

PHENYLEPHRINE HCL

Drug group	Sympathomimetic Mydriatic
Indications for use	Routine eye examinations in NICU Produces pupillary dilation
Presentation	Disposable single dose dropper containing 2.5% solution Available in other strengths – these are not suitable for use in neonates
Reconstitution & Dilution	Not required. Do not use discoloured or precipitated solution.
Stability	Store in refrigerator and protect from light. Do not use discoloured or precipitated solution.
Dosage	One drop into each eye at least 10 minutes prior to procedure
Administration	Drop onto lower conjunctiva of eye and lower lid.
Compatibility	Amethocaine (Tetracaine) 0.5 % Cyclopentolate HCl 0.5 %
Adverse Effects	Hypertension decreased pulmonary compliance, tidal volume and peak airflow in babies with BPD – monitor heart rate and oxygen saturation. Do not use in patients on beta-blockers. Systemic absorption can be minimised by compressing the lacrimal sac during and for 2 minutes after instillation of the drops. Without this up to 80% of the product may be available for absorption via the nasal mucosa.
Other Comments	Used in conjunction with Amethocaine (Tetracaine) and Cyclopentolate for eye examinations. Always give Amethocaine (Tetracaine) first, wait 2 minutes and give other drugs. Wait at least 5 seconds between drugs.
Storage & Stability	Store in refrigerator at 2 - 8 °C. Refrigerate. Do not freeze Protect from light
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References	Micromedex 2.0
Groups consulted in development of this guideline	NICU medical staff NICU nursing staff JHCH Pharmacy staff