DESFERRIOXAMINE

SYNONYMS Desferrioxamine mesilate, deferoxamine

BRAND NAME DESFERRIOXAMINE MESILATE DBL

DRUG CLASS Iron chelator

AVAILABILITY Vial contains 500 mg or 2 g of desferrioxamine mesilate

pH 4.0–6.0 when reconstituted

PREPARATION Reconstitute the 500 mg vial with 5 mL of water for injections and the 2 g vial with 20 mL of water for injections to make an approximate concentration of 100 mg/mL. Powder volume of the 500 mg vial: 0.35 mL. For IM injection reconstitute the 500 mg vial with at least 1.5 mL of water for injections. Shake well. The solution is clear. Do not use sodium chloride to reconstitute the vial.

STABILITY Vial: store below 25 °C. Protect from light. Reconstituted solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C. Infusion solution: solutions of 5 mg/mL in sodium chloride 0.9% are stable for 24 hours at 4 °C or 25 °C.

ADMINISTRATION

IM injection Suitable, but less effective than subcutaneous infusion in chronic iron overload. IV infusion is preferred in acute iron poisoning. Do not inject more than 1.5 g at any one site.

SUBCUT infusion Infuse the dose over 8 to 12 hours. In some patients the dose may be infused over 24 hours to further increase iron excretion. The reconstituted solution may be infused undiluted or diluted to a convenient volume with a compatible fluid if necessary.

IV injection Not recommended

IV infusion Dilute the dose to a concentration of 1–8 mg/mL with a compatible fluid and infuse at a rate of 15 mg/kg/hour. Reduce the rate when there is clinical improvement.

Other May be added to dialysis fluid and given intraperitoneally.

IV use for infants and children Use the reconstituted solution (100 mg/mL) or dilute to a convenient volume with a compatible fluid and infuse at a rate of 15 mg/kg/hour or slower.

COMPATIBILITY

Fluids Glucose 5%, Hartmann’s, sodium chloride 0.9%

Y-site No information

INCOMPATIBILITY

Fluids No information

Drugs Heparin sodium

SPECIAL NOTES Too rapid administration may cause flushing of the skin, hypotension and shock. Subcutaneous infusions may cause local irritation of the skin at the infusion site. This may be alleviated by adding hydrocortisone 1–2 mg to the desferrioxamine solution or diluting with water for injections. Hypersensitivity reactions including rash, oedema and anaphylaxis have been reported.

REFERENCES