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ANISTREPLASE - INJECTION

OTHER NAMES: Eminase

USES: This medication prevents blood from clotting. Studies have shown this medication to be effective in reducing the risk of death following an acute heart attack.

HOW TO USE THIS MEDICATION: This medication is given by injection into a vein as soon as possible after heart attack symptoms occur. It will be given by a health care professional who will closely monitor your therapy.

SIDE EFFECTS: Bleeding and irregular heart rhythms may occur as a result of this drug. You will be monitored closely for signs of these effects.

Other side effects include itching, flushing, skin rash, fever, chills, headache, nausea, sweating, dizziness, muscle aches or tremor. Report any side effects to your doctor.

PRECAUTIONS: This drug should not be used when the following conditions are present: Bleeding; blood vessel abnormalities; brain tumor; history of stroke; recent surgery; extremely high blood pressure (200/120 or higher). This drug should be used with caution when the following conditions exist: Childbirth within the last 10 days; blood-clotting problems; endocarditis; retinal bleeding (recent); gastrointestinal or urinary tract bleeding (recent); ulcer; very high blood pressure (180/110); a recent invasive medical procedure; if you have ever had a synthetic graft placed (knitted Dacron); or any heart abnormalities.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: The following drugs interact with anistreplase: Corticosteroids (prednisone-like drugs); aspirin or salicylates; warfarin (and other anticoagulants or "blood thinners"); heparin; aminocaproic acid; drugs used to treat hypertension; valproic acid; injectable cephalosporins; drugs used to treat arthritis (anti-inflammatory medication); or sulfinpyrazone.

NOTES: This medication should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. Life style changes such as diet, not smoking and exercise are often recommended following a heart attack. It is important to understand what you can do to reduce your risk of a heart attack.

Discuss this with your doctor or health care professional.

MISSED DOSE: Check with your doctor.

STORAGE: Refrigerate.

Your condition can cause complications in a medical emergency.
For information on enrollment call Medic Alert(TM) at
1-800-854-1166. In Canada call 1-800-668-1507.