

Important Prescribing Information

November 30, 2017

Subject: Temporary importation of intravenous drug products to address drug shortages

Dear Healthcare Professional,

In order to address shortages of critical drug products from the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, Baxter Healthcare Corporation (Baxter) is coordinating with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to increase the availability of products from Baxter's manufacturing facility in Italy.

Baxter has initiated temporary importation of Primene 10% Solution for Infusion, 250 mL, in glass container, which contains amino acids and is indicated for use in children, infants, and neonates. This product is manufactured by Baxter's manufacturing facility in Italy and marketed in Europe. At this time, no other entity except Baxter is authorized by the FDA to import or distribute these products in the United States. FDA has not approved the product manufactured by Baxter's manufacturing facility in Italy.

Effective immediately, and during this temporary period, Baxter will offer the following:

Product name and description	Size	Product code	Pack factor	NDC
Primene 10% Solution for Infusion in glass container	250 mL	FCA3CG133R79D	10	0338-9577-10

It is also important to note the following:

- **Primene 10% Solution for Infusion** contains a different amino acid composition than amino acid solutions for pediatric patients marketed in the U.S. Primene 10% Solution for Infusion is sulfite-free. Please refer to the product comparison table at the end of this letter. **Primene 10% Solution for Infusion** contains L-Cysteine 0.189 g/100 mL as compared to 10% Premasol Sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injection (<0.016 g/100 mL) and 6% Premasol Sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injection (<0.014 g/100 mL). Consider this difference when adding additional L-Cysteine to the final parenteral nutrition solution.
- **Primene 10% Solution for Infusion** is packaged in a Type II Glass Bottle with an elastomeric stopper. Prior to use, it is important to visually inspect the container. Only use if the container is undamaged and the solution is clear. Discard if the container is leaking or if the solution is discolored, cloudy or contains a precipitate. Aseptic conditions must be observed throughout the preparation and use of Primene 10% Solution for Infusion. For single use only. Protect from light

- This product has not been tested for aluminum content and this should be taken into consideration, especially when administering to preterm infants, term infants less than 1 month of age, or patients with renal impairment.
- Administration of solution: The use of a final filter is required during administration of all
 formulations containing Primene and trace elements (including copper, iron, or zinc) for
 removal of visible particulate matter which has been observed in the infusion line for some
 formulations.
 - For 2-in-1 (amino acid and carbohydrate) parenteral nutrition solutions, use a
 0.2 micron filter for removal of particulate matter that may be formed with the use of trace elements (e.g. copper).
 - For 3-in-1 (lipid, amino acid, and carbohydrate) parenteral nutrition solutions, use a
 1.2 micron filter for particulate matter removal.

Perform visual inspections for cloudiness or precipitation of the TPN solution after compounding, prior to administration and periodically during administration. If discoloration or precipitation is noted in the filter, perform blood levels of copper (or other trace elements) where medically relevant.

• The barcode may not register accurately on the U.S. scanning systems. Institutions should manually input the product into their systems and confirm that barcode systems do not provide incorrect information when the product is scanned. Alternative procedures should be followed to assure that the correct drug product is being used and administered to individual patients.

There are some key differences in the labeling between the US FDA approved product 6% and 10% Premasol-Sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections and Primene 10% Solution for Infusion. Please see the product comparison table at the end of this letter.

Please refer to the FDA-approved package insert for the full prescribing information of 6% and 10% Premasol-Sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections in VIAFLEX Plastic Container at: https://www.dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/getFile.cfm?setid=9afdcc3e-0d06-47f4-86ca-40da48b2b02b

If you have any questions about the information contained in this letter or the use of the imported products, please contact Baxter's Medical Information Service at 1-800-933-0303.

To place an order, please contact Baxter's Center for Service by calling 1-888-229-0001.

To report product quality issues, please contact Baxter Product Surveillance at 1-800-437-5176. To report adverse events associated with these imported products, please call Baxter at 1-866-888-2472, or fax: 1-800-759-1801. Adverse events or quality problems experienced with the use of this product may also be reported to the FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program either online, by regular mail or by fax:

- Complete and submit the report **Online**: www.fda.gov/medwatch/report.htm
- **Regular mail or Fax**: Download form www.fda.gov/MedWatch/getforms.htm or call 1-800-332-1088 to request a reporting form, then complete and return to the address on the pre-addressed form, or submit by fax to 1-800-FDA-0178.

