

Summer 2009

2010 Proposed Rule for Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS)

On July 1, 2009, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the 2010 proposed HOPPS rule on their Web site. The final rule will be published in November of this year. The rule will be implemented on January 1, 2010.

Key provisions of the proposed rule include:

- Overall, payments to hospitals increase by approximately 1.9%
- The packaging threshold for drugs and biologicals will be \$65, a \$5 increase from the current threshold of \$60
- Continuation of the pass-through status in CY 2010 for C9247 Iobenguane I-123, diagnostic, per study dose, up to 10 millicuries at average sales price (ASP) + 6%
- Separately payable drugs not on pass-through status will be reimbursed at ASP + 4%
- Therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals would be reimbursed at ASP + 4% if the manufacturer reports an ASP. Otherwise, the drug would be paid per the mean claims cost
- Some of the nuclear medicine and echocardiography codes have been assigned to new Ambulatory Payment Classifications (APCs)
- No new composite APCs will be developed for CY 2010
- Continuation of the requirement that hospitals participating in the Hospital Outpatient Quality Data Reporting Program (HOP QDRP) report the existing seven chart-abstracted emergency department and perioperative measures, and four existing claims-based imaging efficiency measures for the HOP QDRP for CY 2011 payment determination. Hospitals that fail to meet the reporting requirements will experience a reduction of 2% to the payment update factor for most services

- Revision of some of the current policies for physician supervision of outpatient services. For example, CMS is proposing that nonphysician practitioners may directly supervise all hospital outpatient therapeutic services that they are able to personally perform within their state scope of practice and hospital-granted privileges. Under current policy, only physicians may provide the direct supervision of these services

For further details, go to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hospitaloutpatientpps/>

Special ODF on Medicare Imaging Demonstration Project

CMS held a Special Open Door Forum (ODF) on May 27 to solicit stakeholder input for the design and development of the Appropriate Use of Imaging Services Demonstration. This Special ODF was a "listening session" in which CMS gathered information from stakeholders about issues that affect demonstration design and implementation.

This demonstration was authorized by the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) for the purpose of collecting data regarding physician use of advanced diagnostic imaging services. For purposes of this demonstration, advanced diagnostic imaging services are defined as diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography and nuclear medicine (including positron emission tomography).

For more information, please see the demonstration website:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/MD/itemdetail.asp?filterType=none&filterByDID=99&sortByDID=3&sortOrder=descending&itemID=CMS1222075&intNumPerPage=10>



2010 Proposed Rule for the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS)

On July 1, CMS released its MPFS proposed rule for CY 2010. The proposed rule includes a decrease in Medicare payments to physicians by -21.5% as a result of the sustainable growth rate formula (SGR). Comments will be accepted until August 31. The final rule will be published by November 1. Provisions will be implemented January 1, 2010.

Key highlights of the proposed MPFS rule include:

- The conversion factor for the MPFS is projected to be \$28.3208. This is expected to change as a result of Congressional action
- Removal of drugs from the calculation of allowed and actual expenditures used in the SGR formula so that the formula will generate less extreme updates to the rates
- A change to the equipment utilization rate from the current 50% to 90% for equipment priced more than \$1 million
- No additional codes are subject to the multiple procedure payment reduction for diagnostic imaging
- Changes to the practice expense and malpractice values are projected to have an impact of -11% for radiology and -13% for nuclear medicine
- An update to the practice expense data used in the calculation of the physician fee schedule includes new practice expense per hour data from the Physician Practice Information Survey conducted by the AMA
- No changes to the payment localities were proposed. However, the 1.00 work GPCI floor will be removed as of January 1, 2010, as required by MIPPA of 2008, which will result in 54 out of 89 physician fee schedule localities receiving a decrease in their work geographic practice cost index
- Criteria is set forth for designating organizations to accredit suppliers furnishing the technical component (TC) of advanced medical imaging services as specified by the MIPPA of 2009. CMS will publish a notice to solicit applications from entities for the purposes of becoming a designated accreditation organization by November 1, 2010. The program must be implemented by January 1, 2012

- CMS proposes to retain both the claims-based reporting mechanism and the registry-based reporting mechanism for the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative. In addition, CMS proposes that physicians begin to report the measures through a qualified electronic health record program

In addition, CMS is interested in obtaining information on the role of radiology assistants (RA) and radiology practitioner assistants (RPA), including the level of physician supervision that would be appropriate when RAs and RPAs are involved in the performance of the technical component of advanced medical imaging.

