IRINOTECAN LIPOSOMAL

BRAND NAME  ONIVYDE

DRUG CLASS  Cytotoxic antineoplastic, topoisomerase I inhibitor

AVAILABILITY  Vial contains 43 mg/10 mL of irinotecan base equivalent to 50 mg/10 mL of irinotecan hydrochloride trihydrate. Also contains distearoylphosphatidylcholine (DSPC), cholesterol and sodium methoxy PEG-40-carbonyl-distearoylphosphatidylethanolamine (MPEG-200-DPSE). The liposomal dispersion is opaque and white to yellow.¹

WARNING  Cytotoxic.¹ Strict handling precautions are required. Irinotecan liposomal is not equivalent to the aqueous formulation; do not substitute. Check product selection carefully. Check the dose. the Product Information expresses the dose as irinotecan base.

pH  7.25¹

PREPARATION  In a cytotoxic drug safety cabinet: dilute the dose in 500 mL of a compatible fluid. Gently invert the bag to mix.¹

STABILITY  Vial: store below 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.¹

When prepared by pharmacy under aseptic conditions:

Infusion solution: stable for 6 hours at 25 °C and 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Protect from light.¹

ADMINISTRATION

IM injection  Not recommended

SUBCUT injection  Not recommended

IV injection  Contraindicated¹

IV infusion  Infuse the dose over 90 minutes. Do not use an inline filter.¹

COMPATIBILITY

Fluids  Glucose 5%; sodium chloride 0.9%¹

Y-site  No information

INCOMPATIBILITY  No information

SPECIAL NOTES  Irinotecan is an irritant, extravasation causes moderate complications e.g. stinging, aching, phlebitis. Monitor the injection site.¹,²

Infusion reactions include rash, urticaria, periorbital oedema and pruritis.¹

Give dexamethasone and an antiemetic 30 minutes before the infusion.¹,²

Diarrhoea that starts within 24 hours of starting irinotecan is usually transient and may occur with other cholinergic symptoms such as rhinitis, lacrimation, flushing and abdominal cramping. Atropine may be given subcutaneously or IV as mremedication. Diarrhoea that starts later can be prolonged and may be life-threatening. Make sure patients have loperamide available at home so that treatment can start at the first sign of loose stools.¹,²

REFERENCES


Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook 7th Edition December 2018