



Marcaine®

(Bupivacaine Hydrochloride and Epinephrine Injection USP) Bupivacaine Hydrochloride 0.5% and Epinephrine 1:200,000

This solution is intended for dental use.
Package Insert for Dosing Information/For complete prescribing information, see Product Monograph.

SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Dosage Form/Strength	All Non-medical Ingredients
Parenteral	Marcaine® (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) Sterile Solution 0.5% with epinephrine 1:200,000 (as bitartrate)	Sodium chloride, sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid, monoethyglycerol, ascorbic acid, sodium lactate 60% solution, edetate calcium disodium, sodium metabisulfite and water for injection.

INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

Adults (>18 years of age): Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) is indicated for the production of local or regional anesthesia and analgesia with the following procedures:

- Local infiltration procedures
- Peripheral nerve blocks.

Standard procedures for local infiltration, minor and major nerve blocks, should be observed.

Geriatrics (> 65 years of age): Elderly patients should be given reduced doses commensurate with their age and physical condition.

Pediatrics (< 2 years of age): Until further experience is gained in children younger than two years, administration of any presentation of bupivacaine injection in this age group is not recommended.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) is contraindicated:

- In patients with a hypersensitivity to bupivacaine or to any local anesthetic agent of the amide type or to other components of bupivacaine injections.
- For intravenous regional anesthesia (Bier Block) since unintentional leakage of bupivacaine over the tourniquet may cause systemic toxic reactions. Cardiac arrest and death have occurred (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).
- In severe shock and in heart block and when there is inflammation and/or sepsis near the site of the proposed injection.
- Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) is contraindicated in patients with a hypersensitivity to sodium metabisulfite (see **DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING**).

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

General

LOCAL ANAESTHETICS SHOULD ONLY BE USED BY CLINICIANS WHO ARE WELL VERSED IN DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF DOSE-RELATED TOXICITY AND OTHER ACUTE EMERGENCIES WHICH MAY ARISE FROM THE BLOCK TO BE PERFORMED, AND THEN ONLY AFTER ENSURING THE IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY OF CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATIVE EQUIPMENT, RESUSCITATIVE DRUGS, INCLUDING OXYGEN, AND THE PERSONNEL RESOURCES NEEDED FOR PROPER MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC REACTIONS AND RELATED EMERGENCIES (see ADVERSE REACTIONS AND OVERDOSAGE). DELAY IN PROPER MANAGEMENT OF DOSE-RELATED TOXICITY, UNDERVENTILATION FROM ANY CAUSE AND/OR ALTERED SENSITIVITY MAY LEAD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACIDOSIS, CARDIAC ARREST AND, POSSIBLY, DEATH.

THE LOWEST DOSAGE OF LOCAL ANESTHETICS THAT RESULTS IN EFFECTIVE ANAESTHESIA OR ANALGESIA SHOULD BE USED TO AVOID HIGH PLASMA LEVELS AND SERIOUS ADVERSE REACTIONS. INJECTIONS SHOULD BE MADE SLOWLY OR IN INCREMENTAL DOSES, WITH FREQUENT ASPIRATIONS BEFORE AND DURING THE INJECTION TO AVOID INTRAVASCULAR INJECTION.

The following precautions apply to all local anaesthetics: Select needles of proper length and bevel for the technique employed. Inject slowly with frequent aspirations and, if blood is aspirated, relocate the needle. Inadvertent intravascular injection may cause serious complications. Absorption is more rapid when injections are made into highly vascular tissues. However, a negative aspiration is not 100% reliable.

Injection of repeated doses of bupivacaine may cause a significant increase in blood levels due to accumulation of the drug or its metabolites or slow metabolic degradation. Tolerance to elevated blood levels varies with the physical condition of the patient.

Major peripheral nerve blocks may imply the administration of a large volume of local anaesthetic in areas of high vascularity, often close to large vessels where there is an increased risk of intravascular injection and/or rapid systemic absorption which can lead to high plasma concentrations.

Epinephrine containing solutions should not be injected into tissues supplied by end arteries, for example, fingers and toes, ears, the nose, and the penis.

Local anaesthetic procedures should be carried out sufficiently away from an inflamed region. Injections should not be performed through inflamed tissue or when there is a sepsis at or near the injection site.

Cardiovascular

The decision to use a local anesthetic containing a vasoconstrictor in patients with peripheral vascular disease will depend on the physician's appraisal of the relative advantages and risks.

