**LIQUID BAROSPERSE** (barium sulfate suspension)

Catheters (tips) with latex cuffs, can occur. Such reactions could occur immediately and result in the previously mentioned acute allergic-like responses or might be delayed in appearance and result in a contact dermatitis. Known atopic patients, particularly those with a history of asthma or eczema, should be evaluated for alternative methods of administration in order to avoid these adverse reactions. These plastic/rubber accessories are disposable, single-use devices that must not be reused or left in the body cavity for an extended period of time.

**Overdosage:** In rare instances, immediate repeat oral examinations utilizing standard dosages may lead to severe stomach cramps and diarrhea. Cases reported implicate a total dose in the range of 30 ounces (900 mL) of suspension. Instances of this type have resolved spontaneously and they are not considered to be life-threatening.

**Dosage and Administration:**

**PATIENT PREPARATION**

Successful examination of the upper gastrointestinal tract requires that the stomach be empty and essentially free of fluid. This can usually be accomplished by instructing the patient to abstain from eating or drinking anything after the evening meal before the examination. The preparation for small bowel examinations, done separately or combined with an upper gastrointestinal series, is the same.

For examinations of the colon, the patients should be given a low solid diet for a minimum of 24 hours before the examination. Laxatives should also be used to clean the colon. In order to obtain thorough cleansing of the colon, a 2 liter water enema one hour before the examination may be necessary.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Individual technique will determine the suspension quantity and barium sulfate content to be used. The following dilutions are suggested for Liquid Barosperse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMINATION</th>
<th>DILUTION FORMULA</th>
<th>% BARIUM SULFATE (w/v)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filled Stomach</td>
<td>Use undiluted or</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 parts Liquid Barosperse to 1 part water</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophageal Swallow</td>
<td>Use undiluted</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enteroclysis</td>
<td>3 Parts Liquid Barosperse to 1 part water</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routine Filled Colon</td>
<td>1 part Liquid Barosperse to 2 parts water</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shake the suspension well before using.

It is recommended that Liquid Barosperse be served chilled for upper gastrointestinal studies. This will give a more rapid transit of Liquid Barosperse from the stomach into the small bowel. For lower gastrointestinal studies, Liquid Barosperse should be administered at room temperature to body temperature.

**Pediatric Use:** The quantity of suspension used and the barium sulfate concentration will depend upon patient size, technique used and clinical need.

**Storage:** Store between 15° and 30°C (59° and 86°F). Protect from freezing.

**How Supplied:** Catalog No. 179312. 355 mL bottles. Twenty-four (24) bottles and twenty-four (24) straws per case.

Catalog No. 179364. 1900 mL bottles. Four (4) bottles per case.

**Rx only**

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fate formulations and are usually associated with the technique of administration, the underlying pathological condition and/or patient hypersensitivities.

Vomiting following oral administration of barium sulfate may lead to aspiration pneumonitis. Oral administration of barium sulfate suspension by an infant sucking a bottle and administration of large quantities by catheter are reported to be likely to result in aspiration into the tracheobronchial tree. Cardiopulmonary arrest leading to fatality has been reported in infants following aspiration. Aspiration of smaller amounts may cause inflammation.

Barium sulfate preparations used as radiopaque media contain a number of additives to provide diagnostic properties and patient palatability. Allergic responses following the use of barium sulfate suspensions have been reported. Skin irritation, redness, inflammation and hives have been reported for infants and small children following spillage of barium sulfate suspension on their skin. These responses are thought to be caused by the flavors and/or preservatives used in the product.

Barium sulfate suspension has been reported to cause obstruction of the small bowel (impaction) in pediatric patients with cystic fibrosis. It has also been reported to cause fluid overload from the absorption of water during studies in infants when Hirschsprung’s Disease is suspected.

Barium sulfate suspension intravasation can be a serious complication. Mortality has been reported as a result of vaginal or rectal intravasation and is believed to be due to massive pulmonary embolism occurring within minutes of the inciting event.

In patients with increased cranial pressure, barium sulfate suspension enemas present an additional risk of further increasing intracranial pressure.

Care must be taken during the insertion of an enema tip into the patient to prevent application of pressure to the vagus nerve which can lead to vasovagal reactions and syncopal episodes. Cardiac arrhythmia or other cardiovascular side effects can occur as a result of colon distention.

Precautions: Diagnostic procedures which involve the use of radiopaque contrast agents should be carried out under the direction of personnel with the requisite training and with a thorough knowledge of the particular procedure to be performed. A history of bronchial asthma, atopy, as evidenced by hay fever and eczema, a family history of allergy, or a previous reaction to a contrast agent warrant special attention. Caution should be exercised with the use of radiopaque media in severely debilitated patients and in those with marked hypertension or advanced cardiac disease.

Anaphylactic and allergic reactions have been reported during double contrast examinations in which glucagon has been used.

