

Artesunate

Artesunate dosing is weight based; ensure accuracy of documented weight before administration						
Form	Artesunate 60mg powder for injection					
Reconstitution	Determine the number of vials needed					
	Weight	<25 kg	26-50 kg	51-75 kg	76-100 kg	101-125kg
	60mg vial	1	2	3	4	5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up 1 mL of the supplied sodium bicarbonate solvent Add to the artesunate powder. Shake for several minutes until the powder is dissolved and the solution clear. Discard the solution if it appears cloudy or a precipitate is present. <p style="text-align: center;">Dilute further before administration</p>					
Compatibility & Stability	Reconstituted solution should be used immediately					
Administration	<p>IV Injection (preferred) – do not administer as infusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up 5mL of the supplied sodium chloride 0.9% solvent Add to the reconstituted artesunate solution, which yields a solution containing artesunate 10mg/mL. (60mg in 6mL) Shake to mix well Inject the desired volume (0.24 mL/kg) slowly over 1-2 minutes. <p>IM Injection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw up 2 mL of the supplied sodium chloride 0.9% Add to the reconstituted artesunate solution, to yield a solution containing artesunate 20mg/mL. (60mg in 3mL) Withdraw the required volume (0.12 mL/kg) from the vial and inject intramuscularly. If the total volume of solution to be injected is large, it may be preferable to divide the volume and inject it at several sites. 					
Monitoring	Monitor blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, signs of hypersensitivity and haemoglobin levels. Monitor patients for 4 weeks after treatment for evidence of haemolytic anaemia.					
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give 2.4mg/kg IV/IM at 0, 12, 24 hours, then every 24 hours until oral treatment can be substituted e.g. 168mg in a 70kg patient Dose adjustment is not required in renal or hepatic impairment This is an Unlicensed medication in Ireland- please contact pharmacy to ensure adequate stock available. Stock kept in ED and Pharmacy Discuss all patients with ID 					

Information provided relates to Artesun® manufactured by Fosun Pharma

This information has been summarised to act as a guide for those administering IV medication. The monograph should be used in conjunction with the drug data sheet and BNF for information on dose, adverse effects, cautions and contra-indications. Further information is available from Pharmacy on 22146 or 22542