



pentamidine, the peak plasma levels of pentamidine were at or below the lower limit of detection of the assay (2.3 ng/mL).

Following a single 2-hour intravenous infusion of 4 mg/kg of pentamidine isethionate to 6 AIDS patients, the mean plasma  $C_{max}$ ,  $T_{1/2}$  and clearance were  $612 \pm 371$  ng/mL,  $6.4 \pm 1.3$  hr and  $248 \pm 91$  L/hr respectively. In another study of aerosolized pentamidine in 13 AIDS patients with acute PJP who received 4 mg/kg/day administered via the Ultra Vent<sup>®</sup> jet nebulizer, peak plasma levels of pentamidine averaged  $18.8 \pm 11.9$  ng/mL after the first dose. During the next 14 days of repeated dosing, the highest observed  $C_{max}$  averaged  $20.5 \pm 21.2$  ng/mL. In a third study, following daily administration of 600 mg of inhaled pentamidine isethionate with the Respigard<sup>®</sup> II nebulizer for 21 days in 11 patients with acute PJP, mean plasma levels measured shortly after the 21st dose averaged  $11.8 \pm 10.0$  ng/mL. Plasma concentrations after aerosol administration are substantially lower than those observed after a comparable intravenous dose. The extent of pentamidine accumulation and distribution following chronic inhalation therapy are not known.

In rats, intravenous administration of a 5 mg/kg dose resulted in concentrations of pentamidine in the liver and kidney that were 87.5 and 62.3-fold higher, respectively, than levels in those organs following 5 mg/kg administered as an aerosol.

No pharmacokinetic data are available following aerosol administration of pentamidine in humans with impaired hepatic or renal function.

## INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Pentamidine Isethionate is indicated for the prevention of *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia (PJP) in high-risk, HIV-infected patients defined by one or both of the following criteria:

- i. a history of one or more episodes of PJP
- ii. a peripheral CD4+ (T4 helper/inducer) lymphocyte count less than or equal to  $200/\text{mm}^3$ .

These indications are based on the results of an 18-month randomized, dose-response trial in high risk HIV-infected patients and on existing epidemiological data from natural history studies.

The patient population of the controlled trial consisted of 408 patients, 237 of whom had a history of one or more episodes of PJP. The remaining patients without a history of PJP included 55 patients with Kaposi's sarcoma and 116 patients with other AIDS diagnoses, ARC or asymptomatic HIV infection. Patients were randomly assigned to receive Pentamidine isethionate via the Respigard<sup>®</sup> II nebulizer at one of the following three doses: 30 mg every two weeks (n=135), 150 mg every two weeks (n=134) or 300 mg every four weeks (n=139). The results of the trial demonstrated a significant protective effect ( $p < 0.01$ ) against PJP with the 300 mg every four week dosage regimen compared to the 30 mg every two week dosage regimen. The 300 mg dose regimen reduced the risk of developing PJP by 50 to 70% compared to the 30 mg regimen. A total of 293 patients (72% of all patients) also received zidovudine at sometime during the trial. The analysis of the data demonstrated the efficacy of the 300 mg dose even after adjusting for the effect of zidovudine.

The results of the trial further demonstrate that the dose and frequency of dosing are important to the efficacy of Pentamidine Isethionate prophylaxis in that multiple analyses consistently demonstrated a trend toward greater efficacy with 300 mg every four weeks as compared to 150 mg every two weeks.

No dose-response was observed for reduction in overall mortality; however, mortality from PJP was low in all three dosage groups.

## **CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Pentamidine Isethionate is contraindicated in patients with a history of an anaphylactic reaction to inhaled or parenteral pentamidine isethionate.

## **WARNINGS**

The potential for development of acute PJP still exists in patients receiving Pentamidine Isethionate prophylaxis. Therefore, any patient with symptoms suggestive of the presence of a pulmonary infection, including but not limited to dyspnea, fever or cough, should receive a thorough medical evaluation and appropriate diagnostic tests for possible acute PJP as well as for other opportunistic and nonopportunistic pathogens. The use of Pentamidine Isethionate may alter the clinical and radiographic features of PJP and could result in an atypical presentation, including but not limited to mild disease or focal infection.

Prior to initiating Pentamidine Isethionate prophylaxis, symptomatic patients should be evaluated appropriately to exclude the presence of PJP. The recommended dose of Pentamidine Isethionate for the prevention of PJP is insufficient to treat acute PJP.

