prepare the infusion, withdraw 2 mL of Precedex Injection Concentrate, and add to 48 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride injection to a total of 50 mL. Shake gently to mix well.

Precedex Injection, 200 mcg/50mL (4 mcg/mL) and 400 mcg/100 mL (4 mcg/mL)

Precedex Injection is supplied in glass containers containing a premixed, ready to use dexmedetomidine hydrochloride solution in 0.9% sodium chloride in water. No further dilution of these preparations are necessary.

2.5 Administration with Other Fluids

Precedex infusion should not be co-administered through the same intravenous catheter with blood or plasma because physical compatibility has not been established.

Precedex has been shown to be incompatible when administered with the following drugs: amphotericin B, diazepam.

Precedex has been shown to be compatible when administered with the following intravenous fluids:

- 0.9% sodium chloride in water
- 5% dextrose in water
- 20% mannitol
- Lactated Ringer's solution
- 100 mg/mL magnesium sulfate solution
- 0.3% potassium chloride solution

2.6 Compatibility with Natural Rubber

Compatibility studies have demonstrated the potential for absorption of Precedex to some types of natural rubber. Although Precedex is dosed to effect, it is advisable to use administration components made with synthetic or coated natural rubber gaskets.

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