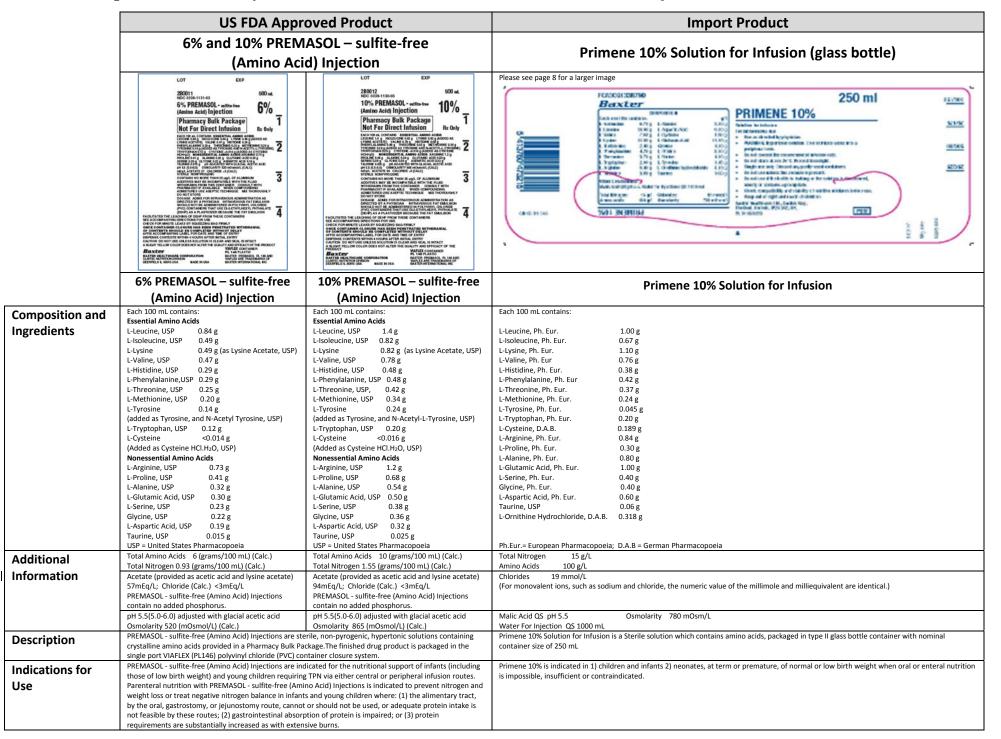
Sincerely,

Dennis Vaughn Vice President, Marketing Operations

Baxter Healthcare Corporation

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Product Comparison Table: Key differences in 6% and 10% Premasol – Sulfite-free Injection and Primene 10% Solution for Infusion



