

NAME OF THE MEDICINE

PHOSPHO[®]-SODA

Monobasic sodium phosphate dihydrate:

Molecular formula NaH₂PO₄, 2H₂O, MW 156.0, CAS: 13472-35-0

Dibasic sodium phosphate dodecahydrate:

Molecular formula Na₂HPO₄, 12H₂O, MW 358.1, CAS: 10039-32-4

WARNING:

Life threatening dehydration and/or electrolyte disturbances may occur in 'at risk' groups – see CONTRAINDICATIONS & PRECAUTIONS.

DESCRIPTION

PHOSPHO-SODA is a clear, colourless, ginger-lemon odour and flavour solution.

Active Ingredients: 18.8 g monobasic sodium phosphate (as 24.4 g monobasic sodium phosphate dihydrate) and 4.3 g dibasic sodium phosphate (as 10.8 g dibasic sodium phosphate dodecahydrate).

Inactive: water-purified, glycerol, saccharin sodium, sodium benzoate, ginger lemon extract 5741 – 5G.

PHOSPHO-SODA has a sodium content of 5 g per 45 mL (11.11% w/v).

PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacodynamics

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Osmotically acting laxative, ATC code: A06AD17

PHOSPHO-SODA is a saline mixture which acts by osmotic processes to increase fluid retention in the lumen of the small intestine. Fluid retention in the ileum produces distension, in turn promoting peristalsis and evacuation. It has a purgative effect. Individual responses vary. It usually acts shortly after 30 minutes but may take as long as 6 hours. If there has been no bowel movement within 6 hours of taking PHOSPHO-SODA, instruct the patient to stop use and contact a doctor immediately as dehydration could occur.

Pharmacokinetics

Not applicable.

INDICATIONS

For use as part of a bowel cleansing regimen in preparing the patient for surgery or for preparing the colon for x-ray or endoscopic examination.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Administration of PHOSPHO-SODA is contraindicated in children under 12 years of age (particularly at risk of dehydration), in patients who have demonstrated hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients listed in the **DESCRIPTION** section, patients

with faecal impaction, paralytic ileus, known or suspected bowel obstruction, when nausea, vomiting or abdominal pain are present, active inflammatory bowel disease, ileus, hypomotility, bowel perforation, Hirschsprung's disease (congenital megacolon), megacolon (acquired), imperforate anus, primary hyperparathyroidism associated with hypercalcaemia, congestive heart failure, ascitic conditions, clinically significant impairment of renal function and potentially pre-existing fluid/electrolyte disturbances, and patients at risk of dehydration due to altered senses and/or poor fluid intake.

PRECAUTIONS

Dehydration

This product usually works within ½ to 6 hours. If there has been no bowel movement within 6 hours of taking PHOSPHO-SODA, instruct the patient to stop use and contact a doctor immediately as dehydration could occur.

Patients should be warned to expect frequent, liquid stools. Patients should be encouraged to drink as much liquid as possible to help prevent dehydration. Inadequate fluid intake when using any effective purgative may lead to excessive fluid loss possibly producing dehydration and hypovolemia. Dehydration and hypovolemia from purgation may be exacerbated by inadequate oral fluid intake, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, or use of diuretics, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE-Is), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and may be associated with acute renal failure. There have been rare reports of acute renal failure with purgatives, including sodium phosphates and PEG-3350.

Patients with conditions that may predispose to dehydration or those taking medications which may decrease glomerular filtration rate, such as diuretics, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE-Is), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) should be assessed for hydration status prior to use of purgative preparations and managed appropriately.

Nephrocalcinosis

Nephrocalcinosis associated with acute renal failure and deposits of calcium-phosphate crystals in the renal tubules has been rarely reported in patients using sodium phosphates for bowel cleansing. Nephrocalcinosis is a serious adverse event that may result in permanent renal function impairment and the requirement of long-term dialysis. The majority of these reports occurred in elderly female patients taking drugs to treat hypertension or other drug products, such as diuretics or NSAIDs, that may result in dehydration.

Care should be taken to prescribe PHOSPHO-SODA per recommendations with a particular attention to known contraindications and adequate hydration.

