

# PROCEDURE

ORIGINAL DATE: 10/01  
REVISION DATE: 09/15

## Home Health Foundation, Inc

**SUBJECT: AREDIA (PAMIDRONATE DISODIUM) INFUSION**

**PURPOSE:** To administer intravenous Aredia to patients with hypercalcemia.

### **General Information**

1. Aredia is largely eliminated through the kidneys and can cause nephropathy in large doses. Administration requires adequate hydration prior to start of therapy and close monitoring throughout.
2. A minimum of seven days should elapse after initial infusion to allow for full response to initial dose.
3. Patient's temperature should be monitored as increases in body temperature can be seen in the first 48 hours after therapy.
4. Solution is stable for 24 hours at room temperature.
5. The most common side effects of Aredia are:

seizures	fatigue
atrial fibrillation	tachycardia
hypertension	anorexia N/V
leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, anemia	electrolyte imbalances
jaw or bone pain	abdominal pain

### **Policy**

1. Patients must receive initial dose of Aredia in a hospital or doctor's office setting.
2. RN will administer Aredia infusions according to physician's orders.
3. It is recommended that patients be well hydrated, preferably with normal saline, prior to infusion of Aredia.
4. Medication should be mixed in either D5W or normal saline. Medication should not be mixed in a calcium-containing solution such as LR.
5. Aredia should only be given via IV infusion and never via bolus due to possible nephropathy.
6. Aredia infusions should be given over 2 to 4 hours.
7. It is recommended that patients' labs be monitored during therapy for electrolytes, bun, creatinine, calcium, phosphorous, magnesium and CBC.
8. Clinician must remain with patient and monitor throughout visit.

## Equipment

pre-mixed hydration solution with added dose of Aredia	IV pump and appropriate tubing or flow control device
pre-filled saline syringe	alcohol prep pads
pre-filled heparin syringe	gloves
sharps container	tape

## Procedure

1. Use two patient identifiers. Explain procedure to patient.
2. Access IV line according to established procedure.
3. Check and confirm orders for Aredia and inspect bag for correct patient name and medication, color or cloudiness and expiration date.
4. Take baseline vital signs and complete skilled assessment prior to beginning infusion.
5. Open tubing package and close clamp.
6. Spike bag of Aredia and hang on pole.
7. Prime IV tubing.
8. Load IV tubing into pump following manufacturer's instruction or set flow control device to ordered rate.
9. Review pump parameter to deliver dose/volume ordered and rate of infusion.
10. Wipe cap with alcohol and flush catheter with normal saline.
11. Wipe cap with alcohol and attach tubing to cap.
12. Turn on pump or open clamp on IV tubing with flow control device set to ordered rate.
13. Review side effects with patient/caregiver and action to take should these occur.
14. When infusion is completed, remove tubing from cap.
15. Wipe cap with alcohol and flush with saline and heparin solutions as ordered by physician.
16. Deposit any needles/syringes in sharps container.
17. Double bag other equipment for disposal.
18. Document infusion and any response to treatment.

---

## References

1. Infusion Nurses Society (2011) Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice Journal of Infusion Nursing S1-S101
2. Betty L. Gahart, Adrienne R. Nazareno (2014), Intravenous Medications, 30, 910-913

---

Approved Policy Committee: 09/08/15