

# Coloxyl Infant Drops

## Newborn use only

2022

<b>Alert</b>	Do not use in infants <2000 g without the consent of the neonatologist or paediatrician in-charge. (ANMF consensus) There are no published trials in neonates despite its usage. <b>Contains ethanol 3.6% w/w.</b>
<b>Indication</b>	Constipation
<b>Action</b>	Contains poloxamer. Poloxamer draws water into the stool, making it softer and easier to pass. Onset of effect is 2-3 days.
<b>Drug type</b>	Osmotic laxative
<b>Trade name</b>	Coloxyl Infant Drops
<b>Presentation</b>	Poloxamer 100 mg/mL oral drops (30 mL)
<b>Dose</b>	0.3 mL three times daily. <b>*Do not use in infants &lt;2000 g without the consent of the neonatologist or paediatrician in-charge. (ANMF consensus)</b>
<b>Dose adjustment</b>	No information
<b>Maximum dose</b>	
<b>Total cumulative dose</b>	
<b>Route</b>	Oral
<b>Preparation</b>	No preparation required
<b>Administration</b>	Administer undiluted, preferably mixed with feeds
<b>Monitoring</b>	Loose stools, abdominal cramps
<b>Contraindications</b>	Gastrointestinal obstruction
<b>Precautions</b>	Persistent symptoms, prolonged use, dehydration - ensure adequate fluid intake. <sup>(3)</sup>
<b>Drug interactions</b>	
<b>Adverse reactions</b>	Loose stools, dehydration, abdominal discomfort. Chronic misuse of laxatives may result in electrolyte imbalance. Loss of effectiveness with prolonged usage.
<b>Compatibility</b>	Not applicable
<b>Incompatibility</b>	Not applicable
<b>Stability</b>	As per the manufacturer's recommendations
<b>Storage</b>	Store below 30°C
<b>Excipients</b>	Ethanol 3.6% w/w, glycerol, sorbic acid, purified water, caramel and chocolate flavours
<b>Special comments</b>	
<b>Evidence</b>	<p><b>Background</b> Osmotic laxatives draw water into the stool, resulting in softer stools and more frequent, easier to pass bowel movements. Some commonly used laxatives in children are polyethylene glycol (PEG), lactulose and milk of magnesia.<sup>(1)</sup></p> <p><b>Efficacy</b> There are no published trials evaluating the efficacy of poloxamer for constipation in neonates.</p> <p><b>Safety</b> Anecdotal experience suggests that poloxamer is well tolerated in infants. A nationwide matched cohort study of Taiwanese children found an association between early life laxative exposure within the first 6 months of life and subsequent allergic disease development in all subgroups of children, including those born to mothers without allergic diseases or prenatal laxative use.<sup>(2)</sup> In this study there was no specific reference to poloxamer. Prolonged usage of laxative use may result in loss of effectiveness.</p> <p><b>Pharmacokinetics</b> Poloxamer is not absorbed by the gut.</p> <p><b>Pharmacodynamics</b> Poloxamer draws water into the stool, making it softer and easier to pass. This softening process happens gradually and can take 2 to 3 days.<sup>(3)</sup></p>
<b>Practice points</b>	

<b>References</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gordon M, MacDonald JK, Parker CE, Akobeng AK, Thomas AG. Osmotic and stimulant laxatives for the management of childhood constipation. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 2016(8):CD009118.</li> <li>2. Lin TL, Wu CY, Fan YH, Chang YL, Ho HJ, Chen YJ. Association between early life laxative exposure and risk of allergic diseases A nationwide matched cohort study. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol. 2022;128(3):291-8.e3.</li> <li>3. Coloxyl Infant Drops. Product info. MIMS online. Accessed on 1 June 2022.</li> </ol>
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VERSION/NUMBER	DATE
Original 1.0	23/06/2022
REVIEW	23/06/2027

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