#### PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

# Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL IV Solution for Infusion Administered intravenously without diluting. Sterile

Active substance: Each 250 mL bag contains 2500 mg esmolol hydrochloride.

*Excipients:* Sodium chloride, sodium acetate trihydrate, glacial acetic acid, sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid, water for injection.

# Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- Tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine when you go to the doctor or hospital during the use of this medicine.
- Follow exactly what is written in this instruction. Do not use **high or low** doses other than the recommended dosage.

#### What is in this Leaflet:

- 1. What ERMOLOC is and what it is used for?
- 2. What you need to know before you use ERMOLOC
- 3. How to use ERMOLOC?
- 4. What are the possible side effects?
- 5. How to store ERMOLOC

Headings are covered.

#### 1. What ERMOLOC is and what it is used for?

ERMOLOC contains a drug substance called as esmolol. This drug substance belongs to a group of medicines called beta blockers. It shows its effect by controlling the heart beat pattern and pulse rate. It can also help lower the blood pressure.

It is used in the treatment of the following diseases:

- Heart problems when your heart beats too fast
- Heartbeat problems and an increase in blood pressure during or immediately after an operation

# 2. What you need to know before you use ERMOLOC

#### DO NOT USE ERMOLOC

If;

• You have hypersensitivity (allergy) to esmolol active substance, other beta-blocker drugs or other ingredients (symptoms of an allergic reaction include breathlessness, wheezing, rash,

itching or swelling of your face and lips).

- Your heart is beating too slowly (your heart rate is less than 50 per minute).
- There is acceleration or a slowdown and acceleration in your heartbeat.
- You have a severe heart block (heart block is a problem with the electrical current that regulates the work of the heart).
- You have low blood pressure.
- You have a problem getting blood to your heart.
- You have symptoms of severe heart failure.
- You are using the drug called verapamil (used in the treatment of diseases such as high blood pressure, heart spasm, heart rhythm disorder, heartbeat too fast) or if you have recently used it (ERMOLOC should not be administered before 48 hours after the drug called verapamil is discontinued).
- You have untreated pheochromocytoma (pheochromocytoma is caused by the adrenal glands and can cause spikes in blood pressure, severe headaches, sweating, and rapid heartbeat)
- You have high blood pressure in the vein leading to the lungs (if you have pulmonary hypertension).
- You have asthma symptoms that get worse quickly.
- You are unable to remove excess acids from your body due to the disruption of the production-destruction works in your body (if you have metabolic acidosis).
- You are pregnant or breastfeeding. Do not use ERMOLOC.

#### **USE ERMOLOC CAREFULLY in the following cases**

Before using ERMOLOC, consult your doctor, nurse or pharmacist. If you have the following situations, your doctor will take special precautions while administering ERMOLOC to you:

- If you have a specific arrhythmia called supraventricular arrhythmia and you also have any of the following
- If you have other heart problems or
- If you are taking any other heart medication

In such cases, administration of ERMOLOC can cause to the following situations, which can be fatal:

- Loss of consciousness
- Shock (when your heart is not able to pump enough blood)
- Heart attack (cardiac arrest)

- If you have low blood pressure (hypotension). You may feel dizzy or lightheaded, especially when standing. Low blood pressure usually improves within 30 minutes after cessation of ERMOLOC therapy.
- If you have a low heart rate before treatment.
- A decrease in your heart rate to 50-55 beats per minute. In this case, your doctor may reduce your ERMOLOC dose or stop your treatment.
- If you have heart failure.
- If you have problems in conducting the electrical current that regulates your heart (heart block).
- If you have a glandular disease called pheochromocytoma for which you are being treated with alpha-receptor blockers.
- If you are being treated for high blood pressure (hypertension) due to too low body temperature (hypothermia).
- If you suffer from narrowing of your airways or wheezing or whistling, as in asthma.
- If you have diabetes or low blood sugar (ERMOLOC can increase the effect of your diabetes medications).
- If you have skin problems. Such problems may be caused by your medicine getting out of the vein from the place where it was administered. When such an event occurs, your doctor will administer the drug from another vein.
- If you have a specific angina (chest pain) called Prinzmetal's angina
- You have low blood volume (with low blood pressure). In this case, your circulatory system can collapse much more easily.
- If you have problems with your blood circulation, such as pallor in your fingers (Raynaud's disease) or pain, fatigue and sometimes burning pain in your legs.
- If you have kidney problems. If you have kidney disease or are on dialysis for your kidneys, you may have increased potassium levels in your blood (hyperkalaemia). This condition can cause serious heart problems.
- If you are allergic to anything or you are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction (severe allergic reaction). Due to the administration of ERMOLOC, existing allergies may become more severe and more difficult to treat.
- If you or your families have psoriasis (this skin disease, also called psoriasis, has patches on the skin).
- If you have a disease called hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid gland).

It is generally not necessary to change the dose if:

• If you have liver problems. When using ERMOLOC, you need to be monitored:

- Long-term use of medicines such as ERMOLOC may cause a decrease in your heart rate.
- Since ERMOLOC is administered only for a limited time, this will not happen to you. You will be carefully monitored while receiving ERMOLOC treatment and if a decrease in your heart rate is observed ERMOLOC treatment doses will be reduced or stopped. During your treatment with ERMOLOC, your doctor will check your blood pressure.

Please consult your physician if these warnings applicable to you, even at any time in the past.

#### Use of ERMOLOC with food and drink

It is not possible to use food and drinks while administration of ERMOLOC.

#### **Pregnancy**

Consult to your doctor or your pharmacist before using this drug.

Do not use this drug if you are pregnant or if you think that you are pregnant.

If you notice that you are pregnant during your treatment, consult your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

#### **Breast-feeding**

Consult your doctor or your pharmacist before using the drug.

If you are a breastfeeding mother, tell that to your doctor before using ERMOLOC. ERMOLOC can pass into breast milk and therefore ERMOLOC may not be used if you are a breastfeeding mother.

#### **Driving and using machines**

It is not possible to drive and use machines while administration of ERMOLOC.

#### Important information about some of the excipients contained in ERMOLOC

This medicinal product contains approximately 700 mg of sodium in each bag. This should be considered for patients on a controlled sodium diet.

#### Use with other medicines

If you are using the following medicines or have used them recently, please tell your doctor or pharmacist. This includes other medicines purchased without a prescription, herbal remedies, and natural products.

