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ADULT Medication Monograph

# ARTESUNATE




This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

[Antimicrobial Restriction – Restricted \(IV\)](#)

[SAS Category A](#) (item requires approval by TGA)

<b>Presentation</b>	Each pack contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1x 60mg vial artesunate powder</li> <li>- 1x 1mL ampoule sodium bicarbonate 5%</li> <li>- 1x 5mL ampoule sodium chloride 0.9%</li> </ul>
<b>Dose</b>	<b><u>Treatment of severe malaria</u></b> <b>IV injection:</b> 2.4mg/kg on admission and repeat at 12 hours and 24 hours, then ONCE daily until oral therapy is tolerated
<b>Administration</b>	<b><u>IV injection:</u></b> <b>Step 1 Reconstitution:</b> Reconstitute the vial with the 1mL of sodium bicarbonate 5%. Shake for 2 to 3 minutes until completely dissolved. The powder is difficult to dissolve. The solution is cloudy at first and then becomes clear after a few minutes. <b>Step 2 Dilution:</b> Dilute the reconstituted solution with 5mL sodium chloride 0.9% to make a final concentration of 10mg/mL and a total volume of 6mL <b>Step 3 Administration:</b> Inject slowly over 1 to 2 minutes
<b>Pregnancy</b>	Use of artesunate in a meta-analysis of 717 pregnancies was not associated with adverse outcomes. Contact the <b>Obstetric Medicines Information Service</b> for further advice
<b>Breastfeeding</b>	Considered safe to use
<b>Monitoring</b>	Full blood count, LFTs, serum electrolytes, signs of neurotoxicity, BP
<b>Clinical guidelines and policies</b>	WNHS Policy: <a href="#">Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Policy</a> WATAG Advisory Note: <a href="#">Emergency treatment of malaria in public hospitals</a>
<b>References</b>	Australian Medicines Handbook. Artesunate. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 09]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a>

	<p>Therapeutic Guidelines. Malaria. In: eTG complete [Internet]. West Melbourne (Victoria): Therapeutic Guidelines; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 09]. Available from: <a href="https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au">https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au</a></p> <p>Truven Health Analytics. Artesunate. In: Micromedex [Internet]. Greenwood Village (CO): Truven Health Analytics; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 09]. Available from: <a href="http://www.micromedexsolutions.com/">http://www.micromedexsolutions.com/</a></p> <p>U.S. National Library of Medicine. Artesunate. In: Drugs and Lactation Database (LactMed) [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): U.S. National Library of Medicine; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 09]. Available from: <a href="http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov">http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov</a></p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Artesunate. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 09]. Available from: <a href="http://aidh.hcn.com.au">http://aidh.hcn.com.au</a></p> <p>Saito M, Gilder ME, McGready R, Nosten F. Antimalarial drugs for treating and preventing malaria in pregnant and lactating women. Expert opinion on drug safety. 2018; 17(11):1129-44.</p>
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