

Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and infusion (cyclophosphamide): Contraindicated in children and adolescents due to alcohol content

Dear Healthcare professional,

Dr. Reddy's affiliate - Reddy Pharma Iberia, S.A - in agreement with the Malta Medicines Authority would like to inform you of the following:

Summary

- **Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and infusion is an alcoholic (ethanolic) solution of the medicinal product cyclophosphamide and is contraindicated in children and adolescents (i.e. under 18 years of age). The products should be used in adults only.**
- **Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and infusion should not be used during pregnancy.**
- **Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and infusion should not be used in Asians with mutant ALDH2 genotype as positive benefit-risk relationship has not been established in these patients.**

Background on the safety concern

Cyclophosphamide is indicated

- for the treatment of various cancers, including chronic and acute lymphocytic leukaemia, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma, metastatic ovarian and breast carcinoma, adjuvant treatment of breast carcinoma, Ewing's sarcoma, small cell lung cancer and advanced or metastatic neuroblastoma.
- as conditioning for a bone marrow transplantation in the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, chronic and acute myelogenous leukaemia in combination with whole body irradiation or busulfan.
- for the treatment of life-threatening autoimmune diseases such as severe progressive forms of lupus nephritis and Wegener's granulomatosis

Product contains 0.65 ml ethanol anhydrous per 1 ml solution (513.5 mg/ml).

For a 20 kg child receiving 40 mg/kg (800 mg) cyclophosphamide per dose 821.6 mg ethanol would be injected. This means an ethanol intake of 41 mg/kg/dose. The blood alcohol concentration would be about 6.8 mg/dl

Since alternative ethanol-free cyclophosphamide products are available, Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and

infusion is contraindicated in paediatric population <18 years of age. Product should be used in adults only.

Ethanol use during pregnancy is known to cause fetal alcohol syndrome leading to malformations, functional changes and retardations of the unborn child. This would be an add-on toxicity to the teratogenic effects shown by cyclophosphamide. Since ethanol free treatment options are available Cyclophosphamide Dr. Reddy 500 mg/ml concentrate for solution for injection and infusion is contraindicated during pregnancy.

Asian patients harbouring an inherited inactive ALDH2 gene may be at increased risk of side effects, including facial flushing, nausea, and vomiting, which would not be present in non-alcoholic CPA solutions. A positive benefit-risk relationship has not been established in this patient population.

Call for reporting

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorization of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions to Malta Medicine Authority via the ADR Reporting Website: www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt/adrportal.

For further information regarding this medication please contact local representative:

EJ Busuttil Ltd.

Phone: 21447184 (service is available 24/7)

Email: safety@ejbusuttil.com

Office Address:

Busuttil Buildings, Triq I-Għadam,

Central Business District Zone 1,

Birkirkara CBD1060 MALTA

Suspected adverse reactions should also be reported to Dr.Reddy's: Tel: 01748 828 873.

Email: drreddysgb@eu.propharmagroup.com

Approved by Malta Medicines Authority on 29/07/2025.