

Coloxyl Infant Drops

Newborn use only

2022

Alert	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. Contains ethanol 3.6% w/w.
Indication	Constipation
Action	Contains poloxamer. Poloxamer draws water into the stool, making it softer and easier to pass. Onset of effect is 2-3 days.
Drug type	Osmotic laxative
Trade name	Coloxyl Infant Drops
Presentation	Poloxamer 100 mg/mL oral drops (30 mL)
Dose	0.3 mL three times daily. *Do not use in infants <2000 g without the consent of the neonatologist or paediatrician in-charge. (ANMF consensus)
Dose adjustment	No information
Maximum dose	
Total cumulative dose	
Route	Oral
Preparation	No preparation required
Administration	Administer undiluted, preferably mixed with feeds
Monitoring	Loose stools, abdominal cramps
Contraindications	Gastrointestinal obstruction
Precautions	Persistent symptoms, prolonged use, dehydration - ensure adequate fluid intake. ⁽³⁾
Drug interactions	
Adverse reactions	Loose stools, dehydration, abdominal discomfort. Chronic misuse of laxatives may result in electrolyte imbalance. Loss of effectiveness with prolonged usage.
Compatibility	Not applicable
Incompatibility	Not applicable
Stability	As per the manufacturer's recommendations
Storage	Store below 30°C
Excipients	Ethanol 3.6% w/w, glycerol, sorbic acid, purified water, caramel and chocolate flavours
Special comments	
Evidence	<p>Background 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.⁽¹⁾</p> <p>Efficacy There are no published trials evaluating the efficacy of poloxamer for constipation in neonates.</p> <p>Safety 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.⁽²⁾ In this study there was no specific reference to poloxamer. Prolonged usage of laxative use may result in loss of effectiveness.</p> <p>Pharmacokinetics Poloxamer is not absorbed by the gut.</p> <p>Pharmacodynamics 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.⁽³⁾</p>
Practice points	

References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 3. Coloxyl Infant Drops. Product info. MIMS online. Accessed on 1 June 2022.
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