

Lidocaine Adverse Effects

Adverse Effects

COMMON

- Cardiovascular: bradyarrhythmia, hypotension (3%), postural light headedness
- Dermatologic: injection site pain
- Gastrointestinal: vomiting; diarrhoea
- Musculoskeletal: back pain (3%)
- Neurologic: dizziness, headache (3%), light headedness, perioral numbness, paraesthesia, shivering (2%), somnolence, tinnitus
- Ophthalmic: blurred vision, diplopia
- Psychiatric: apprehension, confusion, euphoria, nervousness

SERIOUS

- Cardiovascular: cardiac arrest, cardiac dysrhythmia, heart block
- Hematologic: Methaemoglobinaemia
- Neurologic: loss of consciousness, seizure, tremor

Overdose

- Toxicity is dose (and plasma concentration) related and may manifest as central nervous stimulation or cardiac arrhythmias.
- Lidocaine given as a continuous **subcutaneous infusion**, generally results in **stable blood levels (plasma concentration)**.
- If the dose does not exceed 2 mg/kg/hour, lidocaine plasma concentration is generally less than 3 microg/mL, and toxicity rarely develops. Side effects are dose dependant, predictable, and easily reversed by stopping or slowing the infusion (2). Plasma levels do not need to be measured – monitor for signs of toxicity.

Please see SVHM Subcutaneous Lidocaine for Neuropathic Pain Policy for more information

[http://intranet/Policies/Medication%20Administration%20Policies/Lidocaine\(Lignocaine\)SubCutForNeuropathicPain.pdf](http://intranet/Policies/Medication%20Administration%20Policies/Lidocaine(Lignocaine)SubCutForNeuropathicPain.pdf)