

## **Package leaflet: Information for the user**

### **Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion**

Levobupivacaine hydrochloride

**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 nurse.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

**The name of your medicine is Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion; in the rest of the leaflet it will be called “Levobupivacaine”.**

#### **What is in this leaflet**

1. What Levobupivacaine is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you are given Levobupivacaine
3. How you will be given Levobupivacaine
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Levobupivacaine
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Levobupivacaine is and what it is used for**

Levobupivacaine belongs to a group of medicines called local anaesthetics. This type of medicine is used to make an area of the body numb or free from pain.

##### In adults and adolescents (12 years of age and older):

Levobupivacaine is used as a local anaesthetic to numb parts of the body before major surgery (except for caesarean section) and minor surgery (such as on the eye and mouth).

It is also used for:

- pain relief after major surgery

##### In children (below the age of 12):

Levobupivacaine can also be used with children to numb parts of the body before surgery and for pain relief after minor surgery, such as the repair of a groin hernia.

Levobupivacaine has not been tested in children less than 6 months of age.

#### **2. What you need to know before you are given Levobupivacaine**

**Do not use Levobupivacaine:**

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to levobupivacaine, to any similar local anaesthetics or to any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you have very low blood pressure.
- to numb an area by injecting Levobupivacaine into a vein.
- as a type of pain relief given by injection into the area around the neck of the womb (the cervix) during the early stage of labour (paracervical block).
- as pain relief during labour.
- as a local anaesthetic for caesarean section.

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor before you are given Levobupivacaine if you have any of the diseases or conditions below. You may need to be checked more closely or given a smaller dose.

- if you have a heart condition
- if you suffer from diseases of the nervous system
- if you are weak or ill
- if you are elderly
- if you have liver disease.

### **Other medicines and Levobupivacaine**

Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. In particular, tell them if you are taking medicines for:

- irregular heart beats (such as mexiletine)
- fungal infections (such as ketoconazole) since this may affect how long Levobupivacaine stays in your body
- asthma (such as theophylline) since this may affect how long Levobupivacaine stays in your body.

### **Pregnancy and breastfeeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine.

Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml should not be given as pain relief during labour or as a local anaesthetic during caesarean section.

The effect of Levobupivacaine on the child during the early stage of pregnancy is not known. Therefore, Levobupivacaine should not be used during the first three months of your pregnancy, unless your doctor thinks it is necessary.

It is not known if levobupivacaine passes into breast milk. However from the experience with a similar drug, only small amounts of levobupivacaine are expected to pass into breast milk. Breastfeeding is therefore possible after having a local anaesthetic.

### **Driving and using machines**

The use of Levobupivacaine can have a considerable effect on the ability to drive or use machines. You must not drive or operate machinery until all the effects of Levobupivacaine

and the immediate effects of surgery have worn off. Make sure you get advice about this matter from the doctor or nurse who is treating you, before leaving hospital.

### **Levobupivacaine contains sodium**

This medicine contains 3.6 mg sodium (main component of cooking salt) in each ml. This is equivalent to 0.18% of the recommended maximum daily dietary intake of sodium for an adult.

### **3. How to use Levobupivacaine**

Levobupivacaine can be injected into parts of the body to numb the area that you will have treated, such as the eye, arm or leg.

Your doctor and nurse will watch you carefully while you are being given Levobupivacaine.

### **Dosage**

The amount of Levobupivacaine you will be given and how often it is given will depend on why it is being used and also on your health, age and weight. The smallest dose that can produce numbness in the required area will be used. The dose will be carefully worked out by your doctor.

### **If you get more Levobupivacaine than you should**

If you get more Levobupivacaine than you should, you may have numbness of the tongue, dizziness, blurred vision, muscle twitching, severe breathing difficulties (including stopping breathing) and even fits (convulsions). If you notice any of these symptoms, tell your doctor immediately. Sometimes too much Levobupivacaine may also cause low blood pressure, fast or slow heartbeats and changes in your heart rhythm. Your doctor may need to give you other medicines to help stop these symptoms.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or nurse.

### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

**Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following side effects.** Some side effects with Levobupivacaine can be serious.

**Very common** (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- feeling tired or weak, short of breath, looking pale (these are all signs of anaemia)
- low blood pressure
- nausea

**Common** (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- dizziness

- headache
- vomiting
- back pain
- high body temperature (fever)
- pain after surgery

**Not known** (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):

- serious allergic (hypersensitive) reactions which cause severe breathing difficulties, difficulty in swallowing, hives and very low blood pressure
- allergic (hypersensitive) reactions recognised by red itchy skin, sneezing, sweating a lot, rapid heartbeat, fainting or swelling of the face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat.
- loss of consciousness
- drowsiness
- blurred vision
- breathing stopping
- heart block or heart stopping
- localized tingling
- numbness of the tongue
- muscle weakness or twitching
- loss of bladder or bowel control
- paralysis
- fits (convulsions)
- tingling, numbness or other abnormal sensation
- prolonged erection of the penis that may be painful
- nerve disorder which can include drooping of the eyelid, small pupil (black center of the eye), sunken eye socket, sweating and/or redness in one side of the face

Fast, slow or irregular heartbeats, and heart rhythm changes that can be seen on an ECG, have also been reported as side effects.

Rarely, some side effects may be long-term or permanent.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly:

For UK: via the Yellow Card Scheme, Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store

For IE: Via HPRA Pharmacovigilance, Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

### **5. How to store Levobupivacaine**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Your doctor will store this medicine for you.

