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ABCIXIMAB - INJECTION

OTHER NAMES: ReoPro

USES: This medication keeps blood cells (platelets) from sticking together. It is used during certain heart artery procedures (e.g., angioplasty).

HOW TO USE THIS MEDICATION: This medication is given by injection usually 10 to 60 minutes prior to the procedure followed by a continuous infusion into a vein for up to 12 hours.

Your dose will be determined by your condition and response. Do not increase the dose, use it more often or continue using this drug longer than prescribed. Do not shake container.

SIDE EFFECTS: Nausea, vomiting, dizziness or irritation at the injection site may occur. If any of these effects continue or become bothersome, inform your doctor.

Notify your doctor if you experience any bruising or bleeding, a skin rash, breathing trouble, a rapid or abnormal heartbeat, chest pain or swelling of the feet or ankles while taking this medication.

PRECAUTIONS: Should not be used if there is any bleeding (e.g., gastrointestinal bleeding) or history of stroke. Should be used carefully if at all in patients weighing less than 75 Kg or older than 65 years or have a history of gastrointestinal disease.

Tell your doctor if you have any pre-existing illnesses, allergies, recent surgery or trauma.

This medication should be used only if clearly needed during pregnancy. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. It is not known if this medication appears in breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Should not be used with dextran or thrombolytics. Tell your doctor of any over-the-counter or prescription medication you may take including any blood thinners taken within 7 days, aspirin, NSAIDs or ticlopidine.

NOTES: Laboratory tests will be done frequently while using this medication to monitor its effects and to prevent side effects.

MISSED DOSE: The doctor should be informed immediately if a dose is missed.

STORAGE: Refrigerate at 36 to 46 degrees F (2 to 8 degrees C). Do not freeze. Discard any unused portion after the expiration date.

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