- Medicines that lower your blood pressure or slow your heart rate
- Medicines such as verapamil and diltiazem used for heart rhythm problems or chest pain (angina). You should not take ERMOLOC for 48 hours after the drug called Verapamil is discontinued.
- Nifedipine used for chest pain (angina), high blood pressure and Raynaud's disease
- Medicines used for heart rhythm problems (such as quinidine, disopramide, amiodarone) and

heart failure (such as digoxin, digitoxin, digitalis)

- Medicines used to treat diabetes, including insulin and oral medications
- Medicines called ganglion blockers (medicines used to treat high blood pressure such as trimethaphan)
- Drugs used as pain relievers and called non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) (such as aspirin, ibuprofen, nabumetone)
- Floctafen, a pain reliever
- Amisulpride, a drug used in the treatment of mental health problems
- Tricyclic antidepressant drugs (such as imipramine and amitriptyline) or any medication used to treat mental health problems
- Barbiturates (such as phenobarbital used in the treatment of epilepsy) or phenothiazines (such as chlorpromazine used in the treatment of mental health disorders)
- Clozapine (used in the treatment of mental health disorders)
- Epinephrine used to treat allergic reactions
- Medicines used in asthma treatment
- Medicines called nasal decongestants and used for colds or nasal congestion
- A drug called reserpine used in some cases with high blood pressure
- A drug called clonidine used in some cases with high blood pressure and migraine
- A drug called moxonidine, used in some cases with high blood pressure
- Medicines called ergot derivatives, mainly used in Parkinson's disease
- Warfarin, a medicine used to thin your blood.
- Morphine, a powerful pain reliever
- Sucamethonium chloride (also known as succinylcholine or scoline), which is often used as a muscle relaxant during surgery. In addition, if you are going to have surgery and you will be given narcosis drugs or other treatments during your surgery, your doctor will take special precautions while using ERMOLOC during your surgery.

If you are currently using or taking any prescription or over-the-counter medication, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

#### 3. How to use ERMOLOC?

Your doctor will decide how much medicine you need and how long you will use it.

ERMOLOC is not normally used for longer than 24 hours.

#### Administration route and method

ERMOLOC is a ready-to-use medicine. ERMOLOC will be administered slowly (infusion) through a needle inserted into a vein in a vein in your arm.

ERMOLOC should not be mixed with other drugs or sodium bicarbonate solution. The medicine will be given to you in two stages:

- First stage: A high loading dose is administered within one minute. In the blood like this drug level rises rapidly. In some cases, your doctor may start your medication directly with the maintenance dose without administering this loading dose to you.
- Second stage: A lower dose (maintenance dose) than the first loading dose is administered within four minutes.

Depending on the response of your heart, the first and second stage doses can be repeated and the dose can be adjusted. As soon as a positive response is obtained, the first stage (high dose administered stage) administration is terminated and the second stage (maintenance stage with low dose) is continued with the dose and this dose is reduced if necessary.

If your condition stabilizes, your dose of ERMOLOC can be gradually reduced and switched to another heart drug.

If your heart rate increases or your blood pressure rises during a surgery or during the recovery period, you will be given higher doses of ERMOLOC for a shorter period of time.

#### • Various age groups

#### Use in children:

It should not be administered in children under 18 years of age.

# Use in the elderly:

If you are older, your doctor will start you on a lower dose of this drug.

# • Special conditions of use:

#### Renal failure:

Caution should be exercised when administration of ERMOLOC in patients with renal failure.

#### Liver failure:

Special precautions are not required in case of liver failure.

Please talk to your physician or pharmacist if you feel that the effect of ERMOLOC is too strong or too weak.

# If you have used more ERMOLOC than you should:

If you have used more than you should use from ERMOLOC, talk to a doctor and pharmacist.

Since ERMOLOC will be administered to you by a trained and qualified healthcare professional, it is unlikely that you have used more medication than you should. However, if you use more

medication than you should, your doctor will stop using ERMOLOC and, if necessary, administer additional treatment to you.

#### If you forget to use ERMOLOC

Do not take a double dose to make up for forgotten doses.

Since ERMOLOC will be administered to you by a trained and qualified healthcare professional, it is not possible to forget to take the medicine. However, if you think that a dose has been missed, talk to a doctor, pharmacist or nurse as soon as possible.

#### Effects which may occur when treatment with ERMOLOC is discontinued

If the treatment with ERMOLOC is discontinued suddenly, symptoms of rapid heartbeat (tachycardia) and high blood pressure (hypertension) may return. To avoid this, your doctor will gradually reduce your treatment. If you have coronary heart disease (this disease may include angina (severe pain in the heart area and chest caused by insufficient blood supply to the heart) or a history of heart attacks) your doctor will take special care when terminating your treatment with ERMOLOC.

# 4. What are the possible side effects?

Like all medicines, there may be side effects in people who are sensitive to the substances contained in ERMOLOC. Most of the side effects disappear within 30 minutes after termination of treatment with ERMOLOC.

The following side effects have been reported with the use of ERMOLOC:

**Very common** (affects more than one in 10 people)

- A decrease in blood pressure. This can be quickly corrected by reducing the dose or discontinuing the drug. Your blood pressure will be measured frequently during treatment.
- Excessive sweating,

**Common** (affects less than 1 in 10 people)

- Poor appetite
- Anxiety or feeling depressed
- Dizziness / lightheadedness
- Sleeping state
- Headache
- Tingling or 'pins and needles' sensation
- Difficulty concentrating
- Confusion or agitation (excessively inconsistent behavior manifested as behavioral and mental excitement depending on personal mood disorders)
- Feeling sick (nausea and vomiting)
- Feeling weak
- Feeling exhausted (tired)
- Irritation and hardening on your skin where ERMOLOC is administered

Uncommon (affects less than one in 100 people)