At risk patients

PHOSPHO-SODA, which contains 4.82 mEq sodium and 12.45 mEq phosphate per mL, should be used with **extreme caution**, in the elderly, the frail or debilitated, patients with colostomy and patients on a low salt diet, as they are particularly at risk. These patients should receive additional fluids by mouth, both prior to, and after administration of PHOSPHO-SODA, to ensure that dehydration does not occur. Close attention should be paid to their hydration status and their electrolyte levels (particularly potassium, calcium and

phosphorus) should be monitored. Patients undergoing major bowel procedures, who are on nil by mouth for significant periods of time, should have their electrolytes monitored and receive intravenous fluids containing potassium and calcium, prior to surgery.

Use with caution in patients with an increased risk for underlying renal impairment, pre-existing electrolyte disturbances, increased risk for electrolyte disturbances (e.g. dehydration, gastric retention, colitis, inability to take adequate oral fluid, hypertension or other conditions in which the patients are taking products that may result in dehydration, see below), hypotension with clinical impact or associated with hypovolaemia, heart disease, acute myocardial infarction or unstable angina. In these at-risk patients, consider obtaining baseline and post-treatment sodium, potassium, calcium, chloride, bicarbonate, phosphate, blood urea nitrogen and creatinine values.

Use with caution in patients taking diuretics and in patients using medicines known to prolong the QT interval.

Concurrent administration of polyethylene glycol bowel cleansing preparations and PHOSPHO-SODA may be dangerous and is not recommended (see **ADVERSE EFFECTS**).

Patients should be advised not to use PHOSPHO-SODA when nausea, vomiting or abdominal pain are present, unless directed by a physician.

Use in diabetics

Adjustments of a diabetic patient's insulin or oral anti-diabetic medication may be necessary as the liquid diet during the period of administration and prior to bowel surgery, x-ray of the colon or colonoscopy may affect the diabetic patient's glucose blood levels.

Hypomotility

Use with caution in patients with hypomotility disorders or who have had gastro-intestinal surgery or have other medical conditions predisposing them to hypomotility disorders. If the patient has had a colostomy or ileostomy, or must keep to a salt-free diet, the preparation must be used with caution, since a disturbance of electrolyte balance, dehydration or a disturbance of acid balance may arise.

Electrolyte disorders

There is a risk of elevated serum levels of sodium and phosphate and decreased levels of calcium and potassium; consequently hypernatraemia, hyperphosphataemia, hypocalcaemia, hypokalaemia, and acidosis may occur.

Slight QT interval prolongation may rarely occur as a result of electrolyte imbalances such as hypocalcaemia or hypokalaemia. These changes are clinically insignificant.

Lesions

Single or multiple aphthoid-like punctiform lesions located in the rectosigmoid region have been observed by endoscopy. These were either lymphoid follicles or discrete inflammatory infiltrates or epithelial congestions/changes revealed by the colonic preparation. These abnormalities are not clinically significant and disappear spontaneously without any treatment.

Sodium content

PHOSPHO-SODA contains 5.0 g sodium in each 45 mL dose. Consideration should therefore be given to the potential harm to patients requiring a low-sodium diet.

Effects on fertility

No animal studies on reproduction toxicity have been conducted with PHOSPHO-SODA.

Use in pregnancy

For PHOSPHO-SODA, no clinical data on exposed pregnancies and no data from animal studies with respect to effects on pregnancy, embryonal/fetal development, parturition and postnatal development are available. The potential risk for humans is unknown.

Because of potential harm to the foetus from phosphate absorbed across the placenta, the use of this product is not recommended in pregnant women unless clearly necessary and the probable clinical benefit outweighs the possible risk.

Use in lactation

Because of potential harm to the infant from phosphate excreted in breast milk, the use of this product is not recommended in nursing mothers unless the probable clinical benefit outweighs the possible risk.

Paediatric use

Safety and efficacy of PHOSPHO-SODA have not been demonstrated for patients less than 12 years of age.

Effects on ability to drive and use machines

PHOSPHO-SODA may cause dizziness, probably as a result of dehydration.

