

APPROVED PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION FOR FUROSEMIDE HETERO

SCHEDULING STATUS:

S3

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINE

FUROSEMIDE 20 mg/2 ml HETERO 20 mg/2 ml, Solution for injection

FUROSEMIDE 100 mg/10 ml HETERO 100 mg/10 ml, Solution for injection

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

FUROSEMIDE 20 mg/2 ml HETERO

FUROSEMIDE 100 mg/10 ml HETERO

Each ml contains Furosemide 10 mg

FUROSEMIDE HETERO contains no sugar

For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Solution for injection

A clear, colourless solution.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

- Cardiac oedema: All forms of cardiac oedema in conjunction with adequate glycoside therapy.
- Ascites due to cirrhosis of the liver, mechanical obstruction or cardiac failure.
- Renal oedema in nephrotic syndrome.
- Oedema occurring during the last three months of pregnancy - pre-eclamptic toxemia and

eclampsia.

- As an adjunct in acute pulmonary oedema.
- Cerebral oedema.
- Hypertension of mild to moderate degree.
- Barbiturate poisoning (using the principle of “forced diuresis”).
- Burns: to reduce local oedema and to prevent oliguria from progressing to complete anuria.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

The recommended adult usual dose by this route is 20 – 40 mg, repeated if necessary after not less than 2 hours.

Pulmonary oedema: Initial dose 40 mg intravenously. If necessary, the injection may be repeated after approximately 60 – 90 minutes.

Forced diuresis (e.g. management of barbiturate poisoning): 20 mg to 40 mg **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** is given in addition to infusion of electrolyte solution. Further treatment depends on the elimination of urine and must include substitution of the fluid and electrolyte losses. In poisoning with acid or basic substances the elimination rate can be further increased by alkalisation or acidification of the urine, respectively.

Special populations

Paediatric population (infants and children under 15 years)

Parenteral administration (if necessary, continuous drip infusion) is indicated only in life-threatening conditions. In this case, infants/children receive parenteral doses of 1 mg/kg body mass per day up to a maximum of 20 mg per day.

Method of administration

Intravenous or intramuscular administration of **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** is indicated in all cases

where intestinal absorption is impaired, prompt diuresis is required or rapid fluid elimination is necessary.

The rapid and powerful effect produced by intravenous injection may result in a transitory fall in plasma volume.

Intravenously, **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** should be injected slowly. The rate of injection of 4 mg per minute should not be exceeded. During long-term treatment, serum creatinine and urea and also electrolytes, in particular potassium, calcium, chloride and bicarbonate, should be regularly checked.

4.3 Contraindications

- Hypersensitive to the active substance, sulphonamides or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.
- **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** is contraindicated if increasing uraemia, azotaemia and oliguria occur during treatment of severe progressive renal disease, Renal failure associated with hepatic coma, severe hypokalaemia, severe hyponatraemia and in pre-comatose and comatose states associated with hepatic encephalopathy.
- **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** should not be given to lactating women (see section 4.6).
- In states of electrolyte depletion, hypovolaemia, dehydration and hypotension.
- Anuria, or renal failure due to nephrotoxic or hepatotoxic medicines.
- Pre-comatose states associated with hepatic cirrhosis.
- Patients with Addison's disease or pre-existing hypercalcaemia.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

- Hypotension may occur with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, or acute hypotensive episodes. Where indicated, steps should be taken to correct hypotension or hypovolaemia before commencing therapy.
- Regular monitoring of serum sodium, potassium and creatinine is generally recommended during furosemide, as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, therapy; particularly close monitoring is

required in patients at high risk of developing electrolyte imbalances or in case of significant additional fluid loss.

- Hypovolaemia or dehydration as well as any significant electrolyte and acid-base disturbances must be corrected. This may require temporary discontinuation of **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**.
- Urinary output must be secured. In patients with a partial obstruction of urinary outflow increased production of urine may provoke or aggravate complaints. These patients require careful monitoring. Patients with partial obstruction of urinary outflow, for example patients with prostatic hypertrophy or impairment of micturition have an increased risk of developing acute urinary retention and require careful monitoring.
- In patients who are at high risk for radiocontrast nephropathy, **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** is not recommended to be used for diuresis as part of the preventative measures against radiocontrast-induced nephropathy.

Ototoxicity

- With parenteral use of furosemide as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** in high doses, reversible deafness and tinnitus have been reported when the infusion is faster than 4 mg per minute. Permanent deafness may develop in patients with impaired renal function.