For further details, go to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PhysicianFeeSched/>

Special ODF on Outpatient Imaging Efficiency Measures

On May 20, CMS held a Special Open Door Forum (ODF) to discuss the development and implementation of facility-level hospital Outpatient Imaging Efficiency measures. CMS contracted with The Lewin Group to develop a set of imaging efficiency measures. In addition, National Imaging Associates and Dobson & DaVanzo have been subcontracted by Lewin to support this effort.

During this Special ODF, CMS staff discussed:

- The four outpatient imaging efficiency measures currently required under the Hospital Outpatient Quality Data Reporting Program (HOP QDRP) for CY2010 payment determination
- Highlights of some frequently asked questions
- New Outpatient Imaging Efficiency measures under development.

For the audio file go to:

<http://media.cms.hhs.gov/audio/SpcFrmODFMIPPASECTION135.mp3>

July OCE Edits Published

Effective July 1, 2009, CMS implemented the July 2009 Outpatient Code Editor (OCE). The OCE contains changes to nuclear medicine procedure-to-radiolabeled product edits that require a HCPCS code for a radiolabeled product when a nuclear medicine procedure code is billed. The claim will be returned to the provider if it fails to contain an appropriate radiolabeled HCPCS code. The updated list of edits can be found under "Device, Radiolabeled Product, and Procedure Edits" at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HospitalOutpatientPPS/>

CMS strongly encourages hospitals to report charges for all drugs, biologicals, and radiopharmaceuticals, regardless of whether the items are paid separately or packaged, by using the correct HCPCS codes for the items administered to the patient. It also is important that hospitals billing for these products make certain that the reported units of service of the reported HCPCS codes are consistent with the quantity of a drug, biological or radiopharmaceutical that was used in the care of the patient.

Also, if two or more drugs or biologicals are mixed together to facilitate administration, the correct HCPCS codes should be reported separately for each product used in the care of the patient. The mixing together of two or more products does not constitute a "new" drug as regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under the New Drug Application (NDA) process. In these situations, hospitals are reminded that it is not appropriate to bill HCPCS code C9399.

HCPCS code C9399, Unclassified drug or biological, is for new drugs and biologicals that are approved by the FDA on or after January 1, 2004, for which a HCPCS code has not been assigned. Unless otherwise specified in the long description, HCPCS code descriptors refer to the non-compounded, FDA-approved final product. If a product is compounded and a specific HCPCS code does not exist for the compounded product, the hospital should report an appropriate unlisted code such as J9999 or J3490.

The CMS transmittal can be found by going to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R1760CP.pdf>

3rd Quarter 2009 Medicare ASP Rates

2009	Medicare Average Sales Price		3Q09
HCPCS	Short Description	Dosage	Payment
A9579	Gad-base MR contrast NOS	1 mL	\$2.354
Q9953	Inj Fe-based MR contrast, 1mL	1 mL	\$30.406
Q9954	Oral MR contrast, 100 mL	100 mL	\$9.941
Q9956	Inj octafluoropropane mic,mL	1 mL	\$58.919
Q9957	Inj perflutren lip micros,mL	1 mL	\$62.156
Q9958	HO CM \leq 149 mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.070
Q9960	HO CM 200-249mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.119
Q9961	HO CM 250-299mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.146
Q9962	HO CM 300-349mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.183
Q9963	HO CM 350-399mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.157
Q9964	HO CM \geq 400mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.292
Q9965	LO CM 100-199mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$1.285
Q9966	LO CM 200-299mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.371
Q9967	LO CM 300-399mg/mL iodine	1 mL	\$0.202

To access the ASP rates, please visit the CMS website at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/>

Need More Help?

Looking for Medicare payment rates?

Need current coding information?

Want to know about Medicare policy changes?

GE Healthcare is pleased to offer coding and reimbursement support to our customers. Visit our reimbursement Web site at www.gehealthcare.com/acloserlook or call our reimbursement services line at **1 800 767 6664**. Contact us for information on:

- Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) Codes
- Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes
- Local Coverage Decisions (LCD)
- National Coverage Decisions (NCD)
- Medicare Claims Processing Guidelines
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Coding and Reimbursement Guides

Ask your imaging specialist about reimbursement update presentations!

For additional information about GE Healthcare's diagnostic imaging products, please visit www.gehealthcare.com/reimbursement

GE Healthcare is pleased to offer customer support and documentation for coding and reimbursement related to the products offered by the company. The materials referenced and provided are based upon coding experience and research of current general coding practices. The final decision for coding of any procedure must be made by the provider of care after considering the medical necessity of the services and supplies provided as well as the regulations and local, state, or federal laws that apply. We are providing you this information with the understanding that we are not engaged in the rendering of legal, accounting, or other professional services. GE Healthcare agrees to abide by the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and any other relevant state or federal privacy laws and regulations concerning the use and/or disclosure of protected health information (PHI) during the course of providing this support.

