Pain Service

Lidocaine Infusion

Why am I having this injection?

Your Consultant has requested this medication for its beneficial effects in reducing pain. It is used as a therapy for patients with complex regional pain syndrome, neuropathic pain or chronic pain that does not respond well to other treatments.

What is Lidocaine?

Lidocaine is a medication belonging to a group of drugs called local anaesthetics. The medicine is delivered by an intravenous (IV) infusion. It works by blocking pain receptors in the brain and spinal cord to reduce your pain. Lidocaine is given "off licence" meaning it is used outside its prescribed terms of use. However, this medication is widely used in pain practice and with close supervision upon administration can have beneficial results in reducing pain.

Before you have the injection:

Important

If you are prescribed Lidocaine (Versatis) plasters please **remove the plaster 12 hours before** attending Clinic.

Please inform the clinic if:

- You have had any allergies or had a previous reaction to an anaesthetic
- You are/ may be pregnant
- You are taking any medications to thin your blood.
- You have a latex allergy
- Your medical condition has changed since you last saw the Consultant
- You suffer from epilepsy and you have had a seizure within the last 6 months
- You suffer from diabetes
- If you have a cold or temperature.
- You are a wheelchair user and you might need any help getting out of it
- You are hard of hearing/deaf
- You are partially sighted/registered blind
- You need an interpreter
- You are very nervous about needles, hospitals or medical staff

There is no need to fast for this procedure, please wear comfortable clothes as you will need to sit in a chair during the time the infusion is given.

How will this injection be given?

The infusion will take place in the Pain Clinic. A doctor will see you before the injection to explain the procedure, including possible complications and side effects. The doctor will also answer any questions you may have.

An intravenous (IV) cannula (plastic tube) will be placed in a vein in your arm before the procedure. You will be given the Lidocaine in the form of an infusion which will run for approximately 90 minutes.

A full list of side effects/complications is provided in this leaflet. However, if you experience any dizziness, numbness around the mouth or a metallic taste, chest pain, flushing, restlessness or nausea you should inform the attending nurse immediately. Your pain and observations including heart rate using an ECG (electrocardiograph) monitor, Blood pressure (BP) and oxygen levels will be monitored every 10 minutes for the first half hour and then every 15 minutes throughout the procedure.

What are the side effects / complications?

Common

- Soreness / bruising at the injection site
- Sedation, dizziness & fainting
- Nausea
- Slowing of the heart
- Irregular heart beat

Rare

- Allergy

Very rare

- Cardiac arrest (stopping of the heart)
- Convulsions (fits)

You will be closely observed by a qualified nurse throughout the infusion with a doctor available for immediate assistance if required.

After the Injection

After the infusion has finished you will be asked to rate your pain again. Most people report at least 50% improvement in their pain immediately. You will remain under observation for another half hour to check your observations are stable and then allowed to go home. Please ensure a friend or relative is available to take you home and stay with you for the next 24 hours. You are not recommended to self-drive or go home on public transport.

Driving

Do not return to work immediately, rest for 24 hours and then slowly start to increase your activity. Someone must drive you home following the Lidocaine infusion.

What next?

If this is your first course of Lidocaine infusions you will be followed up to evaluate the effectiveness of your treatment. If you have had the procedure previously ensure you have a further appointment booked before leaving the department for a further infusion if required or a follow up appointment with your Consultant or the pain Nurse.

The treatment is part of a holistic approach to your ongoing pain management; if you need help with pacing every day activites or setting goals/action plans please contact one of the team who will happily provide you with information.

If you experience any of the symptoms below following your procedure please contact:

The Pain Clinic

Monday-Friday
9am-5pm
(excluding Bank Holidays)

Telephone No: 01422 224085
or contact your own GP

- Severe injection site redness, swelling
- Increasing leg weakness
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain

Be sure to to inform the person contacted you have had a Lidocaine infusion.

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Pain Service,
Calderdale Royal Hospital
Telephone (01422 224085)

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Amennyiben ezt az információt más formátumban vagy nyelven szeretné megkapni, vegye fel a kapcsolatot fenti részlegünkkel.

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ,

ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو
براہِ مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

CHFT