	US FDA Approved Product	Import Product		
	6% and 10% PREMASOL – sulfite-free	Drimono 10% Solution for Infusion (glass bottle)		
	(Amino Acid) Injection	Primene 10% Solution for Infusion (glass bottle)		
n	The objective of nutritional management of infants and young children is the provision of sufficient amino acid and caloric support for protein synthesis and growth. The total daily dose of 6% and 10% PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections depends on daily protein requirements and on the patient's metabolic and clinical response. The determination of nitrogen balance and accurate daily body weights, corrected for fluid balance, are probably the best means of assessing individual protein requirements. Dosage should also be guided by the patient's fluid intake limits and glucose and nitrogen tolerances, as well as by metabolic and clinical response. Recommendations for allowances of protein in infant nutrition have ranged from 2 to 4 grams of protein per kilogram of body weight per day (2.0 to 4.0 g/kg/day).4 The recommended dosage of PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections is 2.0 to 2.5 grams of amino acids per kilogram of body weight per day (2.0 to 2.5 g/kg/day) for infants up to 10 kilograms. For infants and young children larger than 10 kilograms, the total dosage of amino acids should include the 20 to 25 grams/day for the first 10 kg of body weight plus 1.0 to 1.25 g/day for each kg of body weight over 10 kilograms. Typically, PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections are admixed with 50% or 70% Dextrose Injection USP supplemented with electrolytes and vitamins and administered continuously over a 24 hour period. Total daily fluid intake should be appropriate for the patient's age and size. A fluid dose of 125 mL per kilogram body weight per day is appropriate for most infants on TPN. Although nitrogen requirements may be higher in severely hypercatabolic or depleted patients, provision of additional nitrogen may not be possible due to fluid intake limits, nitrogen, or glucose intolerance. Cysteine is considered to be an essential amino acid in infants and young children. An admixture of cysteine hydrochloride to the TPN solution is therefore recommended. Based on clinical studies	Parenteral nutrition initiation and duration as well as dosage (dose and rate of administration) depends on a patient's • age, weight, clinical condition, • nitrogen requirements, • ability to metabolize the constituents of Primene, • additional nutrition that may be provided parenterally and/or enterally. The usual range is: 1.5 − 3.5 g amino-acids/kg/24 hours 0.230 − 0.53 g nitrogen/kg/24 hours 15 − 35 ml of Primene 10%/kg/24 hours The infusion rate should not exceed 0.05ml/kg/min. Recommended flow rates: Neonates and Infants: continuous infusion (over 24 hours). Children: continuous infusion (over 24 hours) or cyclic infusion (over about 12 hours in 24). The flow rate should be adjusted according to the dosage, the characteristics of the infusion solution, the total volume intake per 24 hours and the infusion duration. The flow rate should be increased gradually during the first hour. Method of administration: Primene is intended for intravenous use. Primene is not intended for fluid or volume replacement. Primene 10% is usually administered with a source of energy appropriate for the needs of the child, either by co-administration or as mixture. Primene 10% may be included in the composition of nutritive mixtures combining carbohydrates, lipids, electrolytes, trace elements and vitamins to meet nutrient needs and prevent deficiencies and complications from developing, when compatibility and stability are known. Primene 10% alone should be administered in a central vein. The osmolarity of a specific infusion solution must be taken into account when peripheral administration is considered. Strongly hypertonic parenteral nutrition solutions (>900 mOsm/L) should be administered through a central veinous catheter with the tip located in a large central vein. The osmolarity of the formulation is ≤ 900 mOsm/L should be administered in a central venous catheter with the tip located in a large central vein. If deemed appropriate by the healthcare professional, parenteral nutrition solution may be admi		
	Fat emulsion co-administration should be considered when prolonged (more than 5 days) parenteral nutrition is required in order to prevent essential fatty acid deficiency (EFAD). Serum lipids should be monitored for evidence of EFAD in patients maintained on fat free TPN.	For single use only. If additions are made to the container: Ensure stability and compatibility of additives. Consult with pharmacist. Prepare the injection site of the container as appropriate. Puncture the injection site and inject the additives using an injection needle or a reconstitution		
	The provision of sufficient intracellular electrolytes, principally potassium, magnesium, and phosphate, is required for optimum utilization of amino acids. In addition, sufficient quantities of the major extracellular electrolytes sodium, calcium, and chloride, must be given. In patients with	device/transfer set, as appropriate. Mix content of the container and the additives thoroughly. Inspect final solution for discoloratio and particulate matter. Confirm the integrity of the container. Only use if the container is undamaged and the solution is clear.		

The provision of sufficient intracellular electrolytes, principally potassium, magnesium, and phosphate, is required for optimum utilization of amino acids. In addition, sufficient quantities of th major extracellular electrolytes sodium, calcium, and chloride, must be given. In patients with hyperchloremic or other metabolic acidoses, sodium and potassium may be added as the acetate salts to provide bicarbonate precursor. The electrolyte content of 6% and 10% PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections must be considered when calculating daily electrolyte intake. Serum electrolytes, including magnesium and phosphorus, should be monitored frequently. Appropriate vitamins, minerals and trace elements should also be provided.

