Benzatropine Intravenous for Adults

Who can administer

May be administered by registered competent doctor or nurse/midwife

Important information

- **Administration by the intramuscular (IM) route is preferred -Â** give IV only if patient unable to receive IM [ref 1]
- The IM injection is reported to have a similar onset of action as the IV injectionÂ [ref 2,3,4]Â ,however some sources suggest the IV route may have a quicker onset [ref 5]Â
- **Unlicensed preparation**
- Also known as **benztropine**

Available preparations

Benzatropine 2mg per 2ml vial

Reconstitution

Already in solution

Methods of intravenous administration

Slow intravenous injection

- Administer slowly over at least 3 minutes [ref 1]
- Use undiluted or dilute with Sodium chloride 0.9% to aid slow administration or accurate dose measurement [ref 1]

Dose in adults

Usual dose

- Give 1 to 2mg [ref 2,3,5,6,7]
- A second dose may be given if there has been no response after 10 minutes [ref 2,5]

Monitoring

- Monitor vital signs

Further information

- Used as an alternative to Procyclidine injection which has been discontinued (2026)

Storage

Store below $25^{0}C$

References

1. Medusa, accessed 26/05/26
2. NHS Specialist pharmacist service 'Benztropine injection for acute dystonic reactions' 20/05/26
3. Martindale, accessed 26/05/26
4. Package insert , revised Oct 2022
5. RCEM learning 'Acute Dystonia' 8/12/23
6. Toxbase, accessed 27/05/26
7. Injectable Drugs Guide, accessed 26/05/26

Therapeutic classification

Antidote