There have been reports of cardiac arrest or death during use of bupivacaine for peripheral nerve blockade. In some instances, resuscitation has been difficult or impossible despite apparently adequate preparation and management.

Ventricular arrhythmia ventricular fibrillation, sudden cardiovascular collapse and death have been reported when bupivacaine was utilized for local anaesthetic procedures that may have resulted in high systemic concentrations of bupivacaine.

Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) should be used with caution in patients who may have severe or untreated hypertension, ischemic heart disease, cerebral vascular insufficiency, heart block, peripheral vascular disorder and any other pathological condition that might be aggravated by the effects of epinephrine.

Local anaesthetics should be used with caution in patients with impaired cardiovascular function because they may be less able to compensate for functional changes associated with the prolongation of A-V conduction produced by amide-type local anaesthetics.

Patients with partial or complete heart block require special attention since local anaesthetics may depress myocardial conduction. To reduce the risk of potentially serious adverse reactions, attempts should be made to optimize the patient's condition before major blocks are performed. Dosage should be adjusted accordingly.

Endocrine

Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) should be used with caution in patients whose medical history and physical evaluation suggest the existence of poorly controlled hyperthyroidism or advanced diabetes.

Injection in Head and Neck Area

Relatively small doses of local anaesthetics injected into the head and neck area, including retrobulbar, dental and stellate ganglion blocks, may produce adverse reactions similar to systemic toxicity seen with unintentional intravascular injections of larger doses. The injection procedures require the utmost care.

Confusion, convulsions, respiratory depression and/or respiratory arrest, and cardiovascular stimulation or depression leading to cardiac arrest have been reported. These reactions may be due to intra-arterial injection of the local anesthetic with retrograde flow to the cerebral circulation. They may also be due to puncture of the dural sheath of the optic nerve during retrobulbar block with diffusion of any local anesthetic along the subdural space to the midbrain. Patients receiving these blocks should remain under constant observation and monitoring for their cardiac and pulmonary functions. Resuscitative equipment and personnel for treating adverse reactions should be immediately available. Dosage recommendations should not be exceeded (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Hepatic

Because amide-type local anaesthetics, such as bupivacaine, are metabolized by the liver, these drugs should be used cautiously in patients with hepatic disease. Patients with severe hepatic disease, because of their inability to metabolize local anaesthetics normally, are at a greater risk of developing toxic plasma concentrations.

The safety and effectiveness of local anaesthetics depend on proper dosage, correct technique, adequate precautions and readiness for emergencies. Regional or local anaesthetic procedures should always be performed in a properly equipped and staffed area.

Resuscitative equipment and resuscitative drugs, including oxygen, should be available for immediate use (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**, and **ADVERSE REACTIONS AND OVERDOSAGE**). During major regional nerve blocks, the patients should be in an optimal condition and have i.v. fluids running via an indwelling catheter to assure a functioning intravenous pathway. The clinician responsible should have adequate and appropriate training in the procedure to be performed, should take the necessary precautions to avoid intravascular injection (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**), and should be familiar with the diagnosis and treatment of side effects, systemic toxicity and other complications (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS AND OVERDOSAGE**).

Careful and constant monitoring of cardiovascular and respiratory vital signs (adequacy of ventilation) and the patient's state of consciousness should be performed after each local anaesthetic injection. It should be kept in mind at such times that restlessness, anxiety, incoherent speech, lightheadedness, numbness and tingling of the mouth and lips, metallic taste, tinnitus, dizziness, blurred vision, tremors, twitching, depression, or drowsiness may be early warning signs of central nervous system toxicity.

Renal

Local anaesthetics should be used with caution in patients in poor general condition due to severe renal dysfunction although regional anaesthesia is frequently indicated in these patients.

Hyper-Sensitivity

Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) contains sodium metabisulfite, a sulfite that may cause allergic-type reactions including anaphylactic symptoms and life-threatening or less severe asthmatic episodes in certain susceptible people. The overall prevalence of sulfite sensitivity in the general population is unknown and probably low. Sulfite sensitivity is seen more frequently in asthmatic than in non asthmatic people.

Special Populations

Debililitated and acutely ill patients should be given reduced doses commensurate with their age and physical condition.

Pregnant Women: Decreased pup survival in rats and an embryocidal effect in rabbits have been observed when bupivacaine hydrochloride was administered to these species in doses comparable, respectively, to 9 and 5 times the maximal recommended daily human dose (400 mg).

