



REGIONAL ADULT PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH

GENERIC NAME

calcitriol

Effective Date: Mar12-2014

Revised Date:

Review Date: Jan 10-2018

CLASSIFICATION

Vitamin

OTHER NAMES

Vitamin D₃

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ADMINISTRATION POLICY:

IV bolus - May be administered by a nurse

Subcutaneous - May be administered by a nurse

RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:

Available as: 1 mcg/mL 1 mL - ampoule

IV bolus: Administer undiluted over 1 to 3 minutes. May be administered during or at the end of hemodialysis.

Subcutaneous: Administer undiluted.

DOSAGE:

Usual: IV: 0.5 to 3 mcg 2 or 3 times per week

Maximum rate: over 2 or 3 minutes

Maximum concentration: 1 mcg/mL

Maximum single dose: 4 mcg

STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:

Compatibility: Compatible with normal saline, D5W, dextrose-saline solutions

PRECAUTIONS, POTENTIAL ADVERSE REACTIONS:

- Hypercalcemia. Early signs: weakness, headache, nausea, vomiting, muscle or bone pain, somnolence.
- Mild pain on injection.

ADDITIONAL NOTES AND NURSING CONSIDERATIONS:

- Monitor serum calcium and phosphorous levels at least once weekly during dosage titration. Monitor magnesium, alkaline phosphatase and PTH periodically.
- Give cautiously to patients on digoxin as hypercalcemia may precipitate cardiac arrhythmias.
- Intraperitoneal administration of calcitriol in dialysate is possible, although significant adsorption to PVC is an issue.