Intermountain® Healthcare

HOMECARE SERIES

Tri-mix Therapy for Men with Erectile Dysfunction

What is Tri-mix?

Tri-mix is a mixture containing 3 medications:

- Alprostadil
- Phentolamine
- Papaverine

These medications work together to increase blood flow to the penis to produce an erection. This makes it possible to have sex.

When is Tri-mix used?

Tri-mix is usually ordered by your doctor when other devices or medications have not worked or have caused side effects.

Will Tri-mix work for me?

Tri-mix works in about 9 out of 10 men. Unlike oral medications, Tri-mix injections trigger an automatic erection. The injection can be given 5 minutes before sexual activity and the effects should last no more than 1 hour.

How do I give a Tri-mix injection?

You will inject Tri-mix into your penis using a small needle. Follow the step-by-step instructions below.

Step 1

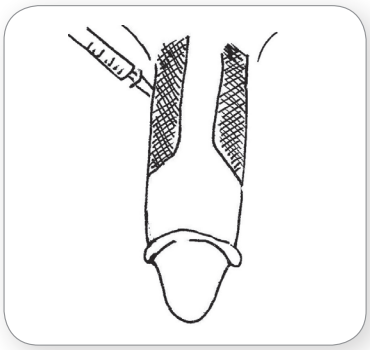
- Gather alcohol pads, syringe with needle, and the bottle of medication.
- Wash your hands.

Step 2

- Wipe the rubber top of the bottle with the alcohol pad.
- Fill the syringe with air equal to the dose, insert needle into the rubber top, inject the air, and turn the vial upside down.
- Fill the syringe with medication to ordered dose.
- Tap the side of the syringe so air bubbles float to the top. Push out the bubbles before use.
- Remove the needle from the bottle and replace the cap on the needle.

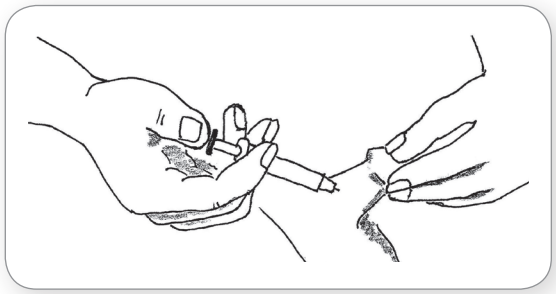
Step 3

- Locate an injection site between the base and mid portion of penis: at 9-11 or 1-3 o'clock. Avoid any visible veins or arteries on the surface.



Step 4

- Clean the site with an alcohol pad and allow the alcohol to dry.
- Remove the cap from the syringe.
- Pull the head of the penis towards the side of the leg.



- Insert the needle into the skin at a 90 degree angle.
- Inject the contents of the syringe over a few seconds and withdraw the needle.
- Dispose the needle and syringe into a sharps container.
- Apply pressure at the injection site with an alcohol pad for a minimum of 2 minutes to prevent bleeding or bruising.

Why didn't the Tri-mix work?

- You may have injected the Tri-mix into the wrong location.
  - Review injection technique.
- You may have injected an inadequate dose.
  - Contact your doctor to see if the dose or medication mixture needs to be changed.

What side effects may I experience?

Most common side effects:

- Pain
- Bruising

Least common side effects (most likely with long-term use):

- Hard bumps on the penis
- Curvature of the penis

Rare side effects:

A rare but serious side effect is priapism. This is an erection that lasts for more than 2 hours.

If this occurs do the following:

- Take 120 mg of pseudoephedrine by mouth. This is available without a prescription, but you must ask the pharmacist for it since it is stored behind the