Dosage and Administration

Central Venous Nutrition. Hypertonic mixtures of amino acids and dextrose may be safely administered by continuous infusion through a central venous catheter with the tip located in the superior vena cava. Initial infusion rates should be slow, and gradually increased to the recommended 60-125 mL per kilogram of body weight per day. If administration rate should fall behind schedule, no attempt to "catch up" to planned intake should be made. In addition to meeting protein needs, the rate of administration, particularly during the first few days of therapy, is governed by the patient's glucose tolerance. Daily intake of amino acids and dextrose should be increased gradually to the maximum required dose as indicated by frequent determinations of glucose levels in blood and urine.

Peripheral Parenteral Nutrition. For patients in whom the central venous route is not indicated and who can consume adequate calories enterally, PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections may be administered by peripheral vein with or without parenteral carbohydrate calories. Such infusates can be prepared by dilution with Sterile Water for Injection or 5% -10% Dextrose Injection to prepare isotonic or slightly hypertonic solutions for peripheral infusion. It is essential that peripheral infusion be accompanied by adequate caloric intake. Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. A slight yellow color does not alter the quality and efficacy of the product.

PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections may be admixed with solutions which contain phosphate or which have been supplemented with phosphate. The presence of calcium and magnesium ions in an additive solution should be considered when phosphate is also present, in order to avoid precipitation. Care must be taken to avoid incompatible admixtures. Consult with pharmacist. Parenteral nutrition solutions should be used promptly after mixing. Any storage should be under refrigeration and limited to a brief period of time, preferably less than 24 hours.

Confirm the integrity of the container. Only use if the container is undamaged and the solution is clear.

Any unused portion of Primene should be discarded and should not be used for subsequent admixing.

Ensure proper storage requirements of additives are followed.

 $\underline{\text{Administration of the infusion}}. \ \ \text{Allow the solution to reach room temperature before use}.$

The use of a final filter is required during administration of all formulations containing Primene and trace elements (including copper, iron, or zinc) for removal of visible particulate matter which has been observed in the infusion line for some formulations.

For 2 in 1 (amino acid and carbohydrate) parenteral nutrition solutions, use a 0.2 micron filter for removal of particulate matter that may be formed with the use of trace elements (e.g. copper). For 3 in 1 (lipid, amino acid, and carbohydrate) parenteral nutrition solutions, use a 1.2 micron filter for particulate matter removal.

Perform visual inspections for cloudiness or precipitation of the TPN solution, infusion set, catheter and in-line filter after compounding, prior to administration and periodically during administration. If discolouration or precipitation is noted in the filter, perform blood levels of copper (or other trace elements) where medically relevant.

Discard any unused contents. Do not reconnect any partially used container.

Do not connect containers in series in order to avoid air embolism due to possible residual air in the primary container.

Prime ne must not be infused through the same tubing with blood or blood components unless there is documentation that it is safe.

Attach administration set. Refer to 'Instructions for Use' accompanying the set

Additives may be incompatible.

Do not add other medicinal products or substances without first confirming their compatibility and the stability of the resulting preparation.

Excessive addition of calcium and phosphate increases the risk of the formation of calcium phosphate precipitates.

The addition of trace elements may cause formation of visible particulate matter.

