Alert: Prolonged ophthalmic use is not recommended due to risk of severe keratitis and corneal adverse effects. For short procedure use only.

**Indication:** Local anaesthesia for eye examination [including RetCam3™] and procedures [laser] in newborn infants in conjunction with other analgesia methods.

**Action:** Local anaesthetic.

**Drug Type:** Ester-type local anaesthetic.

**Trade Name:** Minims® Oxybuprocaine hydrochloride 0.4% w/v

**Presentation:** Oxybuprocaine hydrochloride 0.4% single-use, preservative-free, eye drop, approximately 0.5 mL per minim.

**Dosage/Interval:** One drop each eye as required 1–5 minutes prior to examination. Complete examination within 20 to 30 minutes of administration. Further drops may be needed to achieve a complete anaesthetic effect.

**Maximum daily dose:** No information.

**Route:** Topical instillation into the eyes.

**Preparation/Dilution:** Not applicable.

**Administration:** Apply pressure to the lacrimal sac during and for 60 seconds after instillation of eye drop to minimise systemic absorption. Wipe away excess medication.

**Monitoring:**

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to any of the components of the preparation. Eye infection.

**Precautions:** The cornea may be damaged by prolonged or frequent application of anaesthetic eye drops. Prolonged use of topical ophthalmic local anaesthetics has been associated with severe keratitis and permanent corneal opacification and scarring with accompanying reduction of visual acuity or visual loss. Systemic toxicity typical of local anaesthetics could occur if sufficient amounts were absorbed systemically. Systemic absorption may be reduced by compressing the lacrimal sac at the medial canthus for a minute during and following the instillation of the drops.

**Drug Interactions:** Metabolism may be inhibited by anticholinesterases. May competitively enhance the neuromuscular blocking action of suxamethonium.

**Adverse Reactions:** Transient stinging or burning sensation. Limited safety data in infants. Inappropriate and frequent use might cause corneal ulcerations and perforations.

**Compatibility:** No information.

**Stability:** Discard immediately after use.

**Storage:** Store in refrigerator at 2 °C to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light.

**Special Comments:** Anaesthesia persists for 20 to 30 minutes with normal corneal sensitivity after 1 hour.

**Evidence summary:** Refer to full version.

**References:** Refer to full version.

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