- Abnormal thoughts
- Sudden loss of consciousness

- Feeling like you will faint
- Seizures
- Speech disorders
- Vision problems
- Slow heartbeat
- Problems with electrical impulses controlling your heartbeat
- Increases in pressure in the pulmonary arteries
- Inability of the heart to pump enough blood (heart failure)
- Occasional disturbance of the heart rhythm known as palpitations (ventricular extrasystole)
- A type of heart beat disorder (nodal rhythm)
- Discomfort in the chest caused by insufficient blood circulation in the blood vessels feeding the heart muscle (angina pectoris)
- Insufficient blood circulation in the arms and legs
- Looking pale or red on the face and neck
- Fluid accumulation in the lungs
- Feeling short of breath or tightness in the chest that makes it difficult to breathe
- Wheezing
- Congestion in the nose
- Hearing crackling sounds in lung sounds while breathing in and out
- Disturbances in the sense of taste
- Indigestion
- Constipation
- Drying in the mouth
- Pain in the stomach area
- Loss of skin color
- Redness of the skin
- Pain in muscles and tendons, including shoulders and back
- Difficulty urinating (not fully emptying the bladder)
- Chills or high fever
- Pain and swelling (edema) where ERMOLOC is administered
- Burning sensation or bruising at the injection site

#### Very rare (affecting less than one in 10,000 people)

- Severe reduction in heart rate (sinus arrest)
- Absence of electrical activity in the heart (asystole)
- Sensitization of blood vessels (thrombophlebitis) with a hot and red area on the skin
- The formation of dead parts on the skin due to the leakage of the solution around the injection site.

**Unknown** (number of people affected is unknown)

- Increase in blood potassium levels (hyperkalemia)
- Increase in blood acid levels (metabolic acidosis)
- Increase in the rate of contraction of the heart (accelerated idioventricular rhythm).
- Spasm in the artery that supplies the heart
- Failure of the normal circulation of the blood (cardiac arrest)
- Psoriasis (this skin disease, also called psoriasis, is seen in the form of patches on the skin)
- Swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat (angioedema)
- Hives (urticaria)
- Inflammation of a vein or fluid collection where the infusion is being administered

# Reporting of the side effects:

If you get any side effects not listed in this leaflet, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. You can also report side effects directly to your doctor or pharmacist. You can also report side effects directly to your country's related health authority. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

If you experience any side effect not mentioned in this patient information leaflet, inform your doctor or your pharmacist.

#### 5. How to store ERMOLOC

Keep ERMOLOC out of the sight and reach of children, and in its packaging.

- Do not use ERMOLOC after the expiry date indicated on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of the specified month.
- Do not open the protective cover outside the bag until just before use.
- Store ERMOLOC at room temperature below 25 °C.
- The medicine should not be stored in the refrigerator or frozen.
- If ERMOLOC is stored between 2 and 8 °C after opening, it will not deteriorate for 24 hours. However, it should be used immediately after opening.
- If you see particles or discoloration in the solution, do not use ERMOLOC.

Medicines should not be disposed of in household waste and sewers. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer need. So you can help protect the environment.

#### Use in accordance with expiration dates

Do not use ERMOLOC after the expiration date stated on the packaging.

Do not throw away drugs that have expired or are not used! Give them to the collection system determined by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization.

# Marketing Authorization Holder:

Magna Pharma İlaç San. A.Ş. İncirköy Mah. Köyönü Cad. No.:85 Beykoz / İstanbul

Phone: 0216 413 50 66 Fax: 0216 413 50 99

# Manufacturing Site:

Osel İlaç San. Ve Tic. A.Ş. Akbaba Mah. Maraş Cad. No: 52 Beykoz / İSTANBUL

Phone: (0216) 320 45 50 Fax: (0216) 320 45 56

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# THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR THE HEALTH PERSONNEL WHO WILL ADMINISTER THIS MEDICINE

This section contains practical information about the application. Regarding posology and method of administration, contraindications, warnings etc. Summary of Product Characteristics should be fully read.

#### Posology/administration frequency and duration

# Dosing in the Treatment of Supraventricular Tachycardia or Uncompensated Sinus Tachycardia

ERMOLOC is administered by continuous intravenous infusion with or without a loading dose. Additional loading doses and / or titration of the maintenance infusion (stepwise dosing) may be required, depending on the desired ventricular response.

**Table 1-Stepwise Dosing** 

Step	Operation
1	Optional loading dose (500 mcg / kg within 1 min), then 50 mcg / kg / min for 4 min
2	Optional loading dose if required, 100 mcg/kg/min for 4 min.
3	Optional loading dose if required, 150 mcg/kg/min for 4 min.
4	If required, increase the dose to 200 mcg/kg/min.

In cases where the loading dose is not administered, pharmacokinetically and pharmacodynamically fixed concentrations of esmolol administered at a fixed concentration are reached in about 30 minutes.

The effective maintenance dose is 50 to 200 micrograms/kg/min, although doses as low as 25 micrograms/kg/min are sufficient for continuous and stepwise dosing. Doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min decrease the effect and cause a small increase in heart rate and increase the rate of adverse reactions.

The maintenance infusion can be continued for up to 48 hours.

# Intraoperative and postoperative tachycardia and / or hypertension

It is not always recommended to titrate slowly for therapeutic effect in this use. Therefore, two dosing options are offered: Immediate control and step control.

#### 1. Dose recommendation for immediate control

- It is administered as bolus dose 1 mg/kg within 30 seconds, followed by 150 microgram/kg/min infusion if necessary.
- The infusion rate as needed to maintain the desired heart rate and blood pressure is adjusted. See Maximum Recommended Doses below.

# 2. Dose recommendation for step titration

- It is administered as a bolus dose of 500 microgram/kg within 1 minute, followed by a maintenance infusion of 50 microgram/kg/minute within 4 minutes.
- Depending on the response achieved, the dosing determined for supraventricular tachycardia is continued. See Maximum Recommended Doses below.

#### Maximum recommended doses

- Maintenance doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min are not recommended for the treatment of tachycardia. Doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min decrease the effect, causing a small increase in heart rate and increasing the rate of adverse reactions.
- Higher maintenance infusion doses (250-300 micrograms/kg/min) may be required for the treatment of hypertension. The reliability of doses above 300 micrograms/kg/min has not been studied.

# Transition from ERMOLOC treatment to alternative drugs

Patients can be switched to alternative antiarrhythmic drugs after providing adequate control of heart rate and a stable clinical picture.

When switching from ERMOLOC treatment to alternative drugs, the physician should carefully examine the instructions for use of the selected alternative drug and reduce the dose of ERMOLOC as follows:

- Within 30 minutes after the first dose of the alternative medicine, ERMOLOC infusion rate is reduced in half (50%).
- After the administration of the second dose of the alternative medicine, the patient's response is monitored and if adequate control is achieved in the first hour, ERMOLOC infusion is discontinued.