AdreView™ (iobenguane I 123) Injection

AdreView contains benzyl alcohol (10.3 mg/mL), which may cause serious reactions in premature or low birth-weight infants. Benzyl alcohol has been associated with a fatal "Gasping Syndrome" in premature infants and infants of low birth weight. Have anaphylactic and hypersensitivity treatment measures available prior to AdreView administration. AdreView is cleared by glomerular filtration and is not dialyzable. The radiation dose to patients with severe renal impairment may be increased due to the delayed elimination of the drug. AdreView is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to iobenguane or iobenguane sulfate. In clinical trials the most common adverse reactions seen were dizziness, rash, pruritis, flushing, or injection site hemorrhage reported in less than 1% of patients.



www.gehealthcare.com

GE and the GE Monogram are trademarks of General Electric Company.

©2009 General Electric Company.

July 2009 70-REIMB709 Printed in USA



AdreView™

lobenguane I 123 Injection

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use AdreView safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for AdreView.

AdreView (lobenguane I 123 Injection) for Intravenous Use

Initial U.S. Approval: 2008

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AdreView is a diagnostic radiopharmaceutical agent for gamma-scintigraphy. It is indicated for use in the detection of primary or metastatic pheochromocytoma or neuroblastoma as an adjunct to other diagnostic tests. (1)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- AdreView emits radiation and must be handled with appropriate safety measures. (2.1, 2.6)
- Administer thyroid blockade medications prior to AdreView. (2.2, 5.4)
- Measure patient dose by a suitable radioactivity calibration system immediately prior to administration. (2.4)
- For patients ≥ 16 years of age or < 16 years of age and ≥ 70 kg: administer 10 mCi (370 MBq). (2.4, 2.5)
- For patients < 16 years of age and < 70 kg: amount scaled to the adult reference activity based on weight. (2.5)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

5 mL of sterile solution for intravenous injection in a single use vial (2 mCi/mL at calibration time). (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Known hypersensitivity to iobenguane or iobenguane sulfate. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Hypersensitivity reactions have followed AdreView administration. Have anaphylactic and hypersensitivity treatment measures available prior to AdreView administration. (5.1)
- AdreView contains benzyl alcohol (10.3 mg/mL) which may cause serious reactions in premature or low birth-weight infants. (5.2)
- Patients with severe renal impairment may have increased radiation exposure and decreased quality of AdreView images. (5.3)
- Failure to block thyroid iodine uptake may result in iodine 123 accumulation in the thyroid. (5.4)
- Drugs which block norepinephrine uptake or deplete norepinephrine stores may decrease AdreView uptake in neuroendocrine tumors. When medically feasible, stop these drugs before AdreView administration and monitor patients for withdrawal signs and symptoms. (5.5)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Serious hypersensitivity reactions have been reported following AdreView administration. The most common adverse reactions, dizziness, rash, pruritis, flushing and injection site hemorrhage occurred in $< 1\%$ of patients. (6.1, 6.2)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact GE Healthcare at 1-800-654-0118 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Amityptiline and derivatives, imipramine and derivatives, other antidepressants that inhibit norepinephrine transporter, antihypertensives that deplete norepinephrine stores or inhibit reuptake, sympathomimetic amines and cocaine: Discontinue for 5 biological half-lives prior to AdreView administration. (7)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Pregnancy: any radiopharmaceutical, including AdreView, may cause fetal harm. (8.1)
- Nursing mothers: A decision should be made whether to interrupt nursing after AdreView administration or not to administer AdreView, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. (8.3)
- Pediatrics: safety and effectiveness have not been established in pediatric patients < 1 month of age. (8.4)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION.

Revised: 09/2008

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

1	INDICATIONS AND USAGE
2	DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
2.1	Radiation Safety
2.2	Thyroid Blockade
2.3	Preparation and Administration
2.4	Recommended Dose for Adults
2.5	Recommended Dose for Pediatric Patients
2.6	Radiation Dosimetry
2.7	Imaging Guidelines
3	DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS
4	CONTRAINDICATIONS
5	WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
5.1	Hypersensitivity Reactions
5.2	Risks for Benzyl Alcohol Toxicity in Infants
5.3	Increased Radiation Exposure in Patients with Severe Renal Impairment
5.4	Thyroid Accumulation
5.5	Risks with Concomitant Medication Withdrawal
5.6	Hypertension
6	ADVERSE REACTIONS
6.1	Clinical Study Experience
6.2	Postmarketing Experience
7	DRUG INTERACTIONS
8	USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
8.1	Pregnancy
8.3	Nursing Mothers
8.4	Pediatric Use
8.5	Geriatric Use