## **PRECAUTIONS**

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT MIX THE PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE SOLUTION WITH ANY OTHER DRUGS. DO NOT USE THE RESPIRGARD® II NEBULIZER TO ADMINISTER A BRONCHODILATOR.** (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

### ***Pulmonary***

Inhalation of Pentamidine Isethionate may induce bronchospasm or cough. This has been noted particularly in some patients who have a history of smoking or asthma. In clinical trials, cough and bronchospasm were the most frequently reported adverse experiences associated with Pentamidine Isethionate administration (38% and 15%, respectively of patients receiving the 300 mg dose); however less than 1% of the doses were interrupted or terminated due to these effects. For the majority of patients, cough and bronchospasm were controlled by administration of an aerosolized bronchodilator (only 1% of patients withdrew from the study due to treatment-associated cough or bronchospasm). In patients who experience bronchospasm or cough, administration of an inhaled bronchodilator prior to giving each Pentamidine Isethionate dose may minimize recurrence of the symptoms.

### ***General***

The extent and consequence of pentamidine accumulation following chronic inhalation

therapy are not known. As a result, patients receiving Pentamidine Isethionate should be closely monitored for the development of serious adverse reactions that have occurred in patients receiving parenteral pentamidine, including hypotension, hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, hypocalcemia, anemia, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, hepatic or renal dysfunction, ventricular tachycardia, pancreatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, hyperkalemia and abnormal ST segment of ECG.

Extrapulmonary infection with *P. jiroveci* has been reported infrequently. Most, but not all, of the cases have been reported in patients who have a history of PJP. The presence of extrapulmonary pneumocystosis should be considered when evaluating patients with unexplained signs and symptoms.

Cases of acute pancreatitis have been reported in patients receiving aerosolized pentamidine. Pentamidine Isethionate should be discontinued if signs or symptoms of acute pancreatitis develop.

### **Drug Interactions**

While specific studies on drug interactions with pentamidine isethionate have not been conducted, the majority of patients in clinical trials received concomitant medications, including zidovudine, with no reported interactions. Because the nephrotoxic effects may be additive, the concomitant or sequential use of pentamidine isethionate and other nephrotoxic drugs such as aminoglycosides, amphotericin B, cisplatin, foscarnet, or vancomycin should be closely monitored and avoided, if possible.

### **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis and Impairment of Fertility**

Literature reports indicate that pentamidine was not mutagenic in the Ames bacterial (*S. typhimurium*) test and did not induce an increase in chromosomal aberrations in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell or in human lymphocytes *in vitro*.

No studies have been conducted to determine effects of pentamidine isethionate on carcinogenicity or fertility.

### **Pregnancy-Pregnancy Category C**

There are no adequate and well controlled studies of Pentamidine Isethionate in pregnant women. A literature report indicated that intravenously administered pentamidine in pregnant rats at 4 mg/kg/day was embryo-lethal; teratogenicity was not observed in this study. It is unknown whether pentamidine administered via the aerosolized route crosses the placenta at clinically significant concentrations. It is not known whether Pentamidine Isethionate can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Pentamidine Isethionate should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

### **Nursing Mothers**

It is not known whether Pentamidine Isethionate is excreted in human milk. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from pentamidine isethionate, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, Pentamidine Isethionate should not be given to a nursing mother unless the potential benefits are judged to outweigh the unknown risks.

## **Pediatric Use**

The safety and effectiveness of Pentamidine Isethionate in pediatric patients (birth to 16 years of age) have not been established.

## **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The most frequently reported unsolicited adverse events (1 to 5%) in clinical trials, regardless of their relation to Pentamidine Isethionate therapy were as follows (n=931):

*Body as a Whole:* Night sweats.

*Gastrointestinal:* Diarrhea and nausea.

*Hematologic:* Anemia.

*Infection:* Bronchitis, non-specific herpes, herpes zoster, non-specific influenza, oral Candida, pharyngitis, sinusitis, and upper respiratory tract.

*Nervous System:* Headache.

*Respiratory System:* Chest pain, cough, and wheezing.

*Special Senses:* Bad taste.

Adverse events of less than 1% incidence were as follows (No causal relationship to treatment has been established for these adverse events):

*Body as a Whole:* Allergic reaction, non-specific allergy, body odor, facial edema, fever, leg edema, lethargy, low body temperature, and temperature abnormality.

*Cardiovascular:* Cerebrovascular accident, hypotension, hypertension, palpitations, poor circulation, syncope, tachycardia, vasodilatation and vasculitis.

*Gastrointestinal:* Abdominal cramps, abdominal pain, constipation, dry mouth, dyspepsia, gastritis, gastric ulcer, gingivitis, hiatal hernia, hypersalivation, oral ulcer/abscess, splenomegaly, and vomiting.

*Hematological:* Eosinophilia, neutropenia, non-specific cytopenia, pancytopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

*Hepatic:* Hepatitis, hepatomegaly, and hepatic dysfunction.