# **Method of Administration:**

Since Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL is a ready-to-use solution, it is used intravenously without dilution.

#### SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

#### 1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL IV Solution for Infusion

# 2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

#### **Drug substance:**

Esmolol hydrochloride: 10 mg/mL (Each 250 mL bag contains 2500 mg esmolol hydrochloride).

#### **Excipients:**

This medicinal product contains approximately 30.45 mmol (or 700 mg) sodium in each bag. For excipients see 6.1.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

#### 3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Solution for infusion.

Clear, colorless to light yellow solution.

The solution has a pH between 4.5 to 5.5 and osmolarity of approximately 300 mOsm/L.

#### 4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

# 4.1. Therapeutic indications

#### Supraventricular tachycardia or non-compensatory sinus tachycardia

ERMOLOC is indicated in cases of atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter that occur in perioperative, postoperative or other emergency situations where rapid control of the ventricular rate with a short-acting preparation is desired.

ERMOLOC is also indicated in the case of uncompensated sinus tachycardia if the physician has decided to correct the accelerated heart rate with a special intervention.

ERMOLOC is intended for short-term use.

#### Intraoperative and postoperative tachycardia and / or hypertension

ERMOLOC is indicated for tachycardia and hypertension seen during endotracheal intubation, anesthesia induction, surgical procedure, on exiting anesthesia, and in the postoperative period, if the physician has decided to correct such a special intervention.

It is not recommended to use ERMOLOC in order to prevent such situations from occurring.

#### 4.2. Posology and method of administration

#### Posology/administrationfrequency and duration

Dosing in the treatment of supraventricular tachycardia or uncompensated sinus tachycardia

ERMOLOC is administered by continuous intravenous infusion with or without a loading dose. Additional loading doses and/or titration of the maintenance infusion (stepwise dosing) may be required, depending on the desired ventricular response.

**Table 1-Stepwise Dosing** 

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4	If required, increase the dose to 200 mcg / kg / min.

In cases where the loading dose is not administered, pharmacokinetically and pharmacodynamically fixed concentrations of esmolol administered at a fixed concentration are reached in about 30 minutes.

The effective maintenance dose is 50 to 200 micrograms/kg/min, although doses as low as 25 micrograms/kg/min are sufficient for continuous and stepwise dosing. Doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min decrease the effect and cause a small increase in heart rate and increase the rate of adverse reactions.

The maintenance infusion can be continued for up to 48 hours.

# Intraoperative and postoperative tachycardia and / or hypertension

It is not always recommended to titrate slowly for therapeutic effect in this use. Therefore, two dosing options are offered: Immediate control and step control.

#### 1. Dose recommendation for immediate control

- It is administered as bolus dose 1 mg/kg within 30 seconds, followed by 150 microgram/kg/min infusion if necessary.
- The infusion rate as needed to maintain the desired heart rate and blood pressure is adjusted. See Maximum Recommended Doses below.

#### 2. Dose recommendation for step titration

- It is administered as a bolus dose of 500 microgram/kg within 1 minute, followed by a maintenance infusion of 50 microgram/kg/minute within 4 minutes.
- Depending on the response achieved, the dosing determined for supraventricular tachycardia is continued. See Maximum Recommended Doses below.

#### Maximum recommended doses

- Maintenance doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min are not recommended for the treatment of tachycardia. Doses higher than 200 micrograms/kg/min decrease the effect, causing a small increase in heart rate and increasing the rate of adverse reactions.
- Higher maintenance infusion doses (250-300 micrograms/kg/min) may be required for

the treatment of hypertension. The reliability of doses above 300 micrograms/kg/min has not been studied.

# Transition from ERMOLOC treatment to alternative drugs

Patients can be switched to alternative antiarrhythmic drugs after providing adequate control of heart rate and a stable clinical picture.

When switching from ERMOLOC treatment to alternative drugs, the physician should carefully examine the instructions for use of the selected alternative drug and reduce the dose of ERMOLOC as follows:

- Within 30 minutes after the first dose of the alternative medicine, ERMOLOC infusion rate is reduced in half (50%).
- After the administration of the second dose of the alternative medicine, the patient's response is monitored and if adequate control is achieved in the first hour, ERMOLOC infusion is discontinued.

#### **Method of Administration:**

Since ERMOLOC is a ready-to-use solution, it is used intravenously without dilution.

#### Additional information on special populations:

#### Renal failure:

Since ERMOLOC acid metabolite is excreted in an unchanged form by the kidneys in patients with renal failure, caution should be exercised when ERMOLOC is administered by infusion. Excretion of the acid metabolite is significantly reduced in individuals with end-stage renal disease, the elimination half-life has increased to approximately ten times normal, and plasma levels are significantly increased.

# Hepatic failure:

Since esterases in red blood cells play a fundamental role in ERMOLOC metabolism, special precautions are not required in case of hepatic failure.

#### **Pediatric population:**

The efficacy or safety of ERMOLOC in use in children under the age of 18 has not yet been proven. Existing data are described in sections 5.1 and 5.2, but no recommendation on a posology can be made from these data.

#### **Geriatric population:**

In the elderly, the treatment should be started with a low dose and the administration should be done carefully.

Special studies have not been conducted in the elderly. However, analysis of data from 252 patients over 65 years of age shows that there is no difference with those under 65 years of age in terms of pharmacodynamic effects.

#### 43. Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, to any of the excipients, to other substances or to other beta-blockers (cross-sensitivity between beta-blockers is possible),

- Severe sinus bradycardia (less than 50 beats per minute),
- Sick sinus syndrome; severe AV node conduction disturbances (non-pacemaker); second or third degree heart blocks,
- Cardiogenic shock,
- Severe hypotension,
- Decompensated heart failure,
- Simultaneous or recent use of verapamil intravenously. ERMOLOC should not be administered within 48 hours after verapamil discontinuation (see section 4.4).
- Untreated pheochromocytoma,
- Pulmonary hypertension,
- Acute asthma attack.
- Metabolic acidosis.

#### 4.4. Special warnings and special precautions for use

It is recommended to continuously monitor the blood pressure and the ECG in all patients treated with ERMOLOC.

