

Rx

# Meropenem Injection IP 500/1000 mg

## Probinem INJECTION

### Composition:

Each Vial Contains:  
Meropenem Sterile IP  
Eq. to anhydrous Meropenem 500 mg  
Sodium Carbonate IP  
Eq. to Sodium 45.1 mg  
(A Sterile mixture of Meropenem IP  
& Sodium Carbonate IP)

### Composition:

Each vial contains:  
Meropenem (Sterile) IP  
Eq. to anhydrous Meropenem 1000 mg  
Sodium Carbonate IP  
Eq. to Sodium 90.20 mg  
(A Sterile mixture of Meropenem IP  
& Sodium Carbonate IP)

### DESCRIPTION

Meropenem is a synthetic carbapenem antibiotic. Unlike Imipenem, Meropenem has a methyl group at position 1 of the 5-membered ring, which confers stability against hydrolysis by dehydrolysis by dehydropeptidase 1 (DHP-1) present on the brush border of proximal renal tubular cells and therefore does not require concomitant administration with a DHP-1 inhibitor such as Cilastatin. Chemically meropenem is (4R,5S,6S)-3-[(3S,5S)-5-(Dimethylcarbamoyl)-3-pyrrolidinylthio]-6-[(1R)-1-hydroxyethyl]-4-methyl-7-oxo-1-azabicyclo[3.2.0]hept-2-ene-2-carboxylic acid trihydrate. Its chemical formula is  $C_{20}H_{34}N_4O_8S_3H_2O$  and molecular weight is 437.5.

### PHARMACOLOGY

Meropenem is a bactericidal agent that acts by inhibition of bacterial cell wall synthesis. Antibacterial action of Meropenem is related to binding of the drug to penicillin binding proteins (PBPs) of Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms. The high resistance of meropenem to most bacterial  $\beta$ -lactamases and good penetration of the drug through the outer membrane also contribute significantly to antimicrobial activity. Meropenem may be less of an inducer of  $\beta$ -lactamases than Imipenem.

### MICROBIOLOGY

Meropenem shares the very broad antibacterial spectrum of Imipenem. Clinically useful activity extends to the following types of bacteria : virtually all genera of the family Enterobacteriaceae; most anaerobic and anaerobic Gram-positive cocci (Haemophilus spp., Neisseria spp., etc); most isolates of Bacteroides fragilis and other anaerobic Gram-negative bacilli. In vitro Meropenem exerts a greater activity than Imipenem against Enterobacteriaceae (2 to 32 fold) and most pseudomonas (2 to 4 fold) whereas it is slightly less active against Gram-positive species. Its activity against anaerobic Gram-negative rods is very similar to that of meropenem. Meropenem does not exhibit any effect against mycoplasmas, obligate intracellular bacteria such as chlamydiae and rickettsiae, and mycobacteria. Activity against Mycobacterium avium complex is known to be poor.

### PHARMACOKINETICS

Meropenem is not absorbed when given orally and is normally administered by intravenous route. Peak plasma concentrations immediately after the completion of the infusion are 50-60 mg/l after a 1 g dose and 20-25 mg/l after 500 mg. One hour after a 5 min. infusion of 1 gm to healthy subjects average plasma concentrations are about 24 mg/l and decline to 0.7 mg/l at 6 h.

The plasma half-life is approximately 1h, estimates for the mean varying from 0.9 to 1.2 h. Meropenem is rapidly distributed throughout the body. The volume of distribution in humans is relatively low, only 0.3-0.4 l/kg. Approximately 25% of an intravenous dose of Meropenem is converted to the antibacterially inactive ring-open form by hydrolysis of the  $\beta$ -lactam ring, catalysed by renal dehydropeptidase 1 (DHP-1). Meropenem is four times more resistant to human DHP-1 than Imipenem.

The metabolite is excreted essentially only via the kidneys. Up to 80% of a dose is excreted unchanged in the urine; the majority of the dose is excreted in the first 4h. The pharmacokinetics of meropenem in children 1 year and older are very similar to those in adults with a half-life of approximately 0.8-1.1h. Up to 70% of the dose is eliminated in the urine during the first 6h after dosing. The half-life was 2.95h in preterm neonates and 2.04h in full term neonates. The half life of Meropenem in elderly subjects with normal renal functions for their age is approximately 50% longer than in young healthy adults.

### THERAPEUTIC INDICATIONS

is indicated in the treatment of:

1. Nosocomial Pneumonia
2. Urinary Tract infections
3. Intra Abdominal infections
4. Gynaecological infections
5. Skin and Skin Structure infections
6. Meningitis
7. Septicaemia
8. Empiric treatment of Adult Febrile Neutropenia

Culture and susceptibility testing should be performed where appropriate to determine the susceptibility of the causative microorganism(s) to Meropenem. Therapy with may be instituted before results of susceptibility studies are known; however, once these results become available, the antibiotic treatment should be adjusted accordingly.

### DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION

is administered intravenously as a bolus injection given over 3-5 mins, or by infusion over 15-30 mins.

For adults with normal renal function the usual dose is 0.5 - 1 gm every 8 hourly.

For the treatment of adult meningitis, the dose is increased to 2 gm every 8 hourly.

A dose of 10 - 20 mg/kg every 8 hourly is recommended for children under 12 years.

In meningitis, the pediatric dose of 40 mg/kg every 8 hourly is recommended.

In children over 50 kg body weight the adult dosage should be given.

### Dosage in Renal impairment

In patients with impaired renal function (creatinine clearance < 51 ml/min), the dose of should be adjusted to compensate for the slower rate of renal elimination.

### Dosage in Hepatic Impairment

Patients with hepatic impairment do not require adjustment of Meropenem dosage.

### Reconstitution of Single dose Vials for Intravenous bolus / Infusion

vial content	Amount of Diluent to be added (ml).
500 mg	10
1 gm	20

The vial should be shaken until dissolution occurs and then allowed to stand until the solution is clear.

For intravenous bolus administration the resultant solution may then be injected over a 3-5 minute period.

For intravenous infusion, constitute the 500 mg or 1 gm vial and dilute it with one of the compatible IV fluids to provide solutions containing approximately 2.5 - 50 mg/ml (10 - 30 ml for 500 mg and 20 - 400 for 1 gm) of the drug and should be infused IV over 15-30 minutes.

### COMPATIBILITY AND STABILITY

Compatible fluids include 5% or 10% dextrose, 0.9% sodium chloride, 5% dextrose and 0.9% or 0.225% sodium chloride, 5% dextrose and 0.15% potassium chloride, 5% dextrose and 0.02% sodium bicarbonate, 2.5% or 10% mannitol. Solutions should be freshly prepared and used.

Meropenem constituted as directed is stable for 1 - 4 hours at controlled room temperature 15° - 25°C (59° - 77°F) or for 2- 24 hours at 4°C (39°F) depending on IV fluids used. Stability is maximum for 0.9% sodium chloride and Ringer's lactate solution.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Meropenem is contraindicated in patients who have shown immediate hypersensitivity reactions to penicillins or other  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics.

### WARNINGS

1. Hypersensitivity reactions
2. Pseudomembranous colitis.

### PRECAUTIONS

#### Seizure Potential

A tolerability concern with carbapenems is their potential to cause CNS toxicity and seizures. Meropenem appears to be associated with a risk of seizures, particularly in those with underlying CNS pathology. This risk is less than imipenem.

#### Usage in Pregnancy Pregnancy Category B

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of meropenem use in pregnant women and should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

#### Nursing mothers

It is not known whether meropenem is excreted in human breast milk. Caution should be exercised when MIROXAM is administered to a nursing woman.

#### Pediatric Use

The safety and efficacy of in the treatment of meningitis has been established in patients only > 3 months of age.

#### In Elderly

No special problems yet evident. Renal excretion of meropenem and its ring-open metabolite are slowed in the elderly, in keeping with the decline of renal function, and the dosage interval should be reduced accordingly.

### ADVERSE EFFECTS

#### Potentially Life-threatening Effects

No life-threatening effects have yet been reported but rare anaphylactic reactions may be anticipated. Serious hypersensitivity reactions are the most likely, but the incidence, if any, is not yet known.

#### Symptomatic Adverse Effects

Rashes (2.3%), headache (2%), nausea (3.5%) and diarrhea (4.3%) have been observed in short term clinical trials. There may be pain, phlebitis and oedema at the injection site. As with other broad spectrum antimicrobial agents, candidiasis may occur.

### OVERDOSE

This has not been reported and is less likely to occur with parenterally administered drug. In view of the results of acute toxicity tests, this is unlikely to be a problem. Appropriate supportive therapy is recommended.

### DRUG INTERACTIONS

Probenecid competes with the renal tubular secretion of meropenem and increases the half-life by about one third.

Administration of meropenem to patients taking sodium valproate may result in the reduction of serum valproic acid levels. Subtherapeutic levels of valproic acid may be reached in some patients.

### Storage:

Store protected from moisture at a temperature not exceeding 30°C.

### PRESENTATION

A Vial of 500 mg with 10 ml ampoule of Sterile Water for injections IP in a box.

A vial of 1 gm with 20 ml ampoule of Sterile Water for injections IP in a box.

Manufactured by:  
PROTECTEELINKS  
(A WHO-GMP Certified Co.)  
Mezra Digi, Suketi Road,  
Kala Amb, District Sirmour,  
Himachal Pradesh - 173001  
INDIA

Marketed by:

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Laboratories Pvt. Ltd

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