*Infection:* Bacterial pneumonia, central venous line related sepsis, cryptococcal meningitis, cytomegalovirus (CMV) colitis, CMV retinitis, esophageal Candida, histoplasmosis, Kaposi's sarcoma, non-specific mycoplasma, oral herpes, non-specific otitis, non-specific pharyngitis, pharyngeal herpes, non-specific serious infection, tonsillitis, tuberculosis, and viral encephalitis.

*Metabolic:* Hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia, and hypocalcemia.

*Musculoskeletal:* Arthralgia, gout, and myalgia.

*Neurological:* Anxiety, confusion, depression, drowsiness, emotional lability, hallucination, hypesthesia, insomnia, memory loss, neuralgia, neuropathy, non-specific neuropathy, nervousness, paranoia, paresthesia, peripheral neuropathy, seizure, tremors, unsteady gait, and vertigo.

*Reproductive:* Miscarriage.

*Respiratory system:* Asthma, bronchitis, bronchospasm, chest congestion, chest tightness, coryza, cyanosis, eosinophilic or interstitial pneumonitis, gagging, hemoptysis, hyperventilation, laryngitis, laryngospasm, non-specific lung disorder, nasal congestion, pleuritis, pneumothorax, rales, rhinitis, shortness of breath, non-specific sputum, and tachypnea.

*Skin:* Desquamation, dry and breaking hair, dry skin, erythema, non-specific dermatitis, pruritus, rash, and urticaria.

*Special senses:* Blepharitis, blurred vision, conjunctivitis, contact lens discomfort, eye pain or discomfort, hemianopsia, loss of taste, non-specific odor, and smell.

*Urogenital:* Flank pain, incontinence, nephritis, renal failure, and renal pain.

In a clinical trial where some adverse events were solicited by investigators, the incidences were as follows:

Cough (62.7%)  
Decreased appetite (50.0%)  
Dizziness or light-headedness (45.1%)  
Fatigue (65.7%)  
Fever (51.0%)  
Non-specific serious infection (15.2%)  
Shortness of breath (48.3%)  
Wheezing (32.4%)

From post-marketing clinical experience with Pentamidine Isethionate the following spontaneous adverse events have been reported: anaphylaxis, colitis, diabetes, dyspnea, esophagitis, hematochezia, increased blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and serum creatinine levels, melena, pancreatitis (see **WARNINGS**), syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone (SIADH), and torsade de pointes.

**To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact XGen Pharmaceuticals DJB, Inc. at 1-866-390-4411 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).**

## **OVERDOSAGE**

Overdosage has not been reported with Pentamidine Isethionate. The symptoms and signs of overdosage are not known.

A serious overdosage, to the point of producing systemic drug levels similar to those following parenteral administration, would have the potential of producing similar types of serious systemic toxicity. (See **PRECAUTIONS**).

Available clinical pharmacology data (see **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**) suggest that a dose up to 40 times the recommended Pentamidine Isethionate dosage would be required to produce systemic levels similar to a single 4 mg/kg intravenous dose.

## **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**IMPORTANT: PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE MUST BE DISSOLVED ONLY IN STERILE WATER FOR INJECTION, USP. DO NOT USE SALINE SOLUTION FOR**

**RECONSTITUTION BECAUSE THE DRUG WILL PRECIPITATE. DO NOT MIX THE PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE SOLUTION WITH ANY OTHER DRUGS. DO NOT USE THE RESPIRGARD® II NEBULIZER TO ADMINISTER A BRONCHODILATOR.**

### **Reconstitution**

The contents of one vial (300 mg) must be dissolved in 6 mL Sterile Water for Injection, USP. Place the entire reconstituted contents of the vial into the Respigard® II nebulizer reservoir for administration.

### **Dosage**

The recommended adult dosage of Pentamidine Isethionate for the prevention of *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia is 300 mg once every four weeks administered via the Respigard® II nebulizer.

The dose should be delivered until the nebulizer chamber is empty (approximately 30 to 45 minutes). The flow rate should be 5 to 7 liters per minute from a 40 to 50 pounds per square inch (PSI) air or oxygen source. Alternatively, a 40 to 50 PSI air compressor can be used with flow limited by setting the flowmeter at 5 to 7 liters per minute or by setting the pressure at 22 to 25 PSI. Low pressure (less than 20 PSI) compressors should not be used.

### **Stability**

Freshly prepared solutions for aerosol use are recommended. After reconstitution with sterile water, the pentamidine isethionate solution is stable for 48 hours in the original vial at room temperature if protected from light.