Particularly careful monitoring is required in:

- patients with hypotension – correct before use.
- patients who are at risk from a pronounced fall in blood pressure.
- patients with gout.
- patients with adrenal disease.
- patients with hypoproteinaemia, e.g. associated with nephrotic syndrome (the effect of

FUROSEMIDE HETERO may be weakened, and its ototoxicity potentiated). Cautious dose titration is required.

- elderly patients (see Electrolyte and fluid disturbances)
- premature infants (possible development of nephrocalcinosis/ nephrolithiasis – renal function must be monitored and renal ultrasonography performed).
- patients with impaired hepatic or renal function. Liver damage or dysfunction as well as renal failure have been reported (see also section 4.3).

Glucose tolerance and diabetes mellitus

- Alterations in glucose tolerance tests with abnormalities of the fasting and 2-hour postprandial sugar levels have been observed and cases of precipitation of diabetes mellitus have been reported.
- Use with caution in patients with diabetes mellitus. The insulin requirements of diabetic patients may increase.

Electrolyte and fluid disturbances

- A frequent side effect associated with furosemide as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** therapy is fluid and electrolyte imbalance including hyponatraemia, hypokalaemia and hypochloraemic alkalosis, particularly after large doses or prolonged administration.
- Excessive diuresis may result in dehydration and reduction in blood volume, with circulatory collapse and with the possibility of vascular thrombosis and embolism, particularly in elderly patients.
- Because of the strong natriuretic effect of furosemide as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, the sodium levels could be reduced especially if the oedema is reduced quickly.

Magnesium depletion may develop.

- Furosemide increases urinary excretion of calcium, may lower serum calcium levels and cases of tetany have been reported.

- The risk of hypokalaemia is increased in patients with severe or congestive heart failure, hepatic cirrhosis or hyperaldosteronism.
- Excessive loss of potassium in patients receiving cardiac glycosides may precipitate digoxin toxicity. Care should also be taken in patients receiving potassium-depleting steroids.
- Hypokalaemia may be counteracted with a potassium-rich diet. If a deficiency state exists – especially in cirrhosis – the serum potassium must first be restored by potassium supplementation, and if necessary, sodium and chloride.
- Caution should be observed in patients liable to electrolyte deficiency, such as the elderly. Regular monitoring of serum sodium, potassium and creatinine is generally recommended during **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** therapy. Particularly close monitoring is required in patients at high risk of developing electrolyte imbalances or in case of significant additional fluid loss.
- Hypovolaemia or dehydration as well as any significant electrolyte and acid-base disturbances must be corrected. This may require temporary discontinuation of **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**.

Concomitant use with risperidone

- In elderly patients with dementia, a higher incidence of mortality was observed in patients treated concomitantly with furosemide, as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, and risperidone.

4.5 Interaction with other medicines and other forms of interaction

Cross-sensitivity may occur between furosemide, as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, and sulphonamides (see section 4.3).

Interactions that may be expected with the concomitant administration of FUROSEMIDE HETERO and the following medicines:

Antibiotics: Nephrotoxicity associated with cephalosporins and aminoglycosides and ototoxicity associated with aminoglycosides may be potentiated when **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** is used in conjunction with these medicines. To avoid permanent damage, these medicines should not be used together.

Alcohol: Postural hypotension associated with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may be enhanced by concomitant ingestion of alcohol.

Aldesleukin: Enhanced hypotensive effect.

Aliskiren: May decrease the furosemide concentration.

Anaesthetics: Enhanced hypotensive effects.

Anion-exchange resins: Colestyramine and colestipol markedly reduce the absorption of **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**. Administer 2 – 3 hours apart.

Antidysrhythmic medicines: Toxicity of amiodarone, disopyramide, flecainide and quinidine is increased if hypokalaemia occurs. Action of lidocaine and mexiletine is antagonised by hypokalaemia. Hypokalaemia also increases the risk of ventricular dysrhythmias with a beta-blocker like sotalol.

Anticoagulants: **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may reduce the anticoagulant effect of warfarin.

Antidepressants: Increased risk of postural hypotension with tricyclic antidepressants. Enhanced hypotensive effect with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs). There may be an increased risk of hypokalaemia when **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** and reboxetine are used concomitantly.

Antidiabetics: **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may antagonise the hypoglycaemic effect of antidiabetic

medicines.

