

Nebulized Amphotericin B Liposomal

This handout explains what Amphotericin B Liposomal is and how to use it. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor, respiratory therapist or pharmacist.

What is Amphotericin B Liposomal?

Amphotericin B (am-fo-ter-i-sin) liposomal is an antifungal medicine. The brand name of this medicine is AmBisome®. It is used to treat infections caused by many types of fungus. These include *Candida sp.* or *Aspergillus sp.* Antifungal medicines kill the fungus by stopping its growth. These drugs are sometimes used to control frequent lung infections that occur with cystic fibrosis (CF) or after lung transplant surgery.

What You Need

Powder vials of AmBisome® that have 50 mg of amphotericin B and that you must mix with sterile water and filtration.

Supplies You Need

For one 25 mg treatment:

- Powder Vial (50 mg)
- 12 mL of Sterile Water for Injection, USP
- 3 dispensing pins
- 10 mL sterile Luer lock syringe
- 20 mL sterile Luer lock syringe
- 5-micron filter
- Sterile alcohol wipes

How to Mix or Prepare

- Wipe the top of the sterile water vial(s) and the AmBisome® powder vial with a sterile alcohol wipe.
- Insert a dispensing pin into each vial.
- Remove the blue twist caps from the top of the pins.
- Use the 20 mL sterile syringe to draw up 12 mL of sterile water and add to AmBisome® powder vial.

- Right after you add water, SHAKE the vial with force for 30 seconds.
- **Draw up 6.25 mL (25 mg)** of the AmBisome® solution into the 10 mL syringe.
- Attach the 5-micron filter provided to the syringe.
- Use the mixed solution within 1 hour, do NOT save leftover solution. Throw it in the trash.

How to Nebulize

- Make sure the 5-micron filter is attached to the syringe.
- Inject the syringe contents through the filter into the nebulizer reservoir.
- Put the nebulizer together and start the treatment.

Important to Know

- Take slow, deep breaths while you inhale the medicines into your lungs.
- A treatment takes about 10-15 minutes (cup is empty).
- Be sure to hold the cup upright so that the medicine does not spill.
- If the medicine sticks to the sides of the cup, gently tap the side of the cup.
- A new syringe and/or needle should be used for each treatment.
- Follow the instructions from your health care provider on how often to nebulize.

How to Store

- Unopened vials of amphotericin B liposomal can be stored at room temperature.
- After you mix the solution, it must be used within 1-hour so bacteria don't grow.

When should I use it?

This medicine should be used on a regular basis to help control fungal lung infections. If you use a bronchodilator inhaler, use it before the nebulizer.

Your symptoms should improve as you keep doing this treatment. If your infection does not improve, or gets worse, call your doctor.

Side Effects

When inhaled, this medicine may cause some irritation to the lungs, or a cough. If these occur, tell your doctor or respiratory therapist right away.

How to Clean and Disinfect the Small Volume Nebulizer

It is important to keep your nebulizer clean.

Take apart the nebulizer and rinse the parts with hot water after each treatment.

To Clean

1. Take the nebulizer apart and wash the pieces in warm soapy water.
2. Rinse with hot tap water.
3. Place the nebulizer pieces in a bowl and add enough 70% ethyl alcohol to fully cover them.
4. Soak all parts for 20 minutes.
5. Rinse all parts of the nebulizer with sterile water. **Do not use water from the faucet, bottled water or distilled water.** To make water sterile, you can boil it for 5 minutes.
6. Use this water once, and then throw it out.
7. Place the pieces on a paper towel to dry.

Equipment

If you have questions or need more supplies, call your Home Health Equipment provider.