



# REGIONAL ADULT PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH

GENERIC NAME  
**neostigmine**

**Effective Date:** Dec 2012

CLASSIFICATION  
**Cholinergic**

OTHER NAMES  
**Prostigmin**

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**Revised Date:** January 2025

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**ADMINISTRATION POLICY:**

- IV Bolus - May be administered by a nurse experienced in ICU/PACU/ED
- IM Injection - May be administered by a nurse experienced in ICU/PACU/ED
- Subcutaneous - May be administered by a nurse experienced in ICU/PACU/ED

**RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:**

**Available as:** 0.5 mg/mL & 1 mg/mL - 10 mL vial

**IV Bolus:** Administer undiluted slowly into an infusing IV over 2 to 3 minutes

**IM/Subcutaneous:** Administer undiluted

**Maximum rate:** 0.25 mg/minute

**Maximum concentration:** 2.5 mg/mL

**DOSAGE:**

**Myasthenia Gravis Diagnosis:** IM/IV - 0.02 mg/kg

**Neuromuscular Blockade Antagonism:** dose varies depending on depth of blockage: 0.02 to 0.07 mg/kg IV (must administer IV glycopyrrolate or atropine IMMEDIATELY PRIOR to neostigmine to avoid significant bradycardia) Repeat as needed.

**Maximum single dose:** 5 mg (only for reversal of neuromuscular blockade)

**STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:**

**Compatibility:** Compatible with D5W and normal saline.

**PRECAUTIONS, POTENTIAL ADVERSE REACTIONS:**

- Cholinergic reactions: nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, salivation, gastrointestinal cramping, muscle cramps, fasciculations, bronchospasm, hypotension, bradycardia. Intravenous atropine may be needed to counteract these effects.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES AND NURSING CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Use with caution in patients with asthma, arrhythmias, epilepsy, hyperthyroidism, or peptic ulcer.
- In the diagnosis of myasthenia gravis, stop all anticholinesterase medications 8 hours prior to administration
- Elderly patients: May require dose reduction by 50% for patients with decreased renal function.