

Aqupharm 18 Solution for Infusion

Introduction



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Presentation

Aqupharm No. 18 is a sterile, preservative free solution for infusion, presented in a flexible pouch with a blue PVC closure containing:

Sodium Chloride 0.18% w/v

Glucose anhydrous (or Glucose monohydrate) 4% w/v (4.4% w/v)

Aqupharm No. 18 contains 30 millimoles of sodium, 30 millimoles of chloride and 150 calories(as glucose) per litre.

Uses

Aqupharm No.18 is an isotonic solution used in dogs and cats for maintenance therapy after the fluid balance has been restored. It can be used for the treatment of moderate/prolonged dehydration due to water loss, but in severe cases Aqupharm No.1 (Sodium Chloride Injection) should be given before continuing with Aqupharm No.18.

Dosage and administration

Aqupharm No.18 should be prewarmed to 37°C to prevent hypothermia.

Remove outer bag and protective giving set inlet tab. Push cannula fully into giving set. Prime giving set. Perform venepuncture and immediately attach giving set. Adjust infusion rate as required. Delivery is from a closed circuit, it does not need an air inlet.

Giving sets should be changed at least once every 24 hours.

The quantity of fluid and electrolyte for administration will consider existing deficits, maintenance needs and continuing losses.

The existing deficit is that which has been lost prior to examination. This must be estimated by evaluating the patient's history, making a physical examination and using laboratory aids.

Maintenance therapy is to replace normal losses occurring via urine, faeces, respiratory tract and skin. As a general rule maintenance therapy requires 50 ml/kg bodyweight/day. Continuing losses during a disease period should be estimated whenever possible, i.e. quantity of vomit, diarrhoea or blood loss.

The clinical response of the animal rather than formulae or equations should be used to guide fluid therapy. The intravenous route of administration is preferred. Indwelling venous catheters offer significant advantage in intravenous fluid therapy. Subcutaneous administration may be used for isotonic and non-irritating solutions.

The rate of administration should be considered with each individual patient. The aim should be to correct about half of the calculated deficit in the first 1-2 hours. As a general rule the following formula is the maximum satisfactory rate (less where cardiovascular or pulmonary disease exists).

Maximum rate = Body wt (kg) x 90 = ml fluid per hour.

This rate should be slowed after the first hour and considerably slowed if no urine flow is established. Signs of over rapid administration include restlessness, moist lung sounds, tachycardia, tachypnoea, nasal discharge, coughing, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Contra-indications, warnings, etc

Contra-indications

Sodium overload may occur in cases with myocardial and renal damage. It should also be appreciated that in the period following surgical interference or severe trauma there may be an inability to excrete excessive sodium.

Undesirable effects

Hypernatraemia(sodium overload) or an inability to excrete excessive sodium.

Thrombosis of a chosen vein is always a possibility with intravenous infusion. If infusion is protracted then another vein should be selected after 12-24 hours.

Precautions

For animal treatment only

In animals with potassium deficiency it may be necessary to give additional oral potassium supplements.

Overdose

Symptoms: Associated signs of hypernatraemia include pronounced thirst, dry mucous membranes, constipation, hyperpyrexia, CNS disturbances and ultimately convulsions. A plasma Na⁺ concentration of > 150 mEq/l and a urine specific gravity of > 1.030 indicates a hypernatraemic state.

Treatment of overdosage: Injection of a diuretic.

User Warning

Wash hands after use

Pharmaceutical precautions

Store below 25°C. Do not freeze.

Store out of reach of children.

Before use the bag should be inspected and rejected if the solution is not clear or if the inner container is damaged. This product does not contain an antimicrobial preservative. Single use only; any remaining solution should be discarded.

Drugs should not be mixed in infusion containers or giving sets unless the components are of known compatibility. The user should refer to the manufacturer's literature for any drug substance which he or she proposes to co-administer and also to the Appendix of Drug Incompatibilities in the current edition of the Veterinary Formulary. Aqupharm No.18 is known to be incompatible with Ampicillin, Benzylpenicillin sodium, Cloxacillin sodium, Heparin sodium, Noradrenaline acid tartrate and Tetracyclines.

Dispose of any unused product in accordance with guidance from your local waste regulation authority.

Legal category

POM-V

Packaging Quantities

500ml and 1000ml

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Further information

In evaluating an animal for possible fluid therapy the state of hydration, electrolyte balance, acid base balance, renal function and caloric balance should be considered. Evaluation will be based on history, physical examination and laboratory testing.

Marketing authorisation number

Vm 10347/4010.