

Prior Authorization DRUG Guidelines

**MESNEX (Mesna)**

Effective Date: 7/28/05

Date Developed: 7/11/05 by C. Wilhelmy MD

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Mesnex is an antidote. In blood, mesna is oxidized to dimesna which in turn is reduced in the kidney back to mesna, supplying a free thiol group which binds to and inactivates acrolein, the urotoxic metabolite of ifosfamide and cyclophosphamide. Acrolein can ~~thus~~ cause hemorrhagic cystitis during chemotherapy. Mesnex is administered to prevent this.

**Pre-Authorization Criteria:**

Preventive agent to reduce the incidence of ifosfamide-induced hemorrhagic cystitis

**Off-Label:** Prevention of cyclophosphamide-induced hemorrhagic cystitis (with high-dose cyclophosphamide); Prevention of cyclophosphamide-induced hemorrhagic cystitis in patients with rheumatic or autoimmune disorders

**NOTE:** VCHCP requires that Mesnex be prescribed by an oncologist.

**DOSING: ADULTS**

**Standard-dose ifosfamide: IV:** Each mesna dose is equal to 20% of the daily ifosfamide dose given for 3 doses: With the ifosfamide dose (hour 0), hour 4, and at hour 8 after the ifosfamide dose (total daily mesna dose is 60% of the daily ifosfamide dose).

**Oral mesna (following IV mesna; for ifosfamide doses  $\leq 2$  g/m<sup>2</sup>/day):** Mesna dose (IV) is equal to 20% of the daily ifosfamide dose at hour 0, followed by 2 mesna doses (orally), each equal to 40% of the daily ifosfamide dose given 2 and 6 hours after the ifosfamide dose (total daily mesna dose is 100% of the daily ifosfamide dose). **Note:** If the oral mesna dose is vomited within 2 hours of administration, repeat the oral mesna dose or administer IV mesna.

**NOTE:** numerous dosing regimens; refer to product literature or UpToDate

## DOSAGE FORMS

Injection, solution: 100 mg/mL (10 mL)[contains benzyl alcohol]

Tablet:400

**WARNINGS / PRECAUTIONS:** Allergic reactions have been reported; patients with autoimmune disorders may be at increased risk. Symptoms ranged from mild hypersensitivity to systemic anaphylactic reactions. Drug rash with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms and bullous/ulcerative skin and mucosal reactions consistent with Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis have been reported. I.V. formulation contains benzyl alcohol; do not use in neonates or infants.

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<b>Revision Date</b>	<b>Content Revised (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Contributors</b>	<b>Review/Revision Notes</b>
1/24/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
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2/18/25	Yes	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Updated preauthorization criteria. Added Off-Label Use and updated dosing sections