There are no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women of the effect of bupivacaine on the developing fetus. Bupivacaine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Women: Bupivacaine is excreted in the breast milk, but in such small quantities that there is generally no risk of affecting the infant at therapeutic doses. It is not known whether epinephrine enters breast milk or not, but it is unlikely to affect the breast-fed infant.

Pediatrics: Until further experience is gained in children younger than two years, administration of any presentation of bupivacaine injection in this age group is not recommended.

Geriatrics: Elderly patients should be given reduced doses commensurate with their age and physical condition.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Reactions to bupivacaine are characteristic of those associated with other local acting anaesthetics of the amide type.

Adverse reactions to local anaesthetics are very rare in the absence of overdose or inadvertent intravascular injection.

The most commonly encountered acute adverse experiences that demand immediate management are related to the Central Nervous System (CNS) and the cardiovascular system. These adverse reactions are generally dose-related and due to high plasma levels which may result from overdosage (see OVERDOSAGE), rapid absorption from the injection site, diminished tolerance or from inadvertent intravascular injection. Factors influencing plasma protein binding, e.g., diseases which alter protein synthesis or competition of other drugs for protein binding, may diminish individual tolerances.

Central Nervous System: Restlessness, anxiety, dizziness, tinnitus, blurred vision, or tremors, may occur possibly proceeding to, convulsions. However, excitement may be transient or absent, with depression being the first manifestation of an adverse reaction. This may quickly be followed by drowsiness merging into unconsciousness and respiratory arrest. Other central nervous system effects may be nausea, vomiting, chills, paraesthesia, numbness of the tongue, hyperacusis, lightheadedness, dysarthria and constriction of the pupils.

Cardiovascular system: High doses or unintentional intravascular injection may lead to high plasma levels and related depression of the myocardium, decreased cardiac output, heart block, hypotension, bradycardia, hypertension, ventricular arrhythmias including ventricular tachycardia and ventricular fibrillation, and cardiac arrest. Reactions due to systemic absorption may be either slow or rapid in onset. Cardiovascular collapse and arrest can occur rapidly (see **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular and OVERDOSAGE** sections).

Allergic: Allergic type reactions are rare (<0.1%) and may occur as a result of sensitivity to local anaesthetics of the amide type. These reactions are characterized by signs such as urticaria, pruritis, erythema, angioneurotic oedema (including laryngeal oedema), tachycardia, sneezing, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, syncope, excessive sweating, elevated temperature, and in the most severe instances, anaphylactic shock.

Neurologic: The incidence of adverse neurologic reactions may be related to the total dose of local anaesthetic administered but is also dependent upon the particular drug used, the route of the administration and the physical condition of the patient. Neurological effects may be related to local anaesthetic techniques, with or without a contribution from the drug.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dosing Considerations

General

As with all local anaesthetics, the dosage varies and depends upon the area to be anesthetized, the vascularity of the tissues, the number of neuronal segments to be blocked, the depth of anesthesia and degree of muscle relaxation required, individual tolerance, the technique of anesthesia, and the physical condition of the patient. The lowest dosage and concentration needed to provide effective anesthesia should be administered.

In recommended doses, bupivacaine produces complete sensory block, but the effect on motor functions differs among concentrations.

- 0.50% provides nerve block, but muscle relaxation may be inadequate for operations in which complete muscle relaxation is essential.

Special Populations

Local anaesthetics should be used with caution in patients in poor general condition due to aging or other compromising factors such as advanced liver disease or severe renal dysfunction although regional anaesthetics is frequently indicated in these patients. Debilitated, elderly patients and acutely ill patients should be given reduced doses commensurate with their age and physical condition.

Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

The duration of anesthesia with bupivacaine is such that, for most procedures, a single dose is sufficient. Maximum dosage limit must be individualized in each case after evaluating the patient's size and physical status and the usual rate of systemic absorption from a particular injection site. Most experience to date is with single doses of bupivacaine, up to 225 mg with epinephrine 1:200 000 and 175 mg without epinephrine; more or less drug may be used depending on individualization of each case. The maximum doses of bupivacaine are considered to apply to a healthy, 70 kg young male, however, it is not recommended that they be exceeded in heavier persons.