10 OVERDOSAGE

11 DESCRIPTION

- 11.1 Physical Characteristics
- 11.2 External Radiation

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

- 12.1 Mechanism of Action
- 12.2 Pharmacodynamics
- 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

- 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
- 13.2 Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

- 14.1 Pheochromocytomas and neuroblastomas

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

*Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AdreView is a radiopharmaceutical indicated for use in the detection of primary or metastatic pheochromocytoma or neuroblastoma as an adjunct to other diagnostic tests.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Radiation Safety

AdreView emits radiation and must be handled with appropriate safety measures to minimize radiation exposure to clinical personnel and patients. Radiopharmaceuticals should be used by or under the control of physicians who are qualified by specific training and experience in the safe use and handling of radionuclides, and whose experience and training have been approved by the appropriate government agency authorized to license the use of radionuclides. AdreView dosing is based upon the radioactivity determined using a suitable calibration system immediately prior to administration.

To minimize radiation dose to the bladder, prior to and following AdreView administration, encourage hydration to permit frequent voiding. Encourage the patient to void frequently for the first 48 hours following AdreView administration [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

2.2 Thyroid Blockade

Before administration of AdreView, administer Potassium Iodide Oral Solution or Lugol's Solution (equivalent to 100 mg iodide for adults, body-weight adjusted for children) or potassium perchlorate (400 mg for adults, body-weight adjusted for children) to block uptake of iodine 123 by the patient's thyroid. Administer the blocking agent at least one hour before the dose of AdreView [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.4)].

2.3 Preparation and Administration

Inspect the AdreView vial for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration. Use aseptic procedures and a radiation shielding syringe during administration. Administer the dose as an intravenous injection over 1 to 2 minutes. A subsequent injection of 0.9% sodium chloride may be used to ensure full delivery of the dose.

2.4 Recommended Dose for Adults

For adults (≥ 16 years of age), the recommended dose is 10 mCi (370 MBq) [see *Clinical Studies* (14.1)].

2.5 Recommended Dose for Pediatric Patients

For pediatric patients < 16 years of age weighing ≥ 70 kg, the recommended dose is 10 mCi (370 MBq) [see *Clinical Studies* (14.1)].

For pediatric patients < 16 years of age weighing < 70 kg, the recommended dose should be calculated according to patient body weight as shown in Table 1 [see *Clinical Studies* (14.1)]. The benzyl alcohol in AdreView may cause serious adverse reactions in premature or low birth-weight infants [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

Table 1
AdreView Dose Preparation for Pediatric Patients*

Weight (kg)	Fraction of adult activity	AdreView (mCi) pediatric dose	AdreView (MBq) pediatric dose
3	0.1	1	37
4	0.14	1.4	52
6	0.19	1.9	70
8	0.23	2.3	85.1
10	0.27	2.7	99.9
12	0.32	3.2	118.4
14	0.36	3.6	133.2
16	0.4	4	148
18	0.44	4.4	162.8
20	0.46	4.6	170.2
22	0.5	5	185
24	0.53	5.3	196.1
26	0.56	5.6	207.2
28	0.58	5.8	214.6
30	0.62	6.2	229.4
32	0.65	6.5	240.5
34	0.68	6.8	251.6
36	0.71	7.1	262.7
38	0.73	7.3	270.1
40	0.76	7.6	281.2
42	0.78	7.8	288.6
44	0.8	8	296
46	0.82	8.2	303.4
48	0.85	8.5	314.5
50	0.88	8.8	325.6
52	0.9	9	333
54	0.9	9	333
56	0.92	9.2	340.4
58	0.92	9.2	340.4
60	0.96	9.6	355.2
62	0.96	9.6	355.2
64	0.98	9.8	362.6
66	0.98	9.8	362.6
68	0.99	9.9	366.3

*Based on a reference activity for an adult scaled to body weight according to the schedule proposed by the European Association of Nuclear Medicine Paediatric Task Group.

