Methotrimeprazine (Nozinan)
in Palliative Care

- This medication can cause excessive sedation in some patients at low doses.
- Methotrimeprazine is a neuroleptic agent. It has analgesic, anti-emetic, anti-histamine, anti-adrenergic and potent sedative activity.
- Its precise mechanism of action is unknown.

Indications

  For delirium and/or intractable pain when some sedation would be beneficial for the patient.
- Unlicensed: Nausea and vomiting.
  It is a broad action anti-emetic to be considered when 1st line anti-emetics are ineffective, including adjuvants such as Dexamethasone and Cannabinoids.

Doses

- For Mild Delirium: Give 6.25 – 12.5 mg (0.25 – 0.5 ml) sc/po q 4-6h prn for delirium/agitation if goal to clear sensorium & provide sedation.
- For Moderate to Severe Agitation: Titrate to 25-50 mg (1-2 mls) sc q 4-6h prn
- For Nausea and Vomiting: Give 0.5-1 mg (0.1-0.2 ml) sc q4h prn to start and increase up to 12.5 mg po BID or TID if nausea persists.

Observation and Monitoring

- Monitor for excessive drowsiness.
- May need to monitor for postural hypotension in ambulant patients.
- May cause irritation at the injection site.
- The injectable preparation contains sodium sulfite may cause allergic reactions including asthma and anaphylaxis.

These guidelines are for use in Palliative Care only.