The use of ERMOLOC for control of ventricular response in patients with supraventricular arrhythmias should be undertaken with caution when the patient is compromised haemodynamically or is taking other drugs that decrease any or all of the following: peripheral resistance, myocardial filling, myocardial contractility, or electrical impulse propagation in the myocardium. Despite the rapid onset and offset of the effects of ERMOLOC, severe reactions may occur, including loss of consciousness, cardiogenic shock, cardiac arrest. Several deaths have been reported in complex clinical states where ERMOLOC was presumably being used to control ventricular rate.

The most frequently observed side effect is hypotension, which is dose related but can occur at any dose. This can be severe. In the event of a hypotensive episode the infusion rate should be lowered or, if necessary, be discontinued. Hypotension is usually reversible (within 30 minutes after discontinuation of administration of ERMOLOC). In some cases, additional interventions may be necessary to restore blood pressure. In patients with a low systolic blood pressure, extra caution is needed when adjusting the dosage and during the maintenance infusion.

Bradycardia, including severe bradycardia, and cardiac arrest has occurred with the use of ERMOLOC. ERMOLOC should be used with special caution in patients with low pretreatment heart rates and only when the potential benefits are considered to outweigh the risk.

ERMOLOC is contraindicated in patients with pre-existing severe sinus bradycardia (see section 4.3). If the pulse rate decreases to less than 50-55 beats per minute at rest and the patient experiences symptoms related to bradycardia, the dosage should be reduced or administration stopped.

Sympathetic stimulation is necessary in supporting circulatory function in congestive heart failure. Beta-blockade carries the potential hazard of further depressing myocardial contractility and precipitating more severe failure. Continued depression of the myocardium with beta-blocking agents over a period of time can, in some cases, lead to cardiac failure.

Caution should be exercised when using ERMOLOC in patients with compromised cardiac function. At the first sign or symptom of impending cardiac failure, ERMOLOC should be withdrawn. Although withdrawal may be sufficient because of the short elimination half-life of ERMOLOC, specific treatment may also be considered (see section 4.9). ERMOLOC is contraindicated in patients with decompensated heart failure (see section 4.3).

Due to its negative effect on conduction time, beta-blockers should only be given with caution to patients with first degree heart block or other cardiac conduction disturbances (see section 4.3).

ERMOLOC should be used with caution and only after pre-treatment with alpha-receptor blockers in patients with pheochromocytoma (see section 4.3).

Caution is required when ERMOLOC is used to treat hypertension following induced hypothermia.

Patients with bronchospastic disease should, in general, not receive beta-blockers. Because of its relative beta-1 selectivity and titratability, ERMOLOC should be used with caution in patients with bronchospastic diseases. However, since beta-1 selectivity is not absolute, ERMOLOC should be carefully titrated to obtain the lowest possible effective dose. In the event of bronchospasm, the infusion should be terminated immediately and a beta-2-agonist should be administered if necessary.

If the patient already uses a beta-2-receptor stimulating agent, it may be necessary to reevaluate the dose of this agent.

ERMOLOC should be used with caution in patients with a history of wheezing or asthma.

ERMOLOC should be used with caution in diabetics or in case of suspected or actual hypoglycaemia. Beta-blockers may mask the prodromal symptoms of a hypoglycaemia such as tachycardia. However, dizziness and sweating may not be affected. Concomitant use of beta-blockers and antidiabetic agents can increase the effect of the antidiabetic agents (see section 4.5).

Infusion site reactions have occurred with the use of ERMOLOC. These reactions have included infusion site irritation and inflammation as well as more severe reactions such as thrombophlebitis, necrosis, and blistering, in particular when associated with extravasation (see section 4.8). Infusions into small veins or through a butterfly catheter should be avoided. If a local infusion site reaction develops, an alternative infusion site should be used.

Beta-blockers may increase the number and the duration of anginal attacks in patients with Prinzemetal's angina due to unopposed alpha-receptor mediated coronary artery vasoconstriction. Non-selective beta-blockers should not be used for these patients and beta-1 selective blockers should only be used with the utmost care.

In hypovolemic patients, ERMOLOC can attenuate reflex tachycardia and increase the risk of circulatory collapse. Therefore, ERMOLOC should be used with caution in such patients.

In patients with peripheral circulatory disorders (Raynaud's disease or syndrome, intermittent claudication), beta-blockers should be used with great caution as aggravation of these disorders may occur.

Some beta-blockers, especially those administered intravenously, including ERMOLOC, have been associated with increases in serum potassium levels and hyperkalemia. The risk is increased in patients with risk factors such as renal impairment and those on haemodialysis.

Beta-blockers may increase both the sensitivity toward allergens and the seriousness of anaphylactic reactions. Patients using beta-blockers may be unresponsive to the usual doses of epinephrine used to treat anaphylactic or anaphylactoid reactions (see section 4.5). Beta-blockers have been associated with the development of psoriasis or psoriasiform eruptions and with aggravation of psoriasis. Patients with a personal or family history of psoriasis should be administered beta-blockers only after careful consideration of expected benefits and risks.

Beta-blockers, such as propranolol and metoprolol, may mask certain clinical signs of hyperthyroidism (such as tachycardia). Abrupt withdrawal of existing therapy with beta-blockers in patients at risk or suspected of developing thyrotoxicosis may precipitate

thyroid storm and these patients must be monitored closely.

This medicinal product contains approximately 30.45 mmol (700 mg) of sodium per 250 mL bag. To be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.

# 4.5. Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Care should always be exercised whenever ERMOLOC is used with other antihypertensive agents or other drugs that may cause hypotension or bradycardia: the effects of ERMOLOC may be enhanced or the side-effects of hypotension or bradycardia may be exacerbated.

Calcium antagonists such as verapamil and to a lesser extent diltiazem have a negative influence on contractility and AV conduction. The combination should not be given to patients with conduction abnormalities and ERMOLOC should not be administered within 48 hours of discontinuing verapamil (see section 4.3).

Calcium antagonists such as dihydropyridine derivatives (e.g., nifedipine) may increase the risk of hypotension. In patients with cardiac insufficiency and who are being treated with a calcium antagonist, treatment with beta-blocking agents may lead to cardiac failure. Careful titration of ERMOLOC and appropriate haemodynamic monitoring is recommended.

Concomitant use of ERMOLOC and Class I anti-arrhythmic drugs (e.g., disopyramide, quinidine) and amiodarone may have potentiating effect on atrial-conduction time and induce negative inotropic effect.