2.6 Radiation Dosimetry

The estimated absorbed radiation doses to adults and children from intravenous administration of AdreView are as shown in Table 2:

Table 2
Estimated Absorbed Radiation Dose from AdreView

ORGAN / TISSUE		ABSORBED DOSE PER UNIT ADMINISTERED ACTIVITY											
		ADULT		15-YEAR OLD		10-YEAR OLD		5-YEAR OLD		1-YEAR OLD		NEONATES	
		μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi	μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi	μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi	μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi	μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi	μ Gy/MBq	rad/mCi
Adrenals		16	0.059	21	0.078	31	0.115	42	0.155	67	0.248	111	0.411
Brain		3.9	0.014	4.9	0.018	8.1	0.030	13	0.048	24	0.089	55.9	0.207
Breast		4.7	0.017	5.9	0.022	9.4	0.035	15	0.056	28	0.104	65.3	0.242
Gallbladder		20	0.074	24	0.089	34	0.126	51	0.189	95	0.352	200	0.740
GI Tract	Stomach Wall	7.6	0.028	10	0.037	17	0.063	27	0.100	51	0.189	114	0.422
	Small Intestine Wall	7.7	0.028	9.8	0.036	16	0.059	25	0.093	46	0.170	104	0.385
	Colon Wall	8.1	0.030	10	0.037	16	0.059	26	0.096	46	0.170	104.3	0.386
	Upper Large Intestine Wall	8.4	0.031	11	0.041	18	0.067	30	0.111	53	0.196	119	0.440
	Lower Large Intestine Wall	7.7	0.028	9.6	0.036	15	0.056	21	0.078	38	0.141	84.9	0.314
Heart Wall		18	0.067	23	0.085	35	0.130	53	0.196	94	0.348	182	0.673
Kidneys		13	0.048	16	0.059	24	0.089	35	0.130	59	0.218	132	0.488
Liver		67	0.248	87	0.322	130	0.481	180	0.666	330	1.221	720	2.664
Lungs		16	0.059	23	0.085	32	0.118	48	0.178	89	0.329	215	0.796
Muscles		6	0.022	7.6	0.028	12	0.044	17	0.063	33	0.122	75.1	0.278
Esophagus		6	0.022	7.6	0.028	11	0.041	18	0.067	32	0.118	72.2	0.267
Osteogenic Cells		16	0.059	21	0.078	31	0.115	47	0.174	100	0.370	254	0.940
Ovaries		7.9	0.029	10	0.037	15	0.056	22	0.081	41	0.152	92.3	0.342
Pancreas		12	0.044	15	0.056	25	0.093	39	0.144	68	0.252	143	0.529
Red marrow		5.6	0.021	6.8	0.025	10	0.037	15	0.056	30	0.111	89.5	0.331
Skin		3.7	0.014	4.4	0.016	7.1	0.026	11	0.041	21	0.078	53.1	0.196
Spleen		20	0.074	27	0.100	42	0.155	64	0.237	110	0.407	282	1.043
Testes		5.4	0.020	7.1	0.026	11	0.041	16	0.059	30	0.111	69.9	0.259
Thymus		6	0.022	7.6	0.028	11	0.041	18	0.067	32	0.118	72.2	0.267
Thyroid		4.7	0.017	6.1	0.023	9.9	0.037	16	0.059	30	0.111	69.4	0.257
Urinary Bladder Wall		66	0.244	84	0.311	110	0.407	110	0.407	200	0.740	478.0	1.769
Uterus		11	0.041	14	0.052	21	0.078	28	0.104	51	0.189	110.0	0.407
Whole Body		8.1	0.030	10	0.037	16	0.059	24	0.089	44	0.163	104.0	0.385
EFFECTIVE DOSE	μSv/MBq	13.7		18.1		26.7		37.6		68		162	
	mSv/mCi	0.507		0.670		0.988		1.39		2.52		6	

*OLINDA/EXM calculation based on biodistribution data from Swanson et al. and Publication 53 of the ICRP (International Commission on Radiological Protection) [Annals of the ICRP 1987; 18 (1-4): 329-331]

The effective dose resulting from an administered activity amount of 10 mCi is 5.07 mSv in an adult.

2.7 Imaging Guidelines

Begin whole body planar scintigraphy imaging 24 ± 6 hours following administration of AdreView. Single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) may be performed following planar scintigraphy, as appropriate [see *Clinical studies* 14.1].

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Single use vials containing 5 mL solution for intravenous injection (2 mCi/mL at calibration time).

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

AdreView is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to iobenguane or iobenguane sulfate.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Hypersensitivity Reactions

Hypersensitivity reactions have been reported following AdreView administration. Prior to administration, question the patient for a history of prior reactions to iodine, an iodine-containing contrast agent or other products containing iodine. If the patient is known or strongly suspected to have hypersensitivity to iodine, an iodine-containing contrast agent or other products containing iodine, the decision to administer AdreView should be based upon an assessment of the expected benefits compared to the potential hypersensitivity risks. Have anaphylactic and hypersensitivity treatment measures available prior to AdreView administration [see *Adverse Reactions* (6.2)].