At present there is insufficient clinical evidence with multiple dosage or intermittent dose techniques to permit precise recommendations for such procedures to be given. However, limited clinical experience in this area of use indicates that bupivacaine may be repeated in 3 to 6 hours; total daily doses have been up to 400 mg. The duration of anesthetic effect may be prolonged by the addition of a vasoconstricting substance, e.g. epinephrine.

When prolonged blocks are used, the risk of reaching a toxic plasma concentration or inducing a local neural injury must be considered. The maximum dosage limit must be determined by evaluating the size and physical condition of the patient and considering the usual rate of systemic absorption from a specific injection site. Experience to date indicates that 400 mg administered over 24 hours is well tolerated in average adults. Until further experience is gained, this dose should not be exceeded in 24 hours.

To avoid intravascular injection, aspiration should be repeated prior to and during administration of the main dose, which should be injected slowly or in incremental doses, at a rate of 25-50 mg/min, while closely observing the patient's vital functions and maintaining verbal contact. An inadvertent intravascular injection may be recognized by a temporary increase in heart rate and an accidental intrathecal injection by signs of a spinal block. If toxic symptoms occur, the injection should be stopped immediately.

Children

Until further experience is gained, bupivacaine is not recommended for children younger than two years of age.

Table 1 Dosage recommendation in children (over two years of age) for bupivacaine with epinephrine

Type of block	Conc (%)	Each dose	
		mL/Kg	Mg/Kg
Local Infiltration	0.5	Up to 0.4	Up to 2

Note: the use of bupivacaine with epinephrine for anaesthesia and/or analgesia may be supplementary to light general anaesthesia.

OVERDOSAGE

Acute systemic toxicity from local anaesthetics is generally related to high plasma levels encountered during therapeutic use of local anaesthetics or to unintended subarachnoid or intravascular injection exceptionally rapid absorption from highly vascularized areas or overdosage and originates mainly in the central nervous and the cardiovascular systems (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS AND WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**). Central nervous system reactions are similar for all amide local anaesthetics, while cardiac reactions are more dependent on the drug, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Symptoms

Accidental intravascular injections of local anaesthetics may cause immediate (within seconds to a few minutes) systemic toxic reactions. In the event of overdose, systemic toxicity appears later (15-60 minutes after injection) due to the slower increase in local anaesthetic blood concentration.

Central nervous system toxicity is graded response with symptoms and signs of escalating severity. The first symptoms are usually circumoral paresthesia, numbness of the tongue, lightheadedness, hyperacusis, tinnitus and visual disturbances. Dysarthria, muscular twitching or tremors are more serious and precede the onset of generalized convulsions. These signs must not be mistaken for a neurotic behavior. Unconsciousness and grand mal convulsions may follow which may last from a few seconds to several minutes. Hypoxia and hypercarbia occur rapidly following convulsions due to the increased muscular activity, together with the interference with normal respiration and loss of the airway. In severe cases apnea may occur. Acidosis, hyperkalaemia, hypocalcaemia and hypoxia increase and extend the toxic effects of local anaesthetics.

Recovery is due to redistribution and subsequent metabolism and excretion of the local anaesthetic drug. Recovery may be rapid unless large amounts of the drug have been administered.

Cardiovascular system toxicity may be seen in severe cases and is generally preceded by signs of toxicity in the central nervous system.

Cardiovascular toxic reactions are usually related to depression of the conduction system of the heart and myocardium, leading to decreased cardiac output, hypotension, heart block, bradycardia and sometimes ventricular arrhythmias, including ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation and cardiac arrest.

Treatment

The first consideration is prevention, best accomplished by careful and constant monitoring of cardiovascular and respiratory vital signs and the patient's state of consciousness after each local anesthetic injection. At the first sign of change, oxygen should be administered. If signs of acute systemic toxicity appear, injection of the local anaesthetic should be immediately stopped.

THE FIRST STEP IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SYSTEMIC TOXIC REACTIONS, AS WELL AS UNDERVENTILATION OR APNEA, CONSISTS OF THE IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A PATENT AIRWAY AND ASSISTED OR CONTROLLED VENTILATION WITH 100% OXYGEN AND A DELIVERY SYSTEM CAPABLE OF PERMITTING IMMEDIATE POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE BY MASK OR ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION. This may prevent convulsions if they have not already occurred.

Supportive treatment of the cardiovascular system includes intravenous (i.v.) fluids and, when appropriate, vasopressors (such as epinephrine or ephedrine which enhance myocardial contractility).