PHOSPHO-SODA has minor to moderate influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINES

Use with caution in patients taking calcium channel blockers, diuretics, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE-Is), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), and lithium preparations or other medication that might affect electrolyte levels, as hyperphosphataemia, hypocalcaemia, hypernatraemic dehydration and acidosis may occur.

Concurrent administration of polyethylene glycol bowel cleansing preparations and PHOSPHO-SODA may be dangerous and is not recommended (see **ADVERSE EFFECTS**).

During the intake of PHOSPHO-SODA the absorption of drugs from the gastrointestinal tract may be delayed or even completely prevented. The efficacy of regularly taken oral drugs (e.g. oral contraceptives, antiepileptic drugs, antidiabetics, antibiotics) may be reduced or completely absent. Caution is also advised when taking medicines known to prolong the QT interval.

Use with caution in patients who are taking parathyroid hormone medications.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

Oral sodium phosphate products can cause dehydration (between 1 and 4 L fluid loss), hyperphosphataemia, hypocalcaemia, other electrolyte abnormalities and associated complications.

Severe adverse reactions (serious serum electrolyte disturbances and hypokalaemia) and fatalities have been reported in patients who belonged to the ‘at risk’ groups (the elderly, the frail, those with renal impairment and cardiac failure), patients with known contraindications (including children under 12 years) and concurrent administration with polyethylene glycol bowel cleansing preparation.

Transient hyperphosphataemia, some degree of hypovolaemia and significant differences in serum electrolyte levels have been noted in clinical trials. In healthy and fit patients these have returned to initial pre-treatment levels within 24 hours.

In addition, there have been occasional reports of nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, bloating, fatigue, anal irritation, allergic reactions with or without rash, hunger and sleep loss.

The following adverse reactions were reported with frequencies corresponding to: Very common ($\geq 1/10$), Common ($\geq 1/100$, $< 1/10$), Uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$, $< 1/100$), Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$, $< 1/1,000$), Very rare ($\leq 1/10,000$).

MeDRA System Organ Class (SOC)	Very common ($\geq 1/10$)	Common ($\geq 1/100$, $< 1/10$)	Uncommon ($\geq 1/1000$, $< 1/100$)	Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$, $< 1/1,000$)	Very rare ($\leq 1/10,000$)
Immune system disorders					Hypersensitivity
Metabolism and nutrition disorders			Dehydration		Hyperphosphataemia, Hypocalcaemia, Hypokalaemia, Hyponatraemia, Metabolic acidosis, Tetany
Nervous system disorders	Dizziness	Headache			Loss of consciousness, Paraesthesia
Cardiac Disorders					Myocardial infarction, Arrhythmia
Vascular disorders					Hypotension
Gastrointestinal disorders	Diarrhoea, Abdominal pain, Abdominal distension, Nausea	Vomiting, Colonoscopy abnormal*			
Skin and subcutaneous disorders					Dermatitis allergic

Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders					Muscle cramp
Renal and urinary disorders				Nephrocalcinosis	Renal failure acute, Renal failure chronic
General disorders and administration site conditions	Chills, Asthenia	Chest pain			

* Single or multiple aphthoid-like punctiform lesions located in the rectosigmoid region that are not clinically significant and disappear spontaneously without any treatment.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the **PRECAUTIONS** and **CONTRAINDICATIONS** sections of this product information.

For use as part of a bowel cleansing regimen in preparing the patient for surgery or for preparing the colon for x-ray or endoscopic examination.

This product normally produces a bowel movement within ½ to 6 hours. Patients should be warned to expect frequent liquid stools.

PHOSPHO-SODA should not be taken by children under 12 years of age.

Adults and children 12 years of age & over:

The recommended dosage for adults and children 12 years of age & over is 45 mL (one full bottle) and repeated 10 to 12 hours later. The intake of clear liquids is an essential part of this regimen.