5.2 Risks for Benzyl Alcohol Toxicity in Infants

AdreView contains benzyl alcohol at a concentration of 10.3 mg/mL. Benzyl alcohol has been associated with a fatal "Gasping Syndrome" in premature infants and infants of low birth weight. Exposure to excessive amounts of benzyl alcohol has been associated with toxicity (hypotension, metabolic acidosis), particularly in neonates, and an increased incidence of kernicterus, particularly in small preterm infants. There have been rare reports of deaths, primarily in preterm infants, associated with exposure to excessive amounts of benzyl alcohol [see *Description* (11)].

Observe infants for signs or symptoms of benzyl alcohol toxicity following AdreView administration. AdreView safety and effectiveness have not been established in neonates (pediatric patients below the age of 1 month).

5.3 Increased Radiation Exposure in Patients with Severe Renal Impairment

AdreView is cleared by glomerular filtration and is not dialyzable. The radiation dose to patients with severe renal impairment may be increased due to the delayed elimination of the drug. Delayed AdreView clearance may also reduce the target to background ratios and decrease the quality of scintigraphic images. These risks importantly may limit the role of AdreView in the diagnostic evaluation of patients with severe renal impairment. AdreView safety and efficacy have not been established in these patients [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

5.4 Thyroid Accumulation

Failure to block thyroid uptake of iodine 123 may result in an increased long term risk for thyroid neoplasia. Administer thyroid blocking medications before AdreView administration [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.2)].

5.5 Risks with Concomitant Medication Withdrawal

Drugs which interfere with norepinephrine uptake or retention may decrease the uptake of AdreView in neuroendocrine tumors and lead to false negative imaging results. When medically feasible, stop these drugs before AdreView administration and monitor patients for the occurrence of clinically significant withdrawal symptoms, especially patients with elevated levels of circulating catecholamines and their metabolites [see *Drug Interactions* (7)].

5.6 Hypertension

Assess the patient's pulse and blood pressure before and intermittently for 30 minutes after AdreView administration. AdreView may increase release of norepinephrine from chromaffin granules and produce a transient episode of hypertension, although this was not observed in the clinical study. Prior to AdreView administration, ensure emergency cardiac and anti-hypertensive treatments are readily available.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

6.1 Clinical Study Experience

Serious adverse reactions were not observed in the AdreView clinical study. The data described below reflect AdreView exposure to 251 patients with known or suspected pheochromocytoma or neuroblastoma. The average ages were 49 years (range 17 - 88 years) for adults and, for pediatric patients, 4 years (range 1 month - 16 years). Slightly less than half the patients were male. All patients were monitored for adverse reactions over a 24 hour period following AdreView administration.

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

Adverse reactions were all mild to moderate in severity and were predominantly isolated occurrences (≤ 2 patients) of one of the following reactions: dizziness, rash, pruritus, flushing or injection site hemorrhage.

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

Because postmarketing reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Hypersensitivity reactions have uncommonly been reported during the postmarketing use of AdreView [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

The following drugs have the potential to decrease the uptake of norepinephrine and cause false negative imaging results: antihypertensives that deplete norepinephrine stores or inhibit reuptake (e.g., reserpine, labetalol), antidepressants that inhibit norepinephrine transporter function (e.g., amitriptyline and derivatives, imipramine and derivatives, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors), sympathomimetic amines (e.g., phenylephrine, phenylpropranolamine, pseudoephedrine and ephedrine), and cocaine. Clinical studies have not determined which specific drugs may cause false negative imaging results nor whether all drugs in any specific pharmacologic class have the same potential to produce the negative imaging results. Increasing the dose of AdreView will not overcome any potential uptake limiting effect of these drugs. Before AdreView administration, discontinue (for at least 5 biological half-lives) drugs known or expected to reduce norepinephrine uptake, as clinically tolerated.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category C: Any radiopharmaceutical, including AdreView, has a potential to cause fetal harm. It is not known whether AdreView can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with AdreView. AdreView should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

8.3 Nursing Mothers

It is not known whether AdreView is excreted into human milk. However, iodine 123 is excreted into human milk. Because many drugs are excreted into human milk and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, a decision should be made whether to interrupt nursing after administration of AdreView or not to administer AdreView, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Based on the physical half-life of iodine 123 (13.2 hours) nursing women may consider interrupting nursing for 6 days after AdreView administration in order to minimize risks to nursing infants.

8.4 Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of AdreView have been established in the age groups 1 month to 16 years [see *Clinical Studies* (14.1)]. Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 1 month have not been established [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.2)].

8.5 Geriatric Use

The AdreView clinical study did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients. In general, dose selection for an elderly population should be cautious, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

AdreView is excreted by the kidneys, and the risks of adverse reactions, increased radiation dose, and occurrence of falsely negative imaging results may be greater in patients with severely impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection and image interpretation. Consider assessment of renal function in elderly patients prior to AdreView administration.

