

"no deterrent in the control of pain in terminal illness"

Available by prescription, though it is a restricted **Class A drug**.

NRX

DIAMONEX™



Diamorphine hydrochloride BP Injection
(5mg, 10mg, 30mg, 100mg, 500mg) I.M./I.V

A WHITE TO OFF-WHITE, STERILE, FREEZE DRIED POWDER OF DIAMONEX -Diamorphine Hydrochloride BP for reconstitution for injection.

Diamorphine may be used in the **treatment of severe pain** associated with **surgical procedures, myocardial infarction** or pain in the terminally ill and for the relief of dyspnoea in acute pulmonary oedema.

DIAMONEX -Diamorphine may be given by the intramuscular, intravenous or subcutaneous routes. Glucose intravenous infusion is the preferred diluent, particularly when the drug is administered by a continuous infusion pump over **24 to 48 hours**, although it is also compatible with sodium chloride intravenous infusion.

Diamorphine is a potent opiate analgesic which has a more rapid onset of activity than morphine as the first metabolite, monoacetylmorphine, more readily crosses the blood brain barrier. In man, diamorphine has a half life of two to three minutes. Its first metabolite, monoacetylmorphine, is more slowly hydrolysed in the blood to be concentrated mainly in skeletal muscle, kidney, lung, liver and spleen. Monoacetylmorphine is metabolised to morphine. Morphine forms conjugates with glucuronic acid. The majority of the drug is excreted via the kidney as glucuronides and to a much lesser extent as morphine. About 7-10% is eliminated via the biliary system into the faeces. Diamorphine does not bind to protein. However, morphine is about 35% bound to human plasma proteins, mainly to albumin. The analgesic effect lasts approximately three to four hours.

* **Water for Injections (Not detectable in the finished product).**

2ml Neutral glass ampoules, PhEur. Type 1. Ampoules are packed into cartons of 5, 10 or 50.



DIAMONEX™
Diamorphine hydrochloride BP Injection
(5mg, 10mg, 30mg, 100mg, 500mg) I.M./I.V

NOTE: The solution should be used immediately after preparation.