Thallous Chloride

For Diagnostic Use

November 1977

Indications and Usage: Thallous Chloride Tl 201 may be useful in myocardial perfusion imaging for the diagnosis and localization of myocardial infarction. It may also be useful in conjunction with exercise stress testing as an adjunct in the diagnosis of ischemic heart disease (atherosclerotic coronary artery disease).

Contraindications: None known.

Warnings: In studying patients in whom myocardial infarction or ischemia is known or suspected, care should be taken to assure continuous clinical monitoring and treatment in accordance with safe, accepted procedure. Exercise stress testing should be performed only under the supervision of a qualified physician and in a laboratory equipped with appropriate resuscitation and support apparatus.

Ideally, examinations using radiopharmaceutical drug products-especially those elective in nature—of women of childbearing capability should be performed during the first ten days following the onset of menses.

Precautions: Data are not available concerning the effect of marked alterations in blood glucose, insulin, or pH (such as is found in diabetes mellitus) on the quality of thallium Tl 201 scans. Attention is directed to the fact that thallium is a potassium analog, and since the transport of potassium is affected by these factors, the possibility exists that the thallium may likewise be affected.

Thallous Chloride Tl 201, as all radioactive materials, must be handled with care and used with appropriate safety measures to minimize external radiation exposure to clinical personnel. Care should also be taken to minimize radiation exposure to patients in a manner consistent with proper patient management. No long-term animal studies have been performed to evaluate carcinogenic

Adequate reproduction studies have not been performed in animals to determine whether this drug affects fertility in males or females, has teratogenic potential, or has other adverse effects on the fetus. Thallous Chloride Tl 201 should be used in pregnant women only when clearly needed.

It is not known whether this drug is excreted in human milk. As a general rule nursing should not be undertaken when a patient is administered radioactive material.

Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

Adverse Reactions: Adverse reactions related to use of this agent have not been

Dosage and Administration: The recommended adult (70kg) dose of Thallous Chloride Tl 201 is 1-1,5mCi, Thallous Chloride Tl 201 is intended for intravenous administration only.

For patients undergoing resting thallium studies, imaging is optimally begun within 10-20 minutes after injection. Several investigators have reported improved myocardial-to-background ratios when patients are injected in the fasting state, in an upright posture, or after briefly ambulating.

Best results with thallium imaging performed in conjunction with exercise stress testing appear to be obtained if the thallium is administered when the satisfies testing appear in the stress and when the stress is continued for 30 seconds to one minute after injection. Imaging should begin within ten minutes post-injection since target-to-background ratio is optimum by that time. Several investigators have reported significant decreases in the target-to-background ratios of lesions attributable to transient ischemia by two hours after the completion of stress testing.

The patient dose should be measured by a suitable radioactivity calibration system immediately prior to administration.

Radiopharmaceuticals should be used by persons with specific training in the safe use and handling of radionuclides produced by nuclear reactor or particle accelerator and whose experience and training have been approved by the appropriate government agencies authorized to license the use of radionuclides.

How Supplied: Thallous Chloride Tl 201 for intravenous administration is supplied as a sterile, non-pyrogenic solution containing at calibration time, 1mCi/ml of Thallous Tl 201, 9mg/ml sodium chloride, and 9mg/ml of benzyl alcohol. The pH is adjusted to between 4.5-6.5 with hydroxhloric acid and/or sodium hydroxide solution. Vials are available in the following quantities of radioactivity: 1.5, 3.0, 4.5, 6.0, and 9.0 millicuries of Thallous Tl 201.

The contents of the vial are radioactive. Adequate shielding and handling precautions must be maintained.

Catalog Number NRP-427



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Barbara Sparman, Employment Coordinator

St. Luke's Hospital Medical Center

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Please send copy, check, and insertion instructions by the 1st of the month preceding publication months: March, June, September and December.

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