If necessary, use drugs to control convulsions. A bolus i.v. injection of a muscle relaxant (e.g. succinylcholine 1 mg/kg bw) will paralyze the patient without depressing the CNS or cardiovascular system and facilitate endotracheal intubation, controlled ventilation and secure optimal oxygenation. An anticonvulsant should be given i.v. if the convulsions do not stop spontaneously in 15-20 seconds. A bolus i.v. dose of diazepam (0.1 mg/kg) or thiopental (1-3 mg/kg) will permit ventilation and counteract central nervous system stimulation, but these drugs also depress CNS, respiratory, and cardiac function, add to possible depression, and may result in apnea. Thiopental will control convulsions rapidly, while the action of diazepam will be slower. Prolonged convulsions may jeopardize the patient's ventilation and oxygenation. I.V. barbiturates, anticonvulsant agents, or muscle relaxants should only be administered by those familiar with their use. For specific techniques and procedures, refer to standard textbooks.

Recent clinical data from patients experiencing local anesthetic-induced convulsions demonstrated rapid development of hypoxia, hypercarbia and acidosis with bupivacaine within a minute of the onset of convulsions. These observations suggest that oxygen consumption and carbon dioxide production are greatly increased during local anesthetic convulsions and emphasize the importance of immediate and effective ventilation with oxygen which may avoid cardiac arrest.

If cardiovascular depression is evident (hypotension, bradycardia), ephedrine 5-10 mg i.v. should be given and may be repeated, if necessary, after 2-3 minutes. Children should be given ephedrine doses commensurate with their age and weight. Should circulatory arrest occur, immediate cardiopulmonary resuscitation should be instituted. Optimal oxygenation and ventilation and circulatory support as well as treatment of acidosis are of vital importance, since hypoxia and acidosis will increase the systemic toxicity of local anaesthetics. Epinephrine (0.1 -0.2 mg intravenous or intracardial injections) should be given as soon as possible and repeated, if necessary. A successful resuscitation may require prolonged efforts.

The supine position is dangerous in pregnant women at term because of aortocaval compression by the gravid uterus. Therefore, during treatment of systemic toxicity, maternal hypotension or fetal bradycardia following regional block, the parturient should be maintained in the left lateral decubitus position if possible, or manual displacement of the uterus off the great vessels should be accomplished. Resuscitation of obstetrical patients may take longer than resuscitation of non pregnant patients and closed-chest cardiac compression may be ineffective. Rapid delivery of the fetus may improve the response to resuscitative efforts.

If cardiac arrest should occur, a successful outcome may require prolonged resuscitative efforts.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) between 15 °C and 25 °C (59 °F and 77 °F). Do not freeze. Protect Marcaine (Bupivacaine Hydrochloride with Epinephrine) from light. Do not use if solution is coloured or contains a precipitate.

SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

Due to the heat sensitivity of epinephrine, solutions of Marcaine (Bupivacaine HCl with epinephrine bitartrate 1:200 000 Injection USP) must not be autoclaved and should be protected from light. Do not use if solution is pinkish or darker than slightly yellow or contains a precipitate.

Adequate precautions should be taken to avoid prolonged contact between local anaesthetic solutions containing epinephrine (low pH) and metal surfaces (e.g. needles or metal parts of syringes), since dissolved metal ions, particularly copper ions, may cause severe local irritation (swelling, edema) at the site of injection and accelerate the degradation of epinephrine.

DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

Dosage Forms

The solubility of bupivacaine is limited at pH >6.5. This must be taken into consideration when alkaline solutions, i.e. carbonates, are added since precipitation might occur. In the case of epinephrine containing solutions, mixing with alkaline solutions may cause rapid degradation of epinephrine.

Composition and Packaging

0.5% with epinephrine 1:200 000: Contains 5 mg bupivacaine hydrochloride per mL.

Single dose cartridges of 1.8 mL; boxes of 50.

These solutions are made isotonic with NaCl and the pH is adjusted with NaOH or HCl. The pH range for solutions with epinephrine is 3.8 to 4.2. Each mL of solution contains epinephrine bitartrate 0.0091 mg and, as non medicinal ingredients, sodium metabisulfite, monoethyglycerol and ascorbic acid as antioxidants, sodium lactate buffer, edetate calcium disodium as stabilizer and water for injection.



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