Concomitant use of ERMOLOC and insulin or oral anti-diabetic drugs may intensify the blood sugar lowering effect (especially non-selective beta-blockers). Beta-adrenergic blockade may prevent the appearance of signs of hypoglycaemia (tachycardia), but other manifestations such as dizziness and sweating may not be masked.

Anaesthetic drugs: in situations where the patient's volume status is uncertain or concomitant antihypertensive drugs are utilized, there may be attenuation of the reflex tachycardia and an increased the risk of hypotension. Continuation of beta-blockade reduces the risk of arrhythmia during induction and intubation. The anaesthetist should be informed when the patient is receiving a beta-blocking agent in addition to ERMOLOC. The hypotensive effects of inhalation anaesthetic agents may be increased in the presence of ERMOLOC. The dosage of either agent may be modified as needed to maintain the desired haemodynamics.

The combination of ERMOLOC with ganglion blocking agents can enhance the hypotensive effect.

NSAIDs may decrease the hypotensive effects of beta-blockers.

Special caution must be taken when using floctafenine or amisulpride concomitantly with beta-blockers.

Concomitant administration of tricyclic antidepressants (such as imipramine and amitriptyline), barbiturates or phenothiazines (such as chlorpromazine), as well as other antipsychotic agents (such as clozapine) may increase the blood pressure lowering effect. Dosing of ERMOLOC should be adjusted downward to avoid unexpected hypotension.

When using beta-blockers, patients at risk of anaphylactic reactions may be more reactive to allergen exposure (accidental, diagnostic, or therapeutic). Patients using beta-blockers may be unresponsive to the usual doses of epinephrine used to treat anaphylactic reactions (see section 4.4).

The effects of ERMOLOC may be counteracted by sympathomimetic drugs having betaadrenergic agonist activity with concomitant administration. The dose of either agent may need to be adjusted based on patient response, or use of alternate therapeutic agents considered.

Catecholamine-depleting agents, e.g., reserpine, may have an additive effect when given with beta-blocking agents. Patients treated concurrently with ERMOLOC and a catecholamine depletor should therefore be closely observed for evidence of hypotension or marked bradycardia, which may result in vertigo, syncope or postural hypotension.

Use of beta-blockers with moxonidine or alpha-2-agonists (such as clonidine), increases the risk of withdrawal rebound hypertension. If clonidine or moxonidine are used in combination with a beta-blocker and both treatments have to be discontinued, the beta blocker should be discontinued first and then the clonidine or moxonidine after a few days.

The use of beta-blockers with ergot derivatives may result in severe peripheral vasoconstriction and hypertension.

Data from an interaction study between ERMOLOC and warfarin showed that concomitant administration of ERMOLOC and warfarin does not alter warfarin plasma levels. ERMOLOC concentrations, however, were equivocally higher when given with warfarin.

When digoxin and ERMOLOC were concomitantly administered intravenously to healthy volunteers, there was a 10-20% increase in digoxin blood levels at some time points. The combination of digitalis glycosides and ERMOLOC may increase AV conduction time. Digoxin did not affect ERMOLOC pharmacokinetics.

When intravenous morphine and ERMOLOC interaction was studied in healthy subjects, no effect on morphine blood levels was seen. The ERMOLOC steady-state blood levels

were increased by 46% in the presence of morphine, but no other pharmacokinetic parameters were changed.

The effect of ERMOLOC on the duration of suxamethonium chloride-induced or mivacurium-induced neuromuscular blockade has been studied in patients undergoing surgery. ERMOLOC did not affect the onset of neuromuscular blockade by suxamethonium chloride, but the duration of neuromuscular blockade was prolonged from 5 minutes to 8 minutes. ERMOLOC moderately prolonged the clinical duration (18.6%) and recovery index (6.7%) of mivacurium.

Although the interactions observed in studies of warfarin, digoxin, morphine, suxamethonium chloride or mivacurium are not of major clinical importance, ERMOLOC should be titrated with caution in patients being treated concurrently with warfarin, digoxin, morphine, suxamethonium chloride or mivacurium.

# 4.6. Pregnancy and lactation

#### General advice

Pregnancy category: C / D (2. and 3. trimester)

# Women with child-bearing potential/Contraception

Women of childbearing potential must use effective contraception during treatment.

# **Pregnancy**

Animal studies are insufficient in terms of effects on pregnancy/and/or/embryonal/fetal development/and-or/birth/and-or/postnatal development. Studies with ERMOLOC in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). The potential risk for humans is unknown.

Esmolol hydrochloride is **not recommended during pregnancy.** 

Based on the pharmacological action, in the later period of pregnancy, side effects on the foetus and neonate (especially hypoglycemia, hypotension and bradycardia) should be taken into account.

It should be used if ERMOLOC treatment is necessary during pregnancy, but if the potential benefit exceeds the toxicity to the fetus, the uteroplacental blood flow and foetal growth should be monitored. The newborn infant must be closely monitored.

#### **Breastfeeding**

Esmolol hydrochloride should not be used during breast-feeding.

It is not known whether esmolol hydrochloride/metabolites are excreted in human milk. A risk to the newborns/infants cannot be excluded.

# **Fertility**

There are no studies investigating the effect of esmolol on reproductive ability / fertility in

humans.

# 4.7. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Since it is not possible to use ERMOLOC while driving and using machines, its effect on this issue is unknown.

#### 4.8. Undesirable effects

In case of undesirable effects, the dose of ERMOLOC can be reduced or discontinued.

Most of the undesirable effects observed have been mild and transient. The most important one has been hypotension.

The frequency of occurrence of adverse events is classified as follows: Very common ( $\geq$  1/10), Common ( $\geq$  1/100 to < 1/10), Uncommon ( $\geq$  1/1000 to < 1/100), Very rare (<1/10000), Not known (Cannot be estimated from the available data)

#### Metabolism and nutrition disorders

Common : Anorexia

Not known : Hyperkalaemia, metabolic acidosis

# **Psychiatric disorders**

Common : Depression, anxiety
Uncommon : Thinking abnormal

#### Nervous system disorders

Common : Dizziness/lightheadedness<sup>1</sup>, somnolence, headache, paraesthesia,

disturbance in attention, confusional state, agitation

Uncommon : Syncope, convulsion, speech disorder.

#### **Eve disorders**

Uncommon: Visual impairment

#### Cardiac disorders

Uncommon : Bradycardia, atrioventricular block, pulmonary arterial pressure increase, cardiac failure, ventricular extrasystoles, nodal rhythm, angina pectoris.

