

Summary of Product Characteristics

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Niopam 150, Solution for Injection, glass bottles

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

The solution contains 30.62 % w/v Iopamidol equivalent to 150 mg iodine/ml.

Each ml contains 306.2 mg of Iopamidol.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Solution for injection.

A clear, aqueous solution.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

This medicinal product is for diagnostic use only.

X-ray contrast medium for injection, particularly in digital subtraction angiography.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Method of administration

In digital subtraction angiography:

Intraventricular

Intra-arterial

Posology

Intra arterial injection:

Adults: 1-40ml

Children: 0.5 - 0.75 ml/kg

Ventricular angiography: 1-1.5 ml/kg

The dosage must be adapted to the examination, the age, body weight, cardiac output, renal function, general condition of the patient and the technique used. Usually the same iodine concentration and volume are used with other iodinated x-ray contrast in current use.

As with all contrast media, the lowest dose necessary to obtain adequate visualisation should be used.

Non ionic contrast media have less anti coagulant activity in vitro than ionic media. Meticulous attention should therefore be paid to angiographic technique. Non ionic media should not be allowed to remain in contact with blood in the syringe and intravascular catheters should be flushed frequently, to minimise the risk of clotting, which rarely has led to serious thromboembolic complications after procedures.

Therefore, meticulous angiographic techniques are recommended including close attention to guide wire and catheter manipulation, use of manifold systems and/or three-way stopcocks, frequent catheter flushing with heparinized saline solutions, and minimizing the length of the procedure.

As experience shows that warmed contrast media are better tolerated, the contrast medium should be warmed up to body temperature before administration.

No other drugs or contrast media should be mixed with Iopamidol solution for injection.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active ingredient iopamidol or to any of the excipients.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Diagnostic procedures which involve the use of any radiopaque medium should be carried out under the direction of personnel with the prerequisite training and with a thorough knowledge of the particular procedure to be performed. Appropriate facilities should be available for coping with any complication of the procedure, as well as for emergency treatment of severe reaction to the contrast medium itself.

During the examination an intravenous route for emergency treatment in the event of a reaction is required. After the administration of the contrast medium, competent personnel, drugs and equipment for emergency resuscitation must be available for at least 30 minutes.

Caution during injection of contrast media is necessary to avoid extravasation.

Local tissue irritation can occur in the case of perivascular infiltration of the contrast media.

In patients who are known epileptics or have a history of epilepsy, anticonvulsant therapy should be maintained before and following myelography procedure. In some instances, anticonvulsant therapy may be increased for 48 hours before the examination.

Iopamidol injection should be used with caution in patients with hypercalcaemia and cerebral vascular disease. Vasospasm and subsequent cerebral ischemic phenomena may be caused by intra-arterial injections of contrast media.

The risk associated with a particular investigation may be increased by conditions such as advanced arteriosclerosis and hypertension.

The administration of iodinated contrast media may aggravate the symptoms of myasthenia gravis.

As with all other contrast media this product may provoke anaphylaxis or other manifestations of allergy with nausea, vomiting, dyspnoea, erythema, urticaria and hypotension. Occasional severe reactions with fatal outcome have been reported.

A positive history of allergy, asthma or untoward reaction during previous similar investigations indicates a need for extra caution; the benefit should clearly outweigh the risk in such patients. Pre-treatment with antihistamines or corticosteroids to prevent or minimise possible allergic reactions in such patients may be considered.

In patients with suspected or known hypersensitivity to contrast media, sensitivity testing is not recommended, as severe or fatal reactions to contrast media are not predictable from sensitivity tests.

The patient should also be informed that allergic reactions may develop up to several days after the procedure; in such case, a physician should be consulted.

The risk of bronchospasm-inducing reactions in asthmatic patients is higher after contrast media administration, especially in patients taking beta-blockers.

Patients with congestive heart failure should be observed for several hours following the procedure to detect delayed haemodynamic disturbances, which may be associated with a transitory increase in the circulating osmotic load. All other patients should be observed for at least 30 minutes after the procedure as most of the adverse events occur within this period.