Antiepileptics: Increased risk of hyponatraemia with concomitant administration of carbamazepine.

The diuretic effect of furosemide has been shown to be substantially reduced by concomitant phenytoin therapy.

Antifungals: Increased risk of hypokalaemia with loop diuretics such as **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** and amphotericin.

Anti-gout medicines: Probenecid reduces the renal clearance of furosemide and may increase, decrease or have no effect on the overall diuresis. Furosemide may reduce the renal clearance of probenecid. High-dose treatment with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** and probenecid may lead to increased serum levels and an increased risk of side effects.

Antihistamines: Hypokalaemia increases risk of ventricular dysrhythmias.

Antihypertensive medicines: **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may enhance the hypotensive effects of other antihypertensive medicines, including beta-blockers, calcium channel blockers, hydralazine, methyldopa and rauwolfia alkaloids.

The dosage of concurrent antihypertensive medicines may require adjustment. Particular care should be taken with ACE inhibitors and angiotensin-II antagonists when initiating or increasing their dose in concomitant therapy with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, since the combined treatment can result in marked reduction in blood pressure and deterioration in renal function.

Antipsychotics: Hypokalaemia increases risk of ventricular dysrhythmias with pimozide and sertindole. Concurrent use with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** should be avoided in hypokalaemic patients. Enhanced hypotensive effect with phenothiazines. Risperidone: Caution should be exercised (see section 4.4).

Concomitant administration of **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** and lithium may lead to toxic blood

concentrations of lithium. It is recommended that lithium levels are carefully monitored, and that the lithium dosage is adjusted where necessary.

Anxiolytics and hypnotics: Administration of chloral hydrate followed by intravenous **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may result in a syndrome of hot flushes, sweating, tachycardia and hypertension.

Barbiturates, narcotics: Postural hypotension associated with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may be enhanced by concomitant ingestion of barbiturates or narcotics.

Ciclosporin: Concomitant use of ciclosporin and furosemide, as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**, is associated with increased risk of gouty arthritis.

Corticosteroids: Increased risk of hypokalaemia and sodium retention with the naturally occurring corticosteroids. Fluid retention associated with corticosteroid use may cause antagonism of diuretic/antihypertensive effect.

Cytotoxics: Concomitant use of Furosemide and cisplatin increases the risk of ototoxicity and nephrotoxicity.

Digoxin: Increased risk of toxicity if hypokalaemia or hypo-magnesaemia occurs. The digoxin dosage may require adjustment as a more pronounced fall in blood pressure must be anticipated if given concomitantly with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**.

Diuretics: Increased risk of hypokalaemia with other loop diuretics and other diuretics, including acetazolamide and thiazides. Severe electrolyte disturbances may occur in patients given metolazone concurrently with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**. The dosage of concurrently administered diuretics may require adjustment.

Dopaminergics: Enhanced hypotensive effect with levodopa.

Laxatives: Prolonged use may increase the risk of developing hypokalaemia.

Muscle relaxants: **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may enhance the neuromuscular blocking action of non-depolarising muscle relaxants, such as tubocurarine.

Nitrates: Enhanced hypotensive effect.

NSAIDs: Certain nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory Medicines (e.g. indomethacin, ketorolac, acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin) may attenuate the diuretic effect of furosemide and may cause acute renal failure in cases of pre-existing hypovolaemia or dehydration.

Prostaglandins: Hypotensive effect may be potentiated by alprostadil.

Sympathomimetics: There is an increased risk of hypokalaemia with high doses of β_2 -sympathomimetics. Effects of pressor amines may be attenuated.

Theophylline: Risk of hypokalaemia may be increased; effects of theophylline may be potentiated.

Ulcer healing medicines: Carbenoxolone and liquorice may increase risk of hypokalaemia. Fluid retention associated with carbenoxolone may cause antagonism of diuretic/antihypertensive effect. Ranitidine causes a moderate increase in the bioavailability of furosemide, as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**.

Medicines inducing QT prolongation syndrome:

Electrolyte disturbances caused by furosemide as in **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** may increase the toxicity of these medicines.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy:

Safety in pregnancy has not been established.

Animal data indicated that furosemide may cause foetal abnormalities. Furosemide crosses the placental barrier. As furosemide is a potent diuretic, reduction in maternal blood volume following administration could compromise placental perfusion. It should not be given during pregnancy unless there are compelling medical reasons. Treatment during pregnancy requires monitoring of foetal growth.

