


TETRACAINE (amethocaine) (eye)

Indication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce local anaesthesia in the eye¹ 		
OPHTHALMIC	Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drops 1% 	
	Dosage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One drop per eye¹ 	
	Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required 	
	Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold eye lids apart and apply directly onto eye Wait 5 minutes between instillation of other ophthalmic drops to avoid washout 	
Special considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect anaesthetised eye from dust and bacterial contamination¹ Onset of action 10–20 seconds² Duration of action 10–20 minutes lasting up to 1 hour¹ 		
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required 		
Compatibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil known 		
Incompatibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil known 		
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sulfonamides¹ 		
Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store at 2–8 °C. Protect from light¹ Preservative free, discard after single use¹ 		
Side effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nervous: stinging, local burning, keratitis and allergic conjunctivitis¹ Chronic use can damage the cornea leading to severe keratitis and corneal opacification¹ 		
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local anaesthetic 		
Abbreviations	Nil		
Keywords	amethocaine hydrochloride eye drops, eye examination, ophthalmic		

The Queensland Clinical Guideline *Neonatal Medicines* is integral to and should be read in conjunction with this monograph. Refer to the disclaimer. Destroy all printed copies of this monograph after use.

References

1. MIMS Online. Minims Amethocaine Eye Drops. [Internet]: MIMS Australia; May 2018 [cited 2018 July 12]. Available from: <https://www.mimsonline.com.au>.
2. Australian Medicines Handbook Children's Dosing Companion. Tetracaine (amethocaine). [Internet]. Adelaide: Australian Medicines Handbook Pty Ltd; January 2019 [cited 2019 May 13]. Available from: <http://amhonline.amh.net.au>.

Document history

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