In patients undergoing angiocardiographic procedures special attention should be paid to the status of the right heart and pulmonary circulation. Special care should be exercised when this product is injected into the right heart or pulmonary artery in patients with pulmonary hypertension. Right heart insufficiency and pulmonary hypertension may precipitate bradycardia and systemic hypotension, when the organic iodine solution is injected. Right heart angiography should be carried out only when absolutely indicated.

During intracardiac and/or coronary arteriography, ventricular arrhythmias may infrequently occur.

Particular care should also be exercised in patients with moderate to severe impairment of renal function (as reflected by a raised blood urea) or in diabetes. Pre-existing renal impairment may predispose to acute renal dysfunction following contrast

media administration. In patients with impairment of renal function, the administration of potentially nephrotoxic drugs should be avoided until the contrast medium is completely excreted. In such patients, renal function parameters should be monitored after the procedure. Further administration of contrast media should be postponed until renal function has returned to its previous level.

Patients with severe hepatic, renal or combined hepato-renal insufficiency should not be examined unless absolutely indicated. Re-examination should be delayed for 5-7 days.

Care should be taken in renal impairment and diabetes. In these patients it is important to maintain hydration in order to minimise deterioration in renal function.

The presence of renal damage in diabetic patients is one of the factors predisposing to renal impairment following contrast media administration. This may precipitate lactic acidosis in patients who are taking metformin (see section 4.5 - Interaction with medicaments and other forms of interaction).

Patients must be sufficiently hydrated before and after radiographic procedures. Patients with severe functional impairment of the liver or myocardium, myelomatosis, diabetes, polyuria or oliguria, hyperuricemia, infants, elderly patients and patients with severe systemic disease should not be exposed to dehydration.

Fluid intake should not be limited and any abnormalities of fluid or electrolyte balance should be corrected prior to use of this hypertonic solution.

Patients with paraproteinaemia of Waldenström, with multiple myeloma or severely compromised hepatic and renal impairment are also more at risk in these cases adequate hydration is recommended after contrast medium administration.

To prevent crises in patients with sickle cell disease adequate hydration should be assured and a minimal volume of low concentration should be used.

Caution should be exercised in performing iodinated contrast-enhanced examinations in patients with, or with suspicion of, hyperthyroidism or autonomously functioning thyroid nodule(s), as thyroid storms have been reported following administration of iodinated contrast media.

Niopam should be used with caution in patients with hyperthyroidism. It is possible that hyperthyroidism may recur in patients previously treated for Graves' disease. In patients with hyperthyroidism, the radiological examination should be performed only if thought necessary by the physician.

In patients scheduled for thyroid examination and/or treatment with a radioactive iodine tracer, iodine uptake in the thyroid gland will be reduced for several days, sometimes up to 2 weeks after dosing with an iodinated contrast medium that is eliminated through the kidneys.

Patients with pheochromocytoma can develop severe hypertensive crises following intravascular iopamidol administration. Premedication with α -receptor blockers is recommended.

Contrast induced encephalopathy

Encephalopathy has been reported with the use of iopamidol (see section 4.8). This may manifest with symptoms and signs of neurological dysfunction such as headache, visual disturbance, cortical blindness, confusion, seizures, loss of coordination, hemiparesis, aphasia, unconsciousness, coma and cerebral oedema within minutes to hours after administration and generally resolves within days. Factors which increase blood-brain barrier permeability will ease the transfer of contrast media to brain tissue and may lead to possible CNS reactions, for instance encephalopathy. If contrast encephalopathy is suspected, iopamidol should not be re-administered and appropriate medical management should be initiated.

In angiographic procedures, the possibility of dislodging plaque or damaging or perforating the vessel wall should be considered during catheter manipulation and contrast medium injection. Test injections to ensure proper catheter placement are recommended.

In examinations of the aortic arch, the tip of the catheter should be positioned carefully to avoid hypotension, bradycardia and CNS injury due to excess pressure transmitted from the injector pump to the brachiocephalic branches of the aorta. Angiography should be avoided whenever possible in patients with homocystinuria due to an increased risk of thrombosis and embolism.

In patients undergoing peripheral angiography, there should be pulsation in the artery into which the X-ray contrast medium will be injected. In patients with thromboangiitis obliterans or ascending infections in combination with serious ischaemia the angiography should be performed, if at all, with special caution.

In patients undergoing venography, special caution should be exercised in patients with suspected phlebitis, serious ischaemia, local infections, or a complete venous occlusion.

