HYDROCORTISONE EMERGENCY KIT for Paediatrics – Prescribing and supply details

Hydrocortisone sodium succinate given by IM injection is used to treat Addisonian crisis in patients with Addison’s disease or those who have adrenal suppression due to long term corticosteroid treatment. These patients need treatment urgently if they experience a crisis, and are likely to need to attend hospital soon after treatment.

Patients or their carers are taught to reconstitute hydrocortisone sodium succinate (SoluCortef) injection and administer an appropriate dose by intramuscular injection in clinic.

DOSE
The dose to give is advised by the clinic and is based on age.
- Under 1 year  25mg
- 1 to 5 years  50mg
- over 5 years  100mg

SUPPLY
Patients then need a replacement for the used hydrocortisone injection vial for subsequent use. In some cases this will be provided by clinic, but replacement by the GP may be needed.

Prescriptions should read:

Supply one x 100mg vial of SoluCortef 100mg injection with diluent

Occasionally, single vials of SoluCortef may not be available, however the manufacturer also supplies hydrocortisone sodium succinate in packs of 10 vials. If the vial is taken from a pack of 10, the patient will need to be provided with a 2ml ampoule of Water For Injection in addition to the hydrocortisone sodium succinate. This is a Prescription Only Medicine (POM) and this will also need to be prescribed.

Supply one x 2ml ampoule of Water for Injection

Syringes and needles are provided by Childrens Endocrine clinic.

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