Very rare : Sinus arrest, asystole.

Unknown : Accelerated idioventricular rhythm, coronary arteriospasm, cardiac arrest.

# Vascular disorders

Very common: Hypotension

Uncommon : Peripheral ischemia, pallor, facial and neck flushing

Very rare : Thrombophlebitis<sup>2</sup>

# Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders

Uncommon : Dyspnoea, pulmonary edema, bronchospasm, wheezing, nasal congestion,

rhonchi and rales in lung sounds

#### **Gastrointestinal disorders**

Common : Nausea, vomiting

Uncommon : Dysgeusia, dyspepsia, constipation, dry mouth, abdominal pain

#### Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders

Very common: Diaphoresis<sup>1</sup>

Uncommon : Skin discoloration<sup>2</sup>, erythema<sup>2</sup>

Very rare : Skin necrosis (due to extravasation) 2

Not known : Psoriasis<sup>3</sup>, angioedema, urticaria

# Musculoskeletal, connective tissue and skeletal disorders

Uncommon : Musculoskeletal pain<sup>4</sup>

# Renal and urinary tract disorders

Uncommon : Urinary retention

#### General disorders and administration site conditions:

Common : Asthenia, fatigue, injection site reaction, infusion site reaction, infusion

site inflammation, infusion site induration

Uncommon: Chills, fever, edema<sup>2</sup>, pain<sup>2</sup>, infusion site burning, infusion site

ecchymosis

Unknown: Infusion site phlebitis, infusion site vesicles, blistering at the infusion site<sup>2</sup>

- 1. Dizziness and diaphoresis are in association with symptomatic hypotension.
- 2. In association with Injection and Infusion site reactions.
- 3. Beta-blockers as a drug class can cause psoriasis in some situations, or worsen it.
- 4. Including midscapular pain and costochondritis

#### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

If you get any side effects not listed in this leaflet, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. You can also report side effects directly to your doctor or pharmacist. You can also report side effects directly to your country's related health authority. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

#### 4.9. Overdose

Cases of massive accidental overdoses with concentrated solutions of ERMOLOC have occurred. Some of these overdoses have been fatal while others have resulted in permanent disability. Bolus doses in the range of 625 mg to 2.5 g (12.5 to 50 mg/kg) have been fatal.

#### **Overdose Symptoms**

In case of overdose the following symptoms can occur: severe hypotension, sinus bradycardia, atrioventricular block, heart insufficiency, cardiogenic shock, cardiac arrest, bronchospasm, respiratory insufficiency, loss of consciousness to coma, convulsions, nausea, vomiting, hypoglycaemia and hyperkalaemia.

#### **Overdose Treatment**

Because of the short elimination half-life of ERMOLOC (approximately 9 minutes), the first step in the management of toxicity should be to discontinue the administration of the drug. The time taken for symptoms to disappear following overdosing will depend on the amount of ERMOLOC administered. This may take longer than the 30 minutes seen with discontinuation at therapeutic dose levels of ERMOLOC. Artificial respiration may be necessary. Based on the observed clinical effects, the following general measures should also be considered:

- *Bradycardia*: Atropine or another anticholinergic drug should be given i.v. When the bradycardia cannot be treated sufficiently a pacemaker may be necessary.
- *Bronchospasm:* Nebulised beta-2-sympathomimetics should be given. If this is not sufficient intravenous beta-2-sympathomimetics or aminophylline can be considered.
- Symptomatic hypotension: Fluids and/or pressor agents should be given i.v.
- Cardiovascular depression or cardiac shock: Diuretics or sympathomimetics can be administered. The dose of sympathomimetics (depending on the symptoms: dobutamine, dopamine, noradrenaline, isoprenaline, etc.) depends on the therapeutic effect.

In case further treatment is necessary, the following agents can be administered intravenously based on the clinical situation and judgement of the treating healthcare professional:

- Atropine
- Inotropic agents
- Calcium ions

# 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

#### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Beta-blocking agents, selective.

ATC code: C07AB09

ERMOLOC is a beta-selective (cardioselective) adrenergic receptor blocking agent. At therapeutic doses ERMOLOC has no significant intrinsic sympathomimetic activity (ISA) or membrane stabilising activity.

Esmolol hydrochloride, the active ingredient of ERMOLOC, is chemically related to the phenoxy propanolamine class of beta-blockers.

Based on the pharmacological properties ERMOLOC has a rapid onset and a very short duration of action by which the dose can be quickly adjusted.

When an appropriate loading dose is used, steady state blood levels are obtained within 5 minutes. However, the therapeutic effect is achieved sooner than the stable plasma concentration. The infusion rate can then be adjusted to obtain the desired pharmacological effect.

ERMOLOC has the known haemodynamic and electrophysiologic effect of beta-blockers:

- Reduction of the heart frequency during rest and exercise;
- Reduction of the isoprenaline caused increase of the heart frequency;
- Increase of the recovering time of the SA-node;
- Delay of the Atrioventricular (AV) conductance;
- Prolonging the Atrioventricular (AV) interval with normal sinus rhythm and during atrium stimulation without delay in the His-Purkinje tissue;
- Prolonging of PQ time, induction of AV block grade II;
- Prolonging the functional refractory period of atria and ventricles;
- Negative inotropic effect with decreased ejection fraction;
- Decrease in blood pressure.

#### **Pediatric Population**

An uncontrolled pharmacokinetic/efficacy study was undertaken in 26 paediatric patients aged 2 to 16 years with supraventricular tachycardia (SVT). A loading dose of 1000 micrograms/kg of ERMOLOC was administered followed by a continuous infusion of 300 micrograms/kg/minute. SVT was terminated in 65% of patients within 5 minutes of the commencement of esmolol.

In a randomised but uncontrolled dose comparison study, efficacy was assigned in 116 paediatric patients aged 1 week to 7 years with hypertension following repair of coarctation of the aorta. Patients receiving an initial infusion of either 125 micrograms/kg, 250 micrograms/kg, or 500 micrograms/kg, followed by a continuous infusion of 125 micrograms/kg/minute, 250 micrograms/kg/minute, or 500 micrograms/kg/minute respectively. There was no significant difference in hypotensive effect between the 3

dosage groups. 54% of patients overall required medication other than ERMOLOC to achieve satisfactory blood pressure control. No difference was apparent in this regard between the different dose groups.