Iopamidol should be administered with caution in patients with symptomatic cerebrovascular diseases, recent stroke, or frequent TIA, altered permeability of the blood-brain barrier, increased intracranial pressure, suspicion of intracranial tumor, abscess or hematoma/hemorrhage, history of convulsive disorder, alcoholism.

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), toxic epidermal necrolysis (Lyell's syndrome or TEN) and acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP), which can be life threatening, have been reported in patients administered Niopam (see section 4.8, undesirable effects). At the time of initiation, patients should be advised of the signs and symptoms and monitored closely for severe skin reactions. If signs and symptoms suggestive of these reactions appear, further use of Niopam should be withheld. If the patient has developed a severe cutaneous adverse reaction with the use of Niopam, Niopam must not be re-administered in this patient at any time.

Use in Special Populations

Newborns, children

Infants (age < 1 year), and especially newborns are particularly susceptible to electrolyte imbalances and haemodynamic alterations. Care should be taken regarding the dosage to be used, the details of the procedure, and the patient's status. Great caution should be paid when injecting the contrast medium into the heart chambers, especially in cyanotic neonates with pulmonary hypertension and impaired cardiac function.

Transient thyroid suppression or hypothyroidism has been observed in children after exposure to iodinated contrast media. Following a diagnostic procedure, this has been more frequently observed in neonates and premature infants and also following procedures associated with higher doses. Neonates may also be exposed via maternal exposure. In neonates, especially preterm infants, who have been exposed to iopamidol, either through the mother during pregnancy or in the neonatal period, it is recommended to monitor thyroid function. If hypothyroidism is detected, the need for treatment should be considered and thyroid function should be monitored until normalised.

Elderly

The elderly are at special risk of reactions due to reduced physiological functions, especially when high dosage of contrast medium is used. Myocardial ischemia, major arrhythmias and premature ventricular complexes are more likely to occur in these patients. The probability of acute renal insufficiency is higher in these patients.

Women of child-bearing potential

Appropriate investigations and measures should be taken when exposing women of child-bearing potential to any X-ray examination, whether with or without contrast medium.

X-ray examination of women should if possible be conducted during the pre-ovulation phase of the menstrual cycle and should be avoided during pregnancy; also since it has not been demonstrated that Niopam is safe for use in pregnant women, it should be administered only if the procedure is considered essential by the physician.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interactions

To prevent onset of lactic acidosis in diabetic patients under treatment with oral anti-diabetic agents of the biguanide class and with moderate renal impairment undergoing elective procedures, biguanides should be stopped 48 hours prior to the administration of the contrast medium and re-instated only after 48 hours if serum creatinine is unchanged. (See section 4.4 Special warnings and precautions).

In emergency patients in whom renal function is either impaired or unknown, the physician shall weigh out risk and benefit of an examination with a contrast medium. Metformin should be stopped from the time of contrast medium administration. After the procedure, the patient should be monitored for signs of lactic acidosis. Metformin should be restarted 48 hours after contrast medium if serum creatinine/eGFR is unchanged from the pre-imaging level.

Patients with normal renal function can continue to take Metformin normally.

Cardiac and/or hypertensive patients under treatment with diuretics, ACE-inhibitors, and/or beta-blocking agents are at higher risk of adverse reactions when administered iodinated contrast media.

Beta-blockers may impair the response to treatment of bronchospasm induced by contrast medium.

Arterial thrombosis has been reported when iopamidol was given following papaverine.

The administration of vasopressors strongly potentiates the neurological effects of intra-arterial contrast media.

Contrast media may interfere with laboratory tests for bilirubin, proteins or inorganic substances (e.g. iron, copper, calcium, and phosphate). These substances should not be assayed during the same day following the administration of contrast media.

In patients receiving beta-blockers there is an elevated risk of more severe anaphylactoid reactions. Following administration of iopamidol, the capacity of the thyroid tissue to take up iodine is reduced for 2-6 weeks.

Use of the product may interfere with tests for thyroid function.