An increased risk of perforation has been reported in neonates with intussusception. In patients with cystic fibrosis or blind loops of the bowel or ileus, there is a risk of impissation leading to partial or complete obstruction.

In neonates and infants with motility disorders such as Hirschsprung’s Disease, retention of large amounts of barium sulfate suspension may result in absorption of water from the suspension and fluid overload. The addition of small amounts of salt to the barium sulfate suspension has been reported to reduce the problem.

Ingestion of barium sulfate suspension is not recommended in patients with a history of food aspiration. If barium sulfate suspension is aspirated into the larynx, further administration of the suspension should be immediately discontinued.

Patient preparation for diagnostic gastrointestinal examinations frequently requires cathartics and a liquid diet. The various preparations can result in water loss for the patient. Patients should be rehydrated quickly following a barium sulfate suspension examination of the gastrointestinal tract. In patients with reduced colon motility, saline cathartics may be required after the barium sulfate suspension enema. Saline cathartics are recommended on a routine basis in patients with a history of constipation unless clinically contraindicated.

Where enema tips are used, care must be taken during insertion into the patient, since forceful or too deep insertion may cause tearing or perforation of the rectum. Insertion of an enema tip should be done only after digital examination by qualified medical personnel. When balloon retention tips are used, care should be taken to avoid overinflation of the balloon, since overfilling or asymmetrical filling may cause displacement of the tip. Such a displacement can lead to rectal perforation or barium sulfate granulomas. Inflation of the balloon should be done under fluoroscopic control by qualified medical personnel. Do not unnecessarily move the enema tip once inserted.

A specially designed enema tip is required for a barium sulfate suspension examination of a colostomy patient.

Intubation of an enteroclysis catheter should be done by qualified medical personnel. Perforation of the duodenum has been reported.

Because of reported anaphylactoid reactions to latex, the use of non-latex gloves during the procedure should be considered.

Pregnancy: Safe use of barium sulfate during pregnancy has not been established. Barium sulfate should be used in pregnant women only if the possible benefits outweigh the potential risks. Elective radiography of the abdomen is considered to be contraindicated during pregnancy due to the risk to the fetus from radiation exposure. Radiation is known to cause harm to the unborn fetus exposed in utero.

Pediatric Use: The radiographic contrast agents used for examination of children do not differ substantially from those used for adults. The variation in physical sizes of pediatric patients requires more thorough attention to individualized dosing. The volume of barium sulfate suspension and the barium sulfate content required will also depend upon the technique used and the clinical need.

Adverse Reactions: Adverse reactions accompanying the use of barium sulfate formulations are infrequent and usually mild, though severe reactions (approximately 1 in 500,000) and fatalities (approximately 1 in 2,000,000) have occurred. Procedural complications are rare, but may include aspiration pneumonitis, barium sulfate impaction, granuloma formation, intravasation, embolization and peritonitis following intestinal perforation, vasovagal and syncopal episodes, and fatalities. EKG changes have been shown to occur following or during barium sulfate suspension enemas. It is of the utmost importance to be completely prepared to treat any such occurrence.

Due to the increased likelihood of allergic reactions in atopic patients, a complete history of known and suspected allergies as well as allergic-like symptoms, such as rhinitis, bronchial asthma, eczema and urticaria, must be obtained prior to any medical procedure.

Aspiration of large amounts of barium sulfate suspension may cause pneumonitis or nodular granulomas of interstitial lung tissues and lymph nodes; asphyxiation and death have been reported.

Transient bacteremia, beginning almost immediately and lasting up to 15 minutes, may also occur during rectal administration of barium sulfate suspension, and rarely sepsisemia has been reported.

A rare mild allergic reaction would most likely be generalized pruritis, erythema or urticaria (approximately 1 in 100,000 reactions). Such reactions will respond to an antihistamine such as 50 mg of diphenhydramine (adult dose) or its equivalent. More serious reactions (approximately 1 in 500,000) may result in laryngeal edema, bronchospasm or hypotension.

Severe reactions which may require emergency measures are often characterized by peripheral vasodilatation, hypotension, reflex tachycardia, dyspnea, agitation, confusion and cyanosis, progressing to unconsciousness. Treatment should be initiated immediately with 0.3-0.5 cc (adult dose) of 1:1000 epinephrine subcutaneously. If bronchospasm predominates, 0.25-0.50 grams (adult dose) of intravenous aminophylline should be given slowly. Appropriate vasopressors might be required. Adrenocorticosteroids, even if given intravenously, exert no significant effect on the acute allergic reaction for a few hours. The administration of these steroid agents should not be regarded as emergency measures for the treatment of allergic reactions.

Apprehensive patients may develop weakness, pallor, tinnitus, diaphoresis and bradycardia following the administration of any diagnostic agent. Such reactions are usually non-allergic in nature and are best treated by having the patient lie flat for an additional 10 to 30 minutes under observation.

Allergic reactions to the enema accessories, in particular to retention