# 5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

#### <u>Absorption</u>

After intravenous administration, the maximum plasma concentration is reached rapidly.

#### Distribution

The distribution half-life of esmolol hydrochloride is very short, about 2 minutes. The volume of distribution is 3.4 L/kg.

#### Biotransformation

Esmolol hydrochloride is metabolised by esterases into an acid metabolite (ASL-8123) and methanol. This occurs through hydrolysis of the ester group by esterases in the red blood cells.

The metabolism of esmolol hydrochloride is independent when the dose is between 50 and 300 micrograms/kg/minute.

Esmolol hydrochloride is 55% bound to human plasma protein compared with only 10% for the acid metabolite.

# **Elimination**

The elimination half-life after intravenous administration is approximately 9 minutes.

The total clearance is 285 mL/kg/minute; this is independent of the circulation of the liver or any other organ. Esmolol hydrochloride is excreted by the kidneys, partly unchanged (less than 2% of the administered amount), partly as acid metabolite that has a weak (less than 0.1% of esmolol) beta-blocking activity. The acid metabolite is excreted in the urine and has a half-life of about 3.7 hours.

# <u>Linearity/Nonlinearity case:</u>

Esmolol kinetics is linear in healthy adults. When a loading dose is not administered, the time to reach plasma fixed levels is linear with dose when administered at doses of 50-300 micrograms/kg/min.

#### **Characteristics in patients**

#### Pediatric population:

A pharmacokinetic study was undertaken in 22 paediatric patients aged 3 to 16 years. A loading dose of 1000 micrograms/kg of ERMOLOC was administered, followed by a continuous infusion of 300 micrograms/kg/minute. The observed mean total body clearance was 119 ml/kg/minute, the mean volume of distribution 283 mL/kg and the mean terminal elimination half-life 6.9 minutes, indicating that ERMOLOC kinetics in children

are similar to those in adults. However, large inter-individual variability was observed.

# 5.3 Preclinical safety data

No teratogenic effect has been observed in animal studies. In rabbits an embryo toxic effect has been observed (increase in fetal resorption) which was probably caused by Esmolol. This effect was observed at doses at least 10 times higher than the therapeutic dose.

No studies have been done on the effect of ERMOLOC on the fertility and on peri- and postnatal effects. Esmolol was found to be not mutagenic in several in vitro and in vivo test systems. The safety of esmolol has not been examined in long-term studies.

#### 6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

# **6.1 List of excipients**

Sodium acetate trihydrate

Glacial acetic acid

Sodium chloride

Sodium hydroxide and/or hydrochloric acid - for pH adjustment

Water for injection

#### **6.2** Incompatibilities

This drug should not be mixed with other drugs or sodium bicarbonate solution, as there are no compatibility studies available.

Avoid contact with alkaline substances.

#### 6.3 Shelf life

24 months.

Opened product is physicochemically stable for 24 hours when stored at 2-8°C. Microbiologically, the product bag should be used immediately after opening.

If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of the user. This period cannot normally be longer than 24 hours between 2-8 °C when the bag is not opened under controlled and validated aseptic conditions.

# 6.4 Special precautions for storage

It should be stored in its package at room temperature below 25 °C. It should not be stored in the refrigerator or frozen. For the storage conditions of the solution, see section 6.3.

#### 6.5 Nature and contents of container

250 mL non-pvc bag with two outlets in an aluminum outer bag.

# 6.6 Instructions for use and handling and disposal

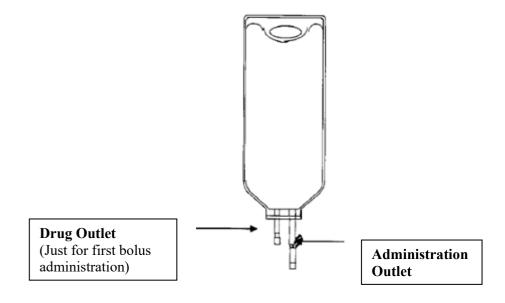
Unused products or waste materials must be disposed of in accordance with the "Medical Waste Control Regulation" and "Packaging and Packaging Waste Control Regulation".

#### **BAG USAGE INSTRUCTIONS**

Ready-to-use solution for Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL IV Solution for Infusion is presented in 250 mL polyolefinic bags (two PVC-output non-latex polyolefinic bags, one for drug administration into the bag and the other for administration of the drug in the bag).

The drug delivery tip in the bag of the ready-to-use solution for Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL IV Solution for Infusion should only be used to withdraw the first bolus from the bag; not for repeated bolus administration. Aseptic technique should be used when taking the bolus dose. No additional medication should be added to the Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL IV Solution for Infusion ready-to-use solution. Each bag is for single patient use. The bag should be used within 24 hours after the seal of the drug administration outlet is broken and the drug is withdrawn from the bag. The unused portion and bag of the solution should be disposed of in accordance with local practice. Do not reuse partially used bags.

Figure 1. Double - outlet Multiflex bag



**ATTENTION** 

Do not use plastic bags for serial connection. This type of use can cause embolism due to

the drawing of residual air from the first container before the administration of the liquid in

the second container is completed.

TO OPEN

It should not be removed from its outer packaging (outer bag) until just before use. The

outer bag should not be used if it has been previously opened or damaged. The outer bag is

intended to prevent moisture. The inner bag maintains the sterility of the solution.

The outer bag is opened from its notched place and the premix bag is removed. The

opacities that can be seen on the plastic bag at this stage depend on the moisture absorption

during the sterilization process and do not affect the quality or reliability of the solution.

Opacity will gradually decrease.

The inner bag is squeezed and checked for small leaks. If there is a leak, the solution

should be discarded as sterilization will be affected. Before application, the solution is

inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration. Only clear and colorless or light

yellow solutions should be used.

No extra substance should be added to Multiflex ERMOLOC Premix 10 mg/mL.

PREPARATIONS FOR INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION (aseptic technique

should be used)

1. The premix bag is hung on a hanger from the hanging area.

2. The plastic cover is removed from the application outlet on the bottom of the bag.

3. Administration set is attached; the administration is started by following the instructions

given with the set.

MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

MAGNA PHARMA İlaç A.Ş.

İncirköy Mah. Köyönü Cad.

No.:85 Beykoz / İstanbul

Phone: 0216 413 50 66

Fax: 0216 413 50 99

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