10 OVERDOSAGE

The major manifestations of overdose relate predominantly to increased radiation exposure, with the long term risks for neoplasia.

11 DESCRIPTION

AdreView (Iobenguane I 123 Injection) is a sterile, pyrogen-free radiopharmaceutical for intravenous injection. Each mL contains 0.08 mg Iobenguane sulfate, 74 MBq (2 mCi) of I 123 (as Iobenguane sulfate I 123) at calibration date and time on the label, 23 mg sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, 2.8 mg disodium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate and 10.3 mg (1% v/v) benzyl alcohol with a pH of 5.0 - 6.5. Iobenguane sulfate I 123 is also known as I 123 *meta*-iodobenzylguanidine sulfate and has the following structural formula:

11.1 Physical Characteristics

Iodine 123 is a cyclotron-produced radionuclide that decays to Te 123 by electron capture and has a physical half-life of 13.2 hours.

Table 3

Principal Radiation Emission Data - Iodine 123

Radiation	Energy Level (keV)	Abundance (%)
Gamma	159	83

11.2 External Radiation

The specific gamma ray constant for iodine 123 is 1.6 R/mCi-hr at 1 cm. The first half value thickness of lead (Pb) for I 123 is 0.04 cm. The relative transmission of radiation emitted by the radionuclide that results from interposition of various thicknesses of Pb is shown in Table 4 (e.g., the use of 2.16 cm Pb will decrease the external radiation exposure by a factor of about 1,000).

Table 4

Reduction in In-air Collision Kerma Caused by Lead Shielding*

Shield Thickness cm of lead (Pb)	Reduction in In-air Collision Kerma
0.04	0.5
0.13	10 ⁻¹
0.77	10 ⁻²
2.16	10 ⁻³
3.67	10 ⁻⁴

*Calculation based on attenuation and energy-transfer coefficients obtained from National Institute of Standards & Technology Report NISTIR 5632.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Iobenguane is similar in structure to the antihypertensive drug guanethedine and to the neurotransmitter norepinephrine (NE). Iobenguane is, therefore, largely subject to the same uptake and accumulation pathways as NE. Iobenguane is taken up by the NE transporter in adrenergic nerve terminals and stored in the presynaptic storage vesicles. Iobenguane accumulates in adrenergically innervated tissues such as the adrenal medulla, salivary glands, heart, liver, spleen and lungs as well as tumors derived from the neural crest. By labeling Iobenguane with the isotope iodine 123, it is possible to obtain scintigraphic images of the organs and tissues in which the radiopharmaceutical accumulates.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

AdreView is a diagnostic radiopharmaceutical which contains a small quantity of Iobenguane that is not expected to produce a pharmacodynamic effect [see *Description* (1.1)]. To minimize radiation dose to the thyroid gland, this organ should be blocked before dosing [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.1)]. Since Iobenguane is excreted mainly via the kidneys, patients with severe renal insufficiency may experience increased radiation exposure and impaired imaging results. Frequent voiding should be encouraged after administration to minimize the radiation dose to the bladder [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3)]. The calculation of the estimated radiation dose is shown in Table 2 [see *Dosage and Administration* (2.5)].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Iobenguane is rapidly cleared from the blood and accumulates in adrenergically innervated tissues [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.1)]. Retention is especially prolonged in highly adrenergically innervated tissues (e.g., the adrenal medulla, heart, and salivary glands).

The majority of the Iobenguane dose is excreted unaltered by the kidneys via glomerular filtration. A rapid initial clearance of circulating Iobenguane is observed, followed by a slow clearance as Iobenguane is released from other compartments. In patients with normal renal function, 70 to 90% of the administered dose is recovered unaltered in urine within 4 days. Iobenguane is not cleared by dialysis [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.3)]. Most of the remaining radioactivity recovered in the urine is in the form of the radioiodinated metabolite *m*-iodohippuric acid (MIHA) (typically $\leq 10\%$) and free radioiodide (typically $\leq 6\%$). The enzymatic process responsible for metabolism has not been well characterized and the pharmacologic activity of these metabolites has not been studied. Only a small amount ($< 1\%$) of the injected dose is eliminated via the feces.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Iobenguane hemisulfate was not mutagenic *in vitro* in the Ames bacterial mutation assay and in the *in vitro* mouse lymphoma test, and was negative in the *in vivo* micronucleus test in rats. Long-term animal studies have not been conducted to evaluate AdreView's carcinogenic potential or potential effects on fertility.

