

## Surfactant (poractant alfa) for neonates

### BRIEF ADMINISTRATION GUIDE

For detailed information refer to [The Australasian Neonatal Medicines Formulary Curosurf \(poractant alfa\) guideline](#)

#### 1. Medicine

##### 1.1. Indications

- Respiratory distress syndrome (RDS)
- Secondary surfactant deficiency, e.g. severe meconium aspiration syndrome

##### 1.2. Route and Presentation

Endotracheal tube, [LISA](#) (Less Invasive Surfactant administration) catheter

- Supplied as poractant alfa 80 mg/mL (Curosurf® 120 mg/1.5 mL or 240 mg/3 mL) vial

##### 1.3. Dose

- Initial dose: 200 mg/kg
- Subsequent dose(s): 100 mg/kg at 6 to 12 hourly intervals if required
- Usual maximum total dose: 400 mg/kg for RDS and 600 mg/kg for meconium aspiration syndrome

**Note:** Consider rounding dose to nearest vial volume

#### 2. Preparation and Administration

##### 2.1. Compatible fluids

N/a

##### 2.2. Administration Method

- Prior to use, the vial should be slowly warmed to room temperature (can be warmed in hand or stood at room temperature) and gently turned upside down, **without shaking**, to obtain a uniform suspension
- Visually inspect for discolouration, do not use if present (should be white to creamy white)
- Assess patency and position of the ETT prior to administration. Clear the trachea of secretions if required
- Slowly withdraw the prescribed dose from the vial(s) into a syringe through a large gauge needle ( $\geq 20$  gauge).  
**Do NOT use a filter needle.**
- Administer the dose
  - via the endotracheal tube in 2 equal aliquots as tolerated with the neonate in neutral supine position and give 5 breaths via the neopuff in between
  - via LISA as per [guideline #6350](#)
- Do not suction the airways for as long as possible in the first 12 hours after instillation unless signs of significant airway obstruction occur

##### 2.3. Monitoring

- Monitor oxygen saturation continuously and blood gases on request, adjusting oxygen therapy and ventilator support accordingly
- Continuous ECG and heart rate monitoring

##### 2.4. Storage and Stability

- Store unused vials in the refrigerator (2 to 8°C) and protect from light
- Unopened vials that have been warmed to room temperature one time may be refrigerated within 24 hours and stored for future use. Vials should not be warmed and returned to the refrigerator more than once
- Used vials with residual drug should be discarded

##### 2.5. Competency for Administration

This procedure should only be carried out by a medical officer, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist.

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### 3. Associated Te Whatu Ora Waikato documents

- [Less Invasive Surfactant Administration \(LISA\) guideline \(#6350\)](#)

### 4. References

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### Document Ownership

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