	US FDA Approved Product	Import Product		
	6% and 10% PREMASOL – sulfite-free			
	(Amino Acid) Injection	Primene 10% Solution for Infusion (glass bottle)		
Contraindications	6% and 10% PREMASOL - sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injections are contraindicated in patients with untreated anuria, hepatic coma, inborn errors of amino acid metabolism, including those involving branched chain amino acid metabolism such as maple syrup urine disease and isovaleric acidemia, or hypersensitivity to one or more amino acids present in the solution.	Primene is contraindicated in patients with: • hypersensitivity to any of the active substances or to any of the excipients . • congenital abnormality of amino acid metabolism.		
Warnings and	See manufacturers full prescribing information for warning and precautions	Allergic Reactions / Hypersensitivity Reactions Anaphylactic/anaphylactoid reactions and other hypersensitivity/infusion reactions have been reported with amino acid solutions administered as		
Warnings and Precautions	See manufacturers full prescribing information for warning and precautions Marnings: This injection is for compounding only, not for direct infusion. Safe, effective use of parenteral nutrition requires a knowledge of nutrition as well as clinical expertise in recognition and treatment of the complications which can occur. Frequent evaluation and laboratory determinations are necessary for proper monitoring of parenteral nutrition. Administration of amino acids in the presence of impaired renal function or gastrointestinal bleeding may augment an already elevated blood urea nitrogen. Administration of intravenous solutions can cause fluid and/or solute overload resulting in dilution of serum electrolyte concentrations, overhydration, congested states, or pulmonary edema. Administration of amino acid solutions to a patient with hepatic insufficiency may result in plasma amino acid imbalances, hyperammonemia, percenal azotemia, stupor and coma. Hyperammonemia is of special significance in infants as its concurrence in the syndrome caused by genetic metabolic defects is sometimes associated, although not necessarily in a causal relationship, with mental retardation. This reaction appears to be dose related and is more likely to develop during prolonged therapy. It is essential that blood ammonia be measured frequently in infants. WARNING: This product contains aluminum that may be toxic. Aluminum may reach toxic levels with prolonged parenteral administration if kidney function is impaired. See manufacturers full prescribing information for warnings and precautions. Precautions: General: Clinical evaluation and periodic laboratory determinations are necessary to monitor changes in fluid balance, electrolyte concentrations, and acid-base balance during prolonged parenteral therapy or whenever the condition of the patient warrants such evaluation. Strongly hypertonic nutrient solutions should be administered via an intravenous catheter placed in a central vein, preferably the superior vena cava. Care should be t			