13.2 Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology

Iobenguane sulfate testing in dogs revealed electrocardiographic (ECG) changes after administration of 202 times the mg/m² conversion of the maximum human dose for a 60 kg adult; the no observable effect level (NOEL) was not determined. When Iobenguane was tested in a cell system stably expressing hERG-1 potassium channels, inhibition of potassium channels was not observed at an 80 μ M Iobenguane concentration and the IC₅₀ was 487 μ M.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

14.1 Pheochromocytomas and Neuroblastomas

The safety and efficacy of AdreView were assessed in an open-label, multicenter, multinational trial of 251 subjects with known or suspected neuroblastoma or pheochromocytoma. Diagnostic efficacy for the detection of metabolically active neuroblastoma or pheochromocytoma was determined by comparison of focal increased radionuclide uptake on planar scintigraphy at 24 \pm 6 hours post-administration of AdreView against the definitive diagnosis (standard of truth). Anterior and posterior planar whole-body images, or alternatively whole-body overlapping spot images, were acquired from the head to below the knees. Additional spot images were performed as deemed appropriate at the discretion of the clinical image reviewer. SPECT imaging of the thorax and abdomen was then obtained when possible.

Of the 251 subjects dosed with AdreView, 100 had known or suspected neuroblastoma and 151 had known or suspected pheochromocytoma. The population included 154 adults and 97 pediatric patients; the majority of adults were female (59%), the majority of pediatric subjects were male (58%). The adult subjects had a mean age of 49 years (range 17 to 88 years). The pediatric patients (56 males and 41 females) consisted of 32 infants (1 month up to 2 years of age), 62 children (2 years up to 12 years) and three adolescents (12 years up to 16 years).

The definitive diagnosis (standard of truth) for the presence or absence of metabolically active pheochromocytoma or neuroblastoma was determined by histopathology or, when histopathology was unavailable, a composite of imaging (i.e., CT, MRI, [¹²³I]-mIBG scintigraphy), plasma/urine catecholamine and/or catecholamine metabolite measurements, and clinical follow-up.

A standard of truth was available for 211 subjects (127 with pheochromocytoma, 84 with neuroblastoma) and this group comprised the diagnostic efficacy population. For 93 of these subjects, the standard of truth was based solely upon histopathology. Of 211 subjects in the efficacy population, all had planar scintigraphy and 167 subjects had SPECT in addition to planar imaging. All images were assessed independently by three readers blinded to all clinical data. Table 5 summarizes the AdreView performance characteristics, by reader.

Table 5. AdreView Planar Imaging: Sensitivity and Specificity

Outcome	Reader A	Reader B	Reader C
Sensitivity (n = 159)			
Point estimate	0.80	0.77	0.79
95% confidence interval	0.73 - 0.86	0.70 - 0.84	0.71 - 0.85
Specificity (n = 52)			
Point estimate	0.77	0.73	0.69
95% confidence interval	0.63 - 0.87	0.59 - 0.84	0.55 - 0.81

Performance characteristics (sensitivity and specificity) of AdreView planar imaging in patients with known or suspected neuroblastoma were similar to those in patients with known or suspected pheochromocytoma. Among the selected patients who also underwent SPECT imaging, similar performance characteristics of AdreView scintigraphy were observed when SPECT plus planar imaging was compared to planar imaging alone.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

AdreView is supplied in 10 mL glass vials containing a total volume of 5 mL of solution with a total radioactivity of 370 MBq (10 mCi) at calibration time. Each vial is enclosed in a lead container of appropriate thickness.

NDC 17156-235-01

Storage

Store AdreView at 20°-25°C (68°-77°F); excursions permitted to 15°-30°C (59°-86°F) [see USP]. This product does not contain a preservative. Store within the original lead container or equivalent radiation shielding.

In accordance with USP recommendations Iobenguane I 123 Injection preparations should not be used after the expiration date and time stated on the label.

Handling

This preparation is approved for use by persons licensed by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency pursuant to 32 Ill. Adm. Code Section 330.260(a) and 355.4010 or equivalent licenses of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or an Agreement State.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Instruct patients to inform their physician or healthcare provider if they:

1. are pregnant or breast feeding.
2. are sensitive to iodine, an iodine-containing contrast agent or other products that contain iodine.
3. are sensitive to Potassium Iodide Oral Solution, or Lugol's Solution.
4. have reduced renal function.

Instruct patients to increase their level of hydration prior to receiving AdreView and to void frequently for the first 48 hours following AdreView administration.

GE Healthcare



Manufactured and Distributed by
GE Healthcare, Medi-Physics, Inc.
 Arlington Heights, IL 60004 U.S.A.

AdreView is a trademark of GE Healthcare.

GE and the GE Monogram are trademarks of
 General Electric Company.

©2008 General Electric Company - All rights reserved.