Following administration of iopamidol atypical adverse reactions e.g. erythema, fever and flu symptoms have been reported in patients treated with interleukin-2.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

The safety of iopamidol injection during pregnancy has not been established. Since radiation exposure during pregnancy should be avoided anyway, regardless of whether a contrast agent is used or not, the benefit of X-ray examination has to be considered carefully. Apart from radiation exposure of the foetus, benefit-risk consideration for iodine-containing contrast agents should also take into account the sensitivity of the foetal thyroid towards iodine (see section 4.4).

Iodine-containing X-ray contrast agents are excreted into the breast milk in low amounts. From animal experience, Niopam is non toxic in animals after oral administration. From experience gained so far, harm to the nursing infant is unlikely to occur. Stopping breastfeeding is unnecessary.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

There is no known effect on the ability to drive and operate machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Side effects are usually mild to moderate and transient in nature; however, rare severe and life-threatening reactions, sometimes leading to death, have been reported.

Following intravascular administration, in most cases reactions occur within minutes of dosage. However, delayed reactions, usually involving skin, may occur, mostly within 2-3 days, more rarely within 7 days, after the administration of the contrast medium.

Severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) have been reported in association with Niopam administration (see section 4.4).

After intrathecal administration, most side effects occur with a delay of some hours due to the slow absorption from the site of administration and distribution to the whole body. Reactions usually occur within 24 hours after injection.

4.8.1. Intravascular administration

Adult subjects

System Organ Class	Adverse Reactions			
	Clinical Trials			Post-marketing Surveillance
	Common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$)	Uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$)	Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$)	Frequency unknown
Blood and lymphatic system disorders				Thrombocytopenia
Immune system disorders				Anaphylaxis, Anaphylactoid reaction

Psychiatric disorders			Confusional state	
Nervous system disorders	Headache	Dizziness, Taste alteration	Paraesthesia	Coma, Transient ischaemic attack, Syncope, Depressed level of consciousness or loss of consciousness, Convulsion, Hemiplegia, <u>Contrast induced encephalopathy**</u>
Eye disorders				Blindness transient, Visual disturbance, Conjunctivitis, Photophobia
Cardiac disorders		Cardiac dysrhythmias such as extrasystoles, atrial fibrillation, ventricular tachycardia and ventricular fibrillation*	Bradycardia	Myocardial ischaemia or infarction, Cardiac failure, Cardio-respiratory arrest, Tachycardia, Kounis syndrome
Vascular disorders		Hypotension, Hypertension, Flushing		Circulatory collapse or shock
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			Pulmonary oedema, Asthma, Bronchospasm	Respiratory arrest, Respiratory failure, Acute respiratory distress syndrome, Respiratory distress, Apnoea, Laryngeal oedema, Dyspnoea
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea	Vomiting, Diarrhea, Abdominal pain, Dry mouth		Salivary hypersecretion, Salivary gland enlargement
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders		Rash, Urticaria, Pruritus, Erythema, Sweating increased		Face oedema, Acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders		Back pain	Muscle spasms	Musculoskeletal pain, Muscular weakness
Renal and urinary disorders		Acute renal failure		
General disorders and administration site conditions	Feeling hot	Chest pain, Injection site pain, Pyrexia, Feeling cold		Rigors, Pain, Malaise
Investigations		Blood creatinine increased		Electrocardiogram change including ST segment depression

* Cardiac dysrhythmias may occur mostly after cardiac angiographic and coronary catheterization procedures

**Contrast induced encephalopathy may manifest with symptoms and signs described in section 4.4

Coronary artery thrombosis has been reported as a complication of coronary catheterization procedures. Other cardiac reactions which may occur as a consequence of the procedural hazard include coronary artery dissection.

Anaphylaxis (anaphylactoid reactions/hypersensitivity) may manifest with: mild localized or more diffuse angioneurotic oedema, tongue oedema, laryngospasm or laryngeal oedema, dysphagia, pharyngitis and throat tightness, pharyngolaryngeal pain, cough, conjunctivitis, rhinitis, sneezing, feeling hot, sweating increased, asthenia, dizziness, pallor, dyspnoea, wheezing, bronchospasm, and moderate hypotension. Skin reactions may occur in the form of various types of rash, diffuse erythema, diffuse blisters, urticaria, and pruritus. These reactions, which occur irrespective of the dose administered and the route of administration, may represent the first signs of incipient state of shock. Administration of the contrast medium must be discontinued immediately and – if necessary – specific treatment initiated via a venous access.