The solution should be used immediately after opening.

Do not use this medicine if you notice visible particles in it.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Levobupivacaine contains**

- The active substance is levobupivacaine (as levobupivacaine hydrochloride). Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion: 1 ml solution contains 7.5 mg levobupivacaine (as levobupivacaine hydrochloride). Each ampoule of 10 ml contains 75 mg levobupivacaine (as levobupivacaine hydrochloride).
- The other ingredients are water for injection, sodium chloride, and small quantity of sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid.

This medicine contains an excipient with known effect (sodium). See section 2 for further information.

pH 4.0-6.0

Osmolarity: 272 – 372 mOsmol/l

### **What Levobupivacaine looks like and contents of the pack**

This medicine is a clear, colourless solution, in polypropylene ampoules in sterile blister pack. Each ampoule contains 10 ml of solution. It is supplied in packs of 5, 10 or 20 ampoules.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

For UK

Fresenius Kabi Ltd

Cestrian Court

Eastgate Way, Manor Park

Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 1NT

United Kingdom

For IE

Fresenius Kabi Deutschland GmbH  
Else-Kröner-Straße 1,  
61352 Bad Homburg v.d.Höhe  
Germany

**Manufacturer**

Fresenius Kabi Norge AS  
Svinesundsveien 80,  
1789 Berg i Østfold,  
Norway

**This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:**

**Levobupivacaine Kabi 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion**

<b>Name of the Member State</b>	<b>Name of the medicinal product</b>
Belgium	Levobupivacaine Fresenius Kabi 7.5 mg/ml oplossing voor injectie/infusie
Ireland	Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion
Italy	Levobupivacaina Kabi
Netherlands	Levobupivacaine Fresenius Kabi 7.5 mg/ml oplossing voor injectie/infusie
Portugal	Levobupivacaína Kabi
Slovenia	Levobupivakain Kabi 7.5 mg/ml raztopina za injiciranje/infundiranje
Slovakia	Levobupivacaine Kabi 7,5 mg/ml
Spain	Levobupivacaina Kabi 7,5 mg/ml solución inyectable y para perfusión
United Kingdom	Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion

**This leaflet was last revised in March 2021.**



The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:

### **Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion.**

#### **Instructions for use and handling**

Levobupivacaine 7.5 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion is intended for single use only.

Discard any unused solution.

Do not use unless the container is undamaged.

The solution/dilution should be inspected visually prior to use. Only clear solutions without visible particles should be used.

A sterile blister container should be chosen when a sterile ampoule surface is required. Ampoule surface is not sterile if sterile blister is pierced.

Dilutions of levobupivacaine standard solutions should be made with sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection using aseptic techniques.

Clonidine 8.4 µg/ml, morphine 0.05 mg/ml, fentanyl 2-4 µg/ml and sufentanil 0.4 µg/ml have been shown to be compatible with levobupivacaine in sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection.

Shelf life after first opening: The product should be used immediately.

Shelf life after dilution:

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for Levobupivacaine diluted with sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution to a final concentration of 0.625 mg/ml and 1.25 mg/ml, respectively for 30 days either 2-8°C or 20°C – 25°C.

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for Levobupivacaine diluted with sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) to a final concentration of 0.625 mg/ml and 1.25 mg/ml, respectively

- With 8.4 µg/ml clonidine hydrochloride, 50 µg/ml morphine sulfate and 2-4 µg/ml fentanyl citrate for 30 days at either 2-8°C or 20°C–25°C .
- With sufentanil added in the concentration of 0.4 µg/ml for 30 days at 2-8 °C or 7 days at 20 °C-25 °C.

From a microbiological point of view, the product should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions prior to use are the responsibility of the user and would normally not be longer than 24 hours at 2 to 8°C, unless the dilution and admix have taken place in controlled and validated aseptic conditions.

Levobupivacaine must not be mixed with any other medicinal products except those listed above. Dilution with alkaline solutions such as sodium bicarbonate may result in precipitation.

There is limited safety experience with levobupivacaine therapy for periods exceeding 24 hours.

#### **Method of administration**

Levobupivacaine should be administered only by, or under the supervision of, a clinician having the necessary training and experience.

Please refer to the summary of product characteristics for posology information.

Careful aspiration before and during injection is recommended to prevent intravascular injection.

Aspiration should be repeated before and during administration of a bolus dose, which should be injected slowly and in incremental doses, at a rate of 7.5–30 mg/min, while closely observing the patient's vital functions and maintaining verbal contact.

If toxic symptoms occur, the injection should be stopped immediately.



**Levobupivacaine Kabi<sup>®</sup>**  
(levobupivacaine)  
7.5mg/ml



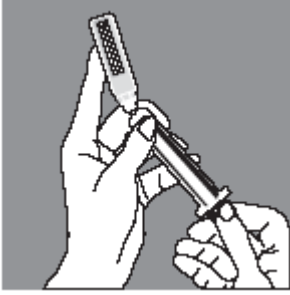
. Shake down any contents from the neck.



f hand waist height. Hold arrow on ampoule held between thumb and  
from you). Twist quickly and sharply towards you (anti-clockwise).

Push firmly the tapered luer tip of syringe into ampoule.





Gently push the ampoule towards you with the forefinger and withdraw the content slowly, taking special care at first.

