PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Polyethylene Glycol-Electrolyte Solution

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Colyte; GaviLyte-C; GaviLyte-G; GaviLyte-N; GoLYTELY; MoviPrep; Plenvu [DSC]; Suflave

Brand Names: Canada

Colyte; Moviprep; PegLyte

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to clean out the GI (gastrointestinal) tract.
- It may be given to your child for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

MoviPrep, Plenvu, Suflave:

- This drug is not approved for use in children. However, the doctor may decide the benefits of taking this drug outweigh the risks. If your child has been given this drug, ask the doctor for information about the benefits and risks. Talk with the doctor if you have questions about giving this drug to your child.

What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If your child has any of these health problems: Bowel block, hole in the bowel, or other bowel problems; electrolyte (like sodium, potassium, phosphate) problems; fluid loss (dehydrated); or had stomach or bowel surgery.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child's drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child's other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes without checking with the doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Do not give other laxatives or stool softeners unless told to do so by your child's doctor.
- If your child has phenylketonuria (PKU), talk with your child's doctor. Some products have phenylalanine.
- Some drugs may be used in children. Use care if this drug is given to a child. Talk with the doctor to see if this drug may be used in children. Talk with the doctor if you have questions about giving this drug to a child.

If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:

- Talk with the doctor if your child is pregnant, becomes pregnant, or is breast-feeding a baby. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to your child and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my child's doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of kidney problems like unable to pass urine, change in how much urine is passed, blood in the urine, or a big weight gain.
- Swelling of belly.
- Very bad headache.
- Throwing up blood or throw up that looks like coffee grounds.
- Black, tarry, or bloody stools.
- Bleeding from rectum or rectal pain.
- This drug may cause your child to be dehydrated or have electrolyte problems. Rarely, this may be severe or deadly. Tell your child's doctor right away if your child gets dizzy, passes out, feels tired or weak, or is unable to pass urine. Tell your child's doctor right away if your child has a fast or abnormal heartbeat, seizures, headache, mood changes, confusion, muscle pain or weakness, increased thirst, decreased appetite, dry mouth or eyes, severe upset stomach or throwing up, or a change in the amount of urine produced.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Stomach pain.
- Anal irritation.
- Bloating.
- Feeling full.
- Upset stomach or throwing up.
- Stomach cramps.
- Trouble sleeping.
- Increased appetite.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child's doctor. Call your child's doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- Give this drug as the doctor has told you. Follow all instructions you have been given closely. This includes when to give this drug, foods and drinks to have your child avoid before the exam, and when to have your child stop eating and drinking before the exam. Talk with the doctor if you have any questions.
- Do not give other drugs by mouth within 1 hour before each dose of this drug. Some drugs may need to be separated from this drug by a longer time. Talk with your child's doctor about how to give your child's other drugs with

this drug.

- Mix with water as told before you give this drug. Be sure your child does not swallow the dry powder.
- Do not mix with starch-based thickeners.
- Some products come with flavors that can be added to the solution. Only add flavors that come with the kit.
- Chill the solution to make it taste better. However, do not give chilled solution to an infant. Talk with your doctor.
- Shake well before use.
- Have your child drink clear liquids before, during, and after taking this drug. Do not let your child drink any liquids that are purple or red. Do not let your child drink milk or alcohol.
- Do not eat solid food while taking this drug.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is close to the time for your child's next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your child's normal time.
- Do not use 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.
- Call your child's doctor if your child is not able to finish this drug before the exam.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- Store powder at room temperature.
- After mixing, store in a refrigerator. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you have questions about how long this drug may be used after mixing.
- Do not freeze.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.

- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.
- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child's doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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