### Alert
Use in consultation with a Paediatric Cardiologist.
Contraindicated in infants with reduced myocardial contractility.
Use caution in patients with congenital heart disease—increased potential for proarrhythmic effects.
Intravenous flecainide needs close cardiorespiratory monitoring due to the potential for an acute deterioration.

### Indication
Treatment of paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia, paroxysmal atrial fibrillation/flutter and life-threatening ventricular dysrhythmias as a second-line agent where tachycardia has been resistant to first-line agents.

### Action
Flecainide causes a decrease in intracardiac conduction for all parts of the heart, with the greatest effect in the His-Purkinje system. It acts by blocking fast sodium channels. As a type IC agent, it slows cardiac conduction and decreases contractility.

### Drug Type
Type IC antiarrhythmic.

### Trade Name
Flecainide Sandoz Tablets; Flecatab Tablets; Tambocor solution for injection, Tambocor Tablets

### Presentation
- Intravenous: 10 mg/mL (15 mL) injection.
- Oral: Flecainide 20 mg/mL suspension compounded by pharmacy. 50 mg, 100 mg tablets.

### Dosage/Interval
- Oral: Start at 1 mg/kg/dose 8 or 12 hourly. Increase by 1 mg/kg/dose as necessary to achieve maintenance of sinus rhythm up to maximum dose.
- Intravenous: 2 mg/kg over at least 10 minutes.

### Route
Oral [preferred route] or intravenous.

### Maximum Daily Dose
8 mg/kg/day.

### Preparation/Dilution
Draw up 10 mg (1 mL) and make up to 10 mL with glucose 5% to make a final volume of 10mL with a concentration of 1mg/mL. It can also be administered undiluted.

### Administration
- Intravenous: IV infusion over at least 10 minutes. IV flecainide needs to be monitored very closely with the potential for an acute deterioration.

### Monitoring
Initiate treatment in hospital with ECG monitoring in consultation with paediatric cardiologist.
When intravenous route used, continuous ECG monitoring is mandatory.
Perform ECG when the dosage is increased – monitor QRS duration and dysrhythmia.
Therapeutic trough concentrations are not routinely required (200–1000 microgram/L).

### Contraindications
- Cardiogenic shock.
- Hypersensitivity to flecainide.
- Significant renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 50 mL/min).
- Reduced left ventricular ejection fraction.

### Precautions
Use with caution in patients with congenital heart disease or conduction system disease (right bundle branch block, with left hemiblock and without pacemaker; second- or third-degree atrioventricular block, without pacemaker; sick sinus.
Flecainide

### Drug Interactions
Drugs prolonging QT interval (cisapride, amiodarone, clarithromycin, chloral hydrate, ciprofloxacin, erythromycin, octreotide, sodium phosphate, vasopressin, ketoconazole, fluconazole, hydrochlorothiazide, azithromycin, propranolol, digoxin, verapamil).

### Adverse Reactions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compartment</th>
<th>Reactions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults:</td>
<td>Common: Palpitations (6.1%); Gastrointestinal: Nausea (up to 10%); Neurological: Dizziness (18.9% to 30%), Headache (4.5% to 9.6%); Ophthalmological: Blurred vision (10% to 38%), Photopsia (up to 30%); Respiratory: Dyspnoea (up to 10.3%); Other: Fatigue (7.7%).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Serious: Cardiac arrest, cardiac dysrhythmia, cardiogenic shock, disorder of pacing function, electrocardiogram abnormalities, heart block, heart failure (new onset or worsening [up to 25.7%]), prolonged QT interval, sinus node dysfunction (1% to less than 3% ), syncope (1% to less than 3% ), torsades de pointes, ventricular fibrillation, ventricular tachycardia.</td>
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<td>Children:</td>
<td>Dizziness, blurred vision and headache have been reported in children.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Compatibility
5% glucose

### Incompatibility
Incompatible with alkaline and chloride-containing solutions.

### Stability
Diluted solution stable for 24 hours at 25°C. Oral suspension compounded by Pharmacy stable for up to 60 days.

### Storage
Ampoules. Store below 30°C. Protect from light. Tablets. Store below 30°C. Compounded suspension: Store at room temperature.

### Special Comments
Refer to full version

### Evidence summary
Refer to full version

### References
Refer to full version

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**Original version Date:** 02/03/2017  
**Author:** Neonatal Medicines Formulary Consensus Group  
**Current Version number:** 1.0  
**Version Date:** 02/03/2017  
**Risk Rating:** Medium  
**Due for Review:** 28/03/2020  
**Approval by:** JHCHCQ&PCC  
**Approval Date:** 28/03/2017

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