	US FDA Approved Product	Import Product			
	6% and 10% PREMASOL – sulfite-free (Amino Acid) Injection	Primene 10% Solution for Infusion (glass bottle)			
	Septic. The constant risk of sepsis is present during central venous nutrition. Since contaminated solutions and infusion catheters are potential sources of infection, it is imperative that the preparation of parenteral nutrition solutions and the placement and care of catheters be accomplished under controlled aseptic conditions. Solutions should ideally be prepared in the hospital pharmacy in a laminar flow hood. The key factor in their preparation is careful aseptic technique to avoid inadvertent touch contamination during mixing of solutions and subsequent admixtures. Parenteral nutrition solutions should be used promptly after mixing. Any storage should be under refrigeration and limited to a brief period of time, preferably less than 24 hours. Consult the medical literature for a discussion of the management of sepsis during central venous nutrition. In brief, typical management includes replacing the solution being administered with a fresh container and set, and the remaining contents are cultured for bacterial or fungal contamination. If sepsis persists and another source of infection is not identified, the catheter is removed, the proximal tip cultured, and a new catheter reinserted when the fever has subsided. Non-specific, prophylactic antibiotic treatment is not recommended. Clinical experience indicates that the catheter is likely to be the prime source of infection as opposed to aseptically prepared and properly stored solutions. Metabolic. The following metabolic complications have been reported: metabolic acidosis, hypophosphatemia, alkalosis, hyperglycemia and glycosuria, osmotic diuresis and dehydration, rebound hypoglycemia, elevated liver enzymes, hypo- and hypervitaminosis, electrolyte imbalances, and hyperammonemia in children. Frequent clinical evaluation and laboratory determinations are necessary, especially during the first few days of venous nutrition, to prevent or minimize these complications.	Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction No interaction studies have been performed. The compatibility and stability of nutritive mixtures should be confirmed before administration. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation There are no adequate data from the use of Primene in pregnant or lactating women. Healthcare Professionals should carefully consider the potential risks and benefits for each specific patient before administering Primene. Effects on ability to drive and use machines There is no information of the effects of Primene on the ability to drive or operate other heavy machinery.			
Adverse Events	Reactions reported in clinical studies as a result of infusion of the parenteral fluid were water weight gain, edema, increase in BUN, and mild acidosis. Reactions which may occur because of the solution or the technique of administration include febrile response, infection at the site of injection, venous thrombosis or phlebitis extending from the site of injection, extravasation and hypervolemia. Local reaction at the infusion site, consisting of a warm sensation, erythema, phlebitis and thrombosis, have been reported with peripheral amino acid infusions, especially if other substances are also administered through the same site. If electrolyte supplementation is required during peripheral infusion, it is recommended that additives be administered throughout the day in order to avoid possible venous irritation. Irritating additive medications may require injection at another site and should not be added directly to the amino acid infusate. Symptoms may result from an excess or deficit of one or more of the ions present in the solution; therefore, frequent monitoring of electrolyte levels is essential. Phosphorus deficiency may lead to impaired tissue oxygenation and acute hemolytic anemia. Relative to calcium, excessive phosphorus intake can precipitate hypocalcemia with cramps, tetany and muscular hyperexcitability. If an adverse reaction does occur, discontinue the infusion, evaluate the patient, institute appropriate therapeutic countermeasures and save the remainder of the fluid for examination if deemed necessary.	The adverse reactions listed below have been identified from post-marketing reports of Primene administered as a component of parenteral nutrition. The frequency of the adverse drug reactions listed in this section cannot be estimated from the available data. Tabulated summary of adverse reactions System Organ Class (SOC) Preferred MedDRA Term frequency MNOT known Face oedema Face oedema Fash Adverse reactions reported with parenteral amino acid products include: Azotaemia, Hyperammonaemia. Adverse reactions reported with parenteral nutrition to which the amino acid component may play a causal or contributory role include Anaphylactic/anaphylactioid reactions, including skin, gastrointestinal, and severe circulatory (shock) and respiratory manifestations as well as other hypersensitivity/infusion reactions, including pyrexia, chills, hypotension, hypertension, arthralgia, myalgia, urticaria, pruritus, erythema, and headache. Hepatic failure, Hepatic cirrhosis, Hepatic fibrosis, Cholestasis, Hepatic steatosis, Blood bilirubin increased, Hepatic enzyme increased; Cholecystitis, Cholelithiasis. Raised blood urea nitrogen in children with renal insufficiency. Metabolic acidosis. Pulmonary vascular precipitates. Necrosis, blistering, swelling, scarring, skin discoloration at the infusion site associated with extravasation. Infusion site thrombophlebitis; Venous irritation (infusion site phlebitis, pain, erythema, warmth, swelling, induration). Amino acid solutions may precipitate acute folic acid deficiency which should be corrected by supplements. Reporting of suspected adverse reactions: Reporting of suspected adverse reactions: Reporting of suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions with the Yellow Card Scheme at: Website: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard			
Overdose	In the event of a fluid or solute overload during parenteral therapy, reevaluate the patient's condition, and institute appropriate corrective treatment.	In the event of inappropriate administration (overdose, and/or infusion rate higher than recommended), hypervolemia, electrolyte disturban acidosis and/or azotemia may occur. In such situations, the infusion must be stopped immediately. If medically appropriate, further intervent may be indicated to prevent clinical complications. There is no specific antidote for overdose. Emergency procedures should include appropriate corrective measures.			
Storage Conditions	Exposure of pharmaceutical products to heat should be minimized. Avoid excessive heat. Protect from freezing. It is recommended the product be stored at room temperature (25°C/77°F). Brief exposure up to 40°C/104°F does not adversely affect the product. Protect from light until immediately prior to use. Do not remove container from overpouch until ready to use. Do not use if overpouch has been previously opened or damaged.	Do not store above 25 °C. Protect fron			
How Supplied	6% and 10% Premasol-sulfite free Amino Acid Injections are supplied in VIAFLEX plastic pharmacy Bulk Package containers in the following sizes and concentrations: 2B0011 6% PREMASOL NDC 0338-1131-03, 500 mL 2B0009 10% PREMASOL NDC 0338-1130-04, 1000mL 2B0012 10% PREMASOL NDC 0338-1130-06, 2000mL 2B0010 10% PREMASOL NDC 0338-1130-06, 2000mL	Prime 10% Solution for Infusion is supp Product Code FCZ3CG133R79D, NDC 0	plied in glass bottle containers available in 250 mL size 338-9577-10		

Product label for Primene 10% Solution for Infusion in glass container

