



**REGIONAL ADULT PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH**

GENERIC NAME  
**PHENobarbital**

<b>Effective Date:</b> Mar. 2006  <b>Revised Date:</b> Nov13-2013	CLASSIFICATION <b>Hypnotic/Anticonvulsant</b>	OTHER NAMES <b>Phenobarb</b>	PAGE 1 of 2
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**ADMINISTRATION POLICY:**  
 IM Injection – May be administered by a nurse  
 IV Bolus – May be administered by a nurse  
 IV Infusion – May be administered by a nurse  
 Subcutaneous – May be administered by a nurse

**RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:**  
**Available as:** 120 mg/mL  
  
**IV Bolus:** Administer dose undiluted or dilute dose to 10 mL and administer at a maximum rate of 60 mg/minute  
  
**IV Intermittent:** Dilute dose in 50 or 100 mL normal saline and administer over 20 to 30 minutes (exception: fluid restricted patient – 25 mL is an acceptable minimum volume)  
  
**IM Injection:** Administer undiluted, deeply into muscle mass  
  
**Subcutaneous:** Administer undiluted

**DOSAGE:**  
**Usual:**  
**Status epilepticus:** Loading dose: 10 to 20 mg/kg IV. May give an additional 5 mg/kg IV every 15 to 30 minutes to a maximum of 30 mg/kg  
  
Maintenance dose: 1 to 3 mg/kg/day IV/IM/subcutaneous once daily or in divided doses  
  
**Anticonvulsant:** 60 to 600mg IV/IM/subcutaneous daily; may be given in 1 to 2 divided doses  
  
**Hypnotic:** 100 to 320 mg IV/IM/ subcutaneous daily  
  
**Maximum single dose:** 30 mg/kg  
**Maximum daily dose:** 30 mg/kg  
  
**Maximum rate:** 60 mg/minute  
**Maximum concentration:** 120 mg/mL

**STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:**  
  
**Stability of multidose vial:** N/A  
**Stability of Final Admixture:** 24 hours  
  
**Compatibility:** Compatible with normal saline, D5W, dextrose-saline solutions, Lactated Ringer



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**PRECAUTIONS, POTENTIAL ADVERSE REACTIONS:**

- Hypotension, shock, respiratory depression, apnea, bronchospasm (especially with rapid IV administration)
- Thrombophlebitis, pain at injection site
- IM and subcutaneous administration may cause tissue irritation (due to high pH of the drug solution)
- Extravasation can cause tissue necrosis
- Contraindicated in patients with porphyria or marked liver disease
- Use cautiously in patients with hypovolemic shock, CHF, hepatic impairment or respiratory dysfunction

**ADDITIONAL NOTES AND NURSING CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Onset of action: 5 minutes. May require 30 minutes to achieve maximum effect.
- Elderly patients: Reduce dosage