Iopanoic acid, Tablet, 500mg

WHO Model Formulary information

Iopanoic acid is a representative iodinated ionic monomeric contrast medium. Various media can serve as alternatives.
Uses: examination of the gallbladder and biliary tract

WHO Essential Medicines Library Rationale for inclusion

Added to list 1979.

Square box: a representative iodinated ionic monomeric contrast medium.

Evidence

The search of the Cochrane Library revealed 28 clinical trials, the PubMed search revealed 30 trials.

Studies from 1990s evaluate effects of iopanoic acid on thyroid function (induction of euthyroidism in hyperthyroid participants).

The studies of the 70ths and 80ths (the earliest study of 19691) report on radiographic performance and safety of iopanoic acid in comparison with other iodinated contrast media. No major differences were demonstrated.

Secretariat’s conclusion

Currently oral cholecystography has been largely replaced with ultrasound diagnostic investigations. Contrast visualization technology might be required in rare complicated clinical situations to be performed by specialists. The general public health need therefore is not justified.

The Committee is requested to consider fast-track deletion.

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