



## NEONATAL MEDICATION GUIDELINE

# Diazoxide

**Scope (Staff):** Nursing, Medical and Pharmacy Staff

**Scope (Area):** KEMH NICU, PCH NICU, NETS WA

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### Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Preparation & Administration](#)

[Side Effects & Interactions](#)

[Monitoring](#)

### Restrictions

[Formulary: Highly Restricted](#)

[SAS Category A](#)

**[HIGH RISK Medication](#)** ⚠️

### Description

Non-diuretic benzothiadiazine derivative

### Presentation

**Oral suspension:** 50mg/mL (SAS) PCH  
10mg/mL (SAS) KEMH

**Note: 2 different strengths available. Please check strength carefully.**

### Storage

**50mg/mL (SAS) PCH:** Store at room temperature, below 25°C and protect from light. Store in carton until contents are used.

**10mg/mL (SAS) KEMH:** Refrigerate, do not freeze. Store at 2 to 8°C.

### Dose

A thiazide diuretic (hydrochlorothiazide) should always be co-administered with diazoxide to prevent pulmonary oedema due to fluid retention, a serious side effect of diazoxide. If feasible, consider restricting the total fluid intake to 150 ml/kg/day while on diazoxide.

**Indication: Prolonged hypoglycaemia due to hyperinsulinemia****Oral:**

**Initial Dose:** 5mg/kg/day in three divided doses. Adjust dose according to response.

**Maximum dose:** 15mg/kg/day. Avoid doses higher than this.

**Dose Adjustment****Renal Impairment:**

Dose reduction may be required in renal impairment. Consult with nephrology

**Administration****Oral**

Can be administered any time in relation to feeds

**Side Effects**

**More common in preterm infants and SGA babies, but can occur in full term and AGA infants also.**

**Common:** hirsutism, fluid retention and oedema

**Serious:** pulmonary oedema, pulmonary hypertension, arrhythmias, hypotension

**Other side-effects:** vomiting, hyperglycaemia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, hyperuricaemia hyperbilirubinemia.

Discuss with cardiologists for a baseline echocardiogram prior to commencing diazoxide (due to risk of pulmonary hypertension). Consideration should be given to repeat the echocardiogram one week later even if clinically no evidence of pulmonary hypertension (ref 2).

**Interactions**

Hypotension may occur with the concurrent use of diuretics, so monitor blood pressure

**Monitoring**

Monitor blood glucose levels: to titrate diazoxide doses

Monitor weight: for early identification of fluid retention

Monitor blood pressure due to risk of hypotension,

Monitor renal function, full blood counts

## Comments

Use cautiously in patients with impaired cardiac or renal function or cerebral circulation.

Concomitant use of thiazide diuretic is highly recommended to counteract sodium and fluid retention. Always consult endocrinology prior to commencing diazoxide.

SAS Category A Forms are to be completed for supply.

## Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

### WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Hypoglycaemia](#)

## References

1. Chen SC, Diazoxide-induced pulmonary hypertension in hyperinsulinaemic hypoglycaemia: Recommendations from a multicentre study in the United Kingdom. *Clin Endocrinol (Oxf)*. 2019 Dec;91(6):770-775.
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