Please note that for:

- Early morning procedures, on the day before the procedure, the patient should only take clear liquids (see below) for breakfast, lunch and dinner and between doses. *No solid food, milk or milk products should be taken on the day before the procedure. Please note that the patient should not drink anything coloured red or purple.*
- Mid-morning (or later) procedures, on the day before the procedure, the patient may have a light snack for lunch. After this time, patient should only take clear liquids (see below). *No solid food, milk or milk products should be taken after lunch on the day before the procedure. Please note that the patient should not drink anything coloured red or purple.*

Depending on whether the medical procedure is intended to be performed at early morning, mid-morning or later, two alternative dosage regimens are set out below:

Early morning procedure:

The first dose is taken at 7a.m. on the day before the procedure. The second dose is taken at 7p.m. on the evening before the procedure.

Mid-morning (or later) procedure:

The first dose is taken at 7p.m. on the evening before the procedure. The second dose is taken at 7a.m. (or at least 3 hours before leaving for the appointment) on the morning of the procedure.

First dose:

To be taken as follows:

- Mix 15 mL (one third of the bottle) of PHOSPHO-SODA into a full glass (approximately 250 mL) of clear liquids (see list below) and drink.

Repeat two more times within the next 20 minutes.

Between Doses:

Between the first and second doses, the patient should drink at least three more glasses (approximately 250 mL each) of *clear liquids or more if desired* to prevent dehydration and to ensure that their bowel remains easily examinable for the procedure.

Second Dose:

The second dose is taken as follows:

- Mix 15 mL (one third of the bottle) of PHOSPHO-SODA into a full glass (approximately 250 mL) of clear liquid (see list below) and drink.

Repeat two more times within the next 20 minutes.

After the procedure:

In order to replace fluid lost during the preparation for the procedure patients should be encouraged to drink plenty of fluid afterwards

Important:

- PHOSPHO-SODA must be diluted with water before use (see the instructions above).
- The intake of clear liquid is an essential part of this regimen. Please refer to clear liquids list below.

Clear Liquids list:

Beverages

- Water, tea or coffee (no milk or non dairy creamer). Sweeteners are acceptable.
- Carbonated or non carbonated soft drinks (not coloured red or purple)
- Fruit flavoured cordials (not coloured red or purple)
- Strained fruit juices without pulp
- Do not drink any alcoholic beverages

Soups

- Strained low sodium chicken or beef soup without solid material.

OVERDOSAGE

If overdose occurs, for advice contact a Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia) or 0800 764 766 (New Zealand).

There have been fatal cases of hyperphosphataemia with concomitant hypocalcaemia, hypernatraemia and acidosis when PHOSPHO-SODA has been used in excessive doses, given to children or to obstructed patients.

Patients experiencing overdose have presented the following symptoms: dehydration, hypotension, tachycardia, bradycardia, tachypnoea, cardiac arrest, shock, respiratory failure, dyspnoea, convulsions, ileus paralytic, anxiety, and pain. Overdoses can lead to elevated serum levels of sodium and phosphate and decreased levels of calcium and potassium. In those cases, hypernatremia, hyperphosphatemia, hypocalcaemia, hypokalaemia, and acidosis may occur.

There are also documented cases of complete recovery from overdoses in both children accidentally given PHOSPHO-SODA, and also in patients with obstruction, one of whom received a six-fold overdose.

Recovery from the toxic effects of accidental excess ingestion can normally be achieved by rehydration, although the intravenous administration of 10% calcium gluconate may be necessary if there is significant hypocalcaemia or tetany has occurred.

PRESENTATION AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

PHOSPHO-SODA is available in a carton containing 1x45 mL polyethylene bottle. Each bottle (45 mL) contains 18.8 g monobasic sodium phosphate (as 24.4 g monobasic sodium phosphate dihydrate) and 4.3 g dibasic sodium phosphate (as 10.8 g dibasic sodium phosphate dodecahydrate).

Store below 30°C.

Once opened, use immediately. Discard any unused portion.

NAME AND ADDRESS THE SPONSOR

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POISONS SCHEDULE OF THE MEDICINE

Pharmacist Only Medicine (S3)

DATE OF FIRST INCLUSION IN THE AUSTRALIAN REGISTER OF THERAPEUTIC GOODS (THE ARTG)

13 December 2016

DATE OF MOST RECENT AMENDMENT

N/A

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