Breastfeeding:

Furosemide passes into breast milk and may inhibit lactation. Women must not breastfeed if they are treated with **FUROSEMIDE HETERO** (see section 4.3).

Fertility

No data on the effect of [PN] on fertility is available

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

FUROSEMIDE HETERO

Side effects (e.g. an undesirable pronounced fall in blood pressure) may impair the patient's ability to concentrate and react and therefore constitute a risk in situations where these abilities are of special importance (e.g. operating a vehicle or machinery).

4.8 Undesirable effects

a) Summary of the safety profile

b) Tabulated list of adverse reactions

System organ class	Frequency	Adverse event
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Infections and infestations	Frequency unknown	Pancreatitis.	
Blood and the lymphatic system disorders	Less Frequent	Bone marrow depression, anaemia, leukopenia, agranulocytosis, aplastic anaemia, haemolytic anaemia and thrombocytopenia (with purpura), eosinophilia.	
Immune system disorders	Frequent unknown	Hypersensitivity reactions, anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid reactions.	
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	Frequent	Fluid and electrolyte imbalance, including hyponatraemia, hypokalaemia and hypochloraemic alkalosis, particularly after large doses or prolonged use, metabolic alkalosis.	
	Less Frequent	Hyperglycaemia, glycosuria, hyperuricaemia, gout, increased urinary excretion of calcium, lowering of serum calcium levels, tetany, hypocalcaemia (may lead to decreased bone mineral content, rickets, fractures and renal calcification or nephrolithiasis in preterm	

		infants). Hypovolaemia, dehydration (particularly in elderly). Latent diabetes mellitus may become manifest.	
Nervous system disorders	Less Frequent	Dizziness, headache, paraesthesia, syncope, orthostatic hypotension.	
Eye disorders	Frequent unknown	Blurred vision, yellow vision.	
Ear disorders	Frequent unknown	Deafness (see section 4.4), tinnitus.	
Cardiac disorders	Frequent unknown	Dysrhythmia due to electrolyte imbalance, Increased risk of thrombosis	
Vascular disorders	Frequent unknown	Hypotension, persistence of patent ductus arteriosus in premature babies, vasculitis.	
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Less frequent	Rashes, urticaria, exfoliative dermatitis, pruritus, purpura, photosensitivity, erythema multiforme, bullous lesion, acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) and drug rash with eosinophilia syndrome.	
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Frequent unknown	Muscle spasm, cramps.	

Renal and urinary disorders	Frequent	Interstitial nephritis, urine retention (e.g. in patients with bladder emptying disorders, prostatic hyperplasia or narrowing of the urethra), increases in blood creatinine and urea levels, nephrocalcinosis/nephrolithiasis in premature babies.
	Less frequent	Acute renal failure
Gastrointestinal disorders	Frequent	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea
	Less frequent	Dry mouth, thirst, bowel motility disturbances, constipation
Hepatobiliary disorders	Frequent	Cholestatic jaundice, liver dysfunction, reversible liver failure, hepatic coma in patients with cirrhosis, intrahepatic cholestasis, increased liver transaminases, hepatic encephalopathy.
General disorders and administration site conditions	Frequent	Fever, pain at the injection site.
	Less frequent	Fatigue, malaise
Investigations	Frequent	Thiamine deficiency, raised serum cholesterol and triglyceride levels.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicine is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicine. Health care providers are asked to report any suspected adverse to report any suspected adverse reactions to SAHPRA via the, Med Safety APP (Medsafety X SAHPRA) and eReporting platform (who-umc.org) found on SAHPRA website.

4.9 Overdose

The clinical picture in acute or chronic overdose depends primarily on the extent and consequences of electrolyte and fluid loss, e.g. hypovolaemia, dehydration, haemoconcentration, cardiac dysrhythmias due to excessive diuresis.

Symptoms of these disturbances include severe hypotension (progressing to shock), acute renal failure, thrombosis, delirious states, flaccid paralysis, apathy and confusion.

The guiding principle of treatment is water and electrolyte replacement in accordance with urine output (with monitoring of carbohydrate metabolism if necessary). If difficulty in micturition is proved or suspected, as in cases of prostatic hypertrophy or impairment of consciousness, care must be taken to ensure a free outflow of urine from the bladder.

Treatment is symptomatic and supportive.

No specific antidote to furosemide is known. If ingestion has only just taken place, attempts may be made to limit further systemic absorption of the active ingredient by measures such as those designated to reduce absorption (e.g. activated charcoal).

