POLYSTYRENE SULPHONATE RESINS
(SODIUM RESONIUM A, CALCIUM RESONIUM)

DESCRIPTION
A cation exchange resin. Mainly acts in the large intestine. May take hours to see the effect. Two preparations are available.
1. Sodium Resonium A is a sodium polysterene sulfonate (sodium exchange resin)
2. Calcium Resonium is a calcium polysterene sulfonate (calcium exchange resin)

USE
Hyperkalemia when plasma potassium > 7.5mmol/l
1. Use Resonium A if plasma sodium within normal limits.
2. Use Calcium Resonium if plasma sodium high.

Insulin + 25%dextrose is more reliable to reduce and sustain lower serum potassium level!

PRESENTATION
Powder of Resonium A and Calcium Resonium

DOSE
0.5gm/kg 12 hourly

ROUTE
RECTAL

RECONSTITUTION
Dissolve each gramm of powdered medication in 1ml of water for injection.

ADMINISTRATION
Retention enema
Ensure evacuation of accumulated resonium by colonic irrigation after 8-12 hours.

STORAGE
Room temperature

MONITORING
Serum electrolytes

ADVERS EFFECT
Hypokalemia, hypernatremia, hypocalcemia. Nausea, vomiting, constipation, diarrhea. Perforation of the rectum. Watch for waterload in tiny babies if resonium is frequently used.

CONTRAINDICATION
NEC, strictures, fistula

REFERENCE
Neonatal Formulary 5, Drug use in Pregnancy and First Year of Life, 2007, Blackwell Publishing