### **HOW SUPPLIED**

Pentamidine Isethionate 300 mg lyophilized product is supplied as:  
Single-dose glass vial (NDC 39822-3030-01), individually packaged as 1 vial per carton (NDC 39822-3030-02)

Store dry product at 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

Protect the dry product and the reconstituted solution from light.

Manufactured for:  
XGen Pharmaceuticals DJB, Inc.  
Big Flats, NY 14814

Rx only

Revised: September 2022

PENH-PI-05

PC5142A

### **PRINCIPLE PACKAGE DISPLAY**

**PACKAGE LABEL - PRINCIPAL DISPLAY - Pentamidine Isethionate 300 mg  
Single Dose Vial Label**

**NDC 39822-3030-1**

**Pentamidine Isethionate**

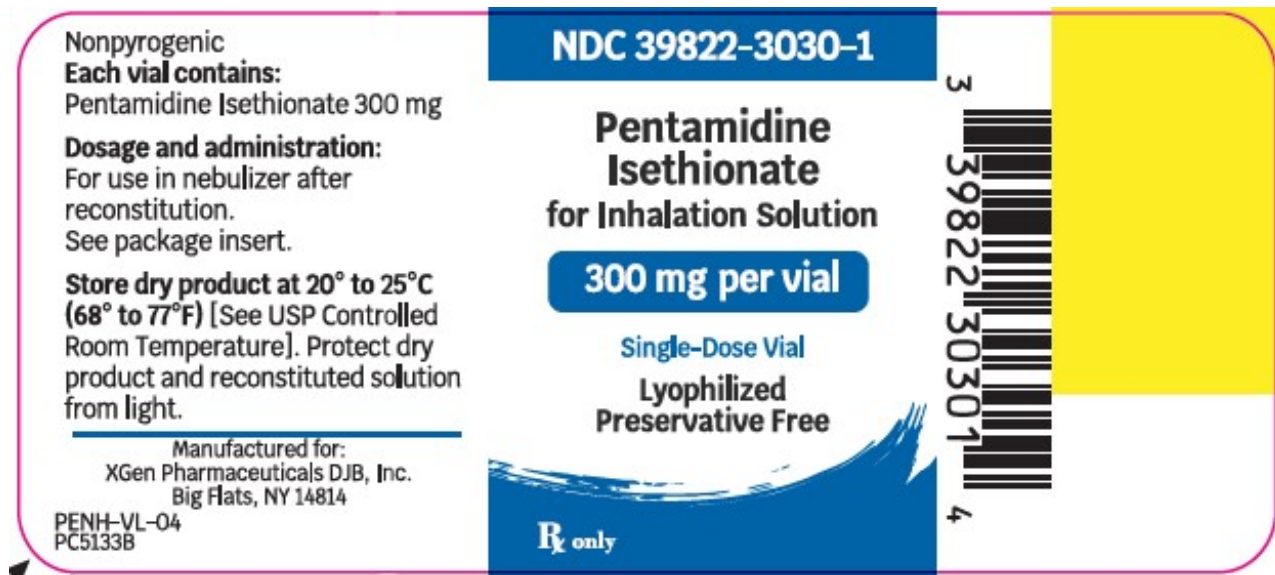
**300 mg**

**Lyophilized**

**For Inhalation Solution**

**Single-Dose Vial**

**Rx only**



**CARTON - PRINCIPAL DISPLAY - Pentamidine Isethionate 300 mg Single Dose  
Vial Carton**

**NDC 39822-3030-2**

**Pentamidine Isethionate**

**300 mg**

**Lyophilized**

**For Inhalation Solution**

**Single-Dose Vial Carton**

**Rx only**





# PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE

pentamidine isethionate inhalant

## Product Information

<b>Product Type</b>	HUMAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG	<b>Item Code (Source)</b>	NDC:39822-3030
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<b>Route of Administration</b>	RESPIRATORY (INHALATION)
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### Active Ingredient/Active Moiety

Ingredient Name	Basis of Strength	Strength
<b>PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE</b> (UNII: V2P3K60DA2) (PENTAMIDINE - UNII:673LC5J4LQ)	PENTAMIDINE ISETHIONATE	300 mg in 6 mL

### Packaging

#	Item Code	Package Description	Marketing Start Date	Marketing End Date
1	NDC:39822-3030-2	1 in 1 CARTON	04/04/2023	
1	NDC:39822-3030-1	6 mL in 1 VIAL, SINGLE-DOSE; Type 0: Not a Combination Product		

### Marketing Information

Marketing Category	Application Number or Monograph Citation	Marketing Start Date	Marketing End Date
ANDA	ANDA206983	04/04/2023	

**Labeler** - XGen Pharmaceuticals DJB, Inc. (117380305)

Revised: 3/2024

XGen Pharmaceuticals DJB, Inc.