Overdose can cause massive diuresis resulting in dehydration, volume depletion and electrolyte disturbances with consequent hypotension and cardiac toxicity. High doses have the potential to cause transient deafness and may precipitate gout (disturbed uric acid secretion).

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Category and class: A 18.1 Diuretics

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Diuretics; Sulfonamides, plain.

ATC code: C03CA01.

Mechanism of action

Furosemide is a high-ceiling diuretic acting primarily by inhibiting electrolyte and fluid re-absorption in the thick ascending limb of Henle as well as in the proximal tubule.

The excretion of potassium, titratable acid, ammonia, calcium and magnesium is enhanced and the concentration of uric acid in plasma is increased.

In patients with pulmonary oedema, venous capacitance is increased, thereby decreasing left ventricular filling pressure.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

It is approximately 90 % protein bound, has a half-life of about 1 – 2 hours and has duration of action in the range of 3 – 6 hours. It is excreted mainly by the kidneys and liver and the remainder in the faeces.

Furosemide is a weak carboxylic acid which exist mainly in the dissociated form in the gastrointestinal tract. Furosemide is rapidly but incompletely absorbed (60-70%) on oral administration and its effect is largely over within 4 hours. The optimal furosemide is a weak carboxylic acid which exists mainly in the dissociated form in the gastrointestinal tract. Furosemide is rapidly but incompletely absorbed (60-70%) on oral administration and its effect is largely over within 4 hours. The optimal absorption site is the upper duodenum at pH 5.0.

Distribution

Furosemide is up to 99% bound to plasma proteins.

Biotransformation:

Furosemide is bound to plasma albumin and little biotransformation takes place

Elimination

Regardless of route of administration 69-97% of activity from a radio-labelled dose is excreted in the first 4 hours after the medicine is given. Furosemide is mainly eliminated via the kidneys (80-90%) mainly excreted in the urine, largely unchanged; but also excreted in the bile, non-renal elimination being considerably increased in renal failure. Furosemide crosses the placental barrier and is excreted in the milk.

A small fraction of the dose undergoes biliary elimination and 10-15% of the activity can be recovered from the faeces.

In renal/ hepatic impairment

Where liver disease is present, biliary elimination is reduced up to 50%. Renal impairment has little effect on the elimination rate of furosemide, but less than 20% residual renal function increases the elimination time.

Special populations

Elderly patients

The elimination of furosemide is delayed in the elderly where a certain degree of renal impairment is present.

Paediatric Population

A sustained diuretic effect is seen in paediatric age, possibly due to immature tubular function.

6. Pharmaceutical particulars

6.1 List of excipients

- Sodium Chloride
- Sodium Hydroxide
- Hydrochloric acid
- Nitrogen

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable

6.3 Shelf life

24 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store at or below 25 °C. Protect from light and moisture.

Keep the bottle tightly closed

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

FUROSEMIDE 20 mg/2 ml HETERO (10 mg/ml)

2 ml amber tubular glass vial with a rubber stopper and flip off seal.

Pack size: 21 x 1's

FUROSEMIDE 100 mg/10 ml HETERO (10 mg/ml)

10 ml amber tubular glass vial with a rubber stopper and flip off seal.

Pack size: 1x 1's

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Applicant/ PHRC: **Hetero Drugs South Africa (Pty) Ltd.**

Product proprietary name: **FUROSEMIDE HETERO**

Dosage form and strength: **Solution for injection, 20 mg/2 ml & 100 mg/10 ml FUROSEMIDE HETERO**

Any unused medicine should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements. **FUROSEMIDE 20 mg/2 ml HETERO** and **FUROSEMIDE 100 mg/10 ml HETERO** should not be mixed with any other preparations. Opened ampoules should be used immediately and any remainder discarded.

7 HOLDER OF CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Hetero Drugs South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Waterfall Corporate Campus

Building No. 2, First floor

74 Waterfall Drive

Midrand, 2066

Telephone: 012 644 1220

Fax number: 012 644 1564

e-mail address: nokuthula.n@heterodrugs.com

8 REGISTRATION NUMBER (S)

Will be allocated by the Authority upon registration

FUROSEMIDE 20 mg/2 ml Hetero: 57/18.1/0453

FUROSEMIDE 100 mg/10 ml Hetero: 57/18.1/0454

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

27 January 2026

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE NEXT