More severe reactions involving the cardiovascular system such as vasodilatation with pronounced hypotension, tachycardia, dyspnoea, agitation, cyanosis and loss of consciousness progressing to respiratory and/or cardiac arrest may result in death. These events can occur rapidly and require full and aggressive cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

Primary circulatory collapse can occur as the only and/or initial presentation without respiratory symptoms or without other signs or symptoms outlined above.

Injection site pain and swelling may occur. On very rare occasions extravasation of contrast medium led to inflammation (manifested with local erythema, oedema and blisters), skin necrosis and compartment syndrome.

As with other iodinated contrast media, very rare cases of mucocutaneous syndromes, including Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis (Lyell syndrome) and erythema multiforme, have been reported following the administration of Iopamidol.

Paediatric patients

The Iopamidol safety profile is similar in children and adults.

Cases of transient neonatal hypothyroidism have been reported with Iopamidol in very low birth weight infants.

4.8.2. Use in body cavities

The majority of the reactions occur some hours after the contrast administration due to the slow absorption from the area of administration and distribution in the whole organism.

Blood amylase increased is common following ERCP. Very rare cases of pancreatitis have been described.

The reactions reported in cases of arthrography and fistulography usually represent irritative manifestations superimposed on existing tissue inflammation.

Systemic hypersensitivity is rare, generally mild and in the form of skin reactions. However, the possibility of severe anaphylactoid reactions cannot be excluded.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via HPRA Pharmacovigilance, Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2; Tel: +353 1 6764971 ; Fax: +353 1 6762517 .

Website: www.hpra.ie; E-mail: medsafety@hpra.ie.

4.9 Overdose

Dosages exceeding the specific package insert dose are not recommended, as they might lead to life-threatening adverse effects.

If needed, hemodialysis can be used to eliminate Iopamidol from the body.

Treatment of overdose is directed toward the support of all vital functions and prompt institution of symptomatic therapy.

Intravascular

In the event of accidental intravascular overdose in humans, the water and electrolyte losses must be compensated by infusion. Renal function should be monitored for at least three days.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Iopamidol is contrast medium belonging to the new generation of non-ionic compound whose solubility is due to the presence of hydrophilic substitutes in the molecule. This results in a solution of low osmolality when compared with ionic media.

Iopamidol has been shown to be effective as an X-ray contrast medium in neuroradiology, angiography, venography, arthrography, urography, cerebral angiography and left ventriculography and coronary arteriography. Its toxicity particularly cardiac and CNS toxicity are less than those of ionic contrast media.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

The pharmacokinetics of iopamidol conform to an open two compartment pharmacokinetic model with first order elimination.

Distribution volume is equivalent to extracellular fluid.

Elimination is almost completely through the kidneys. Less than 1% of the administered dose has been recovered in the faeces up to 72 hours after dosing. Elimination is rapid; up to half the administered dose may be recovered in the urine in the first two hours of dosing.

There is no evidence of biotransformation.

Serum protein binding is negligible.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

No adverse effects can be predicted from animal toxicology studies other than those documented from human use of iopamidol.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Trometamol

Sodium calcium edetate

Hydrochloric acid (for pH adjustment)

Water for Injections

6.2 Incompatibilities

In the absence of compatibility studies this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

6.3 Shelf life

5 years.

In use shelf life: Once opened use immediately.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

Colourless Ph. Eur. Type I or Type II glass bottles with rubber closure and aluminium cap.

Contains 30ml, 50ml, 100ml and 200ml of solution.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal of a used medicinal product or waste materials derived from such medicinal product and other handling of the product

Discard if the solution is not clear of particulate matter.

Exceptionally, the event of crystallisation of Niopam could occur. It has been shown that such a phenomenon is caused by a damaged or defective container and therefore the product should not be used in this case.

The bottle, once opened, must be used immediately. Any residue of contrast medium must be discarded.

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

Niopam, as other iodinated contrast media, can react with metallic surfaces containing copper (e.g. brass). Therefore the use of equipment in which the product comes into direct contact with surfaces, should be avoided.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Bracco Imaging spa
via Egidio Folli 50
20134 Milan
Italy

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

PA1826/004/001

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 19 November 1986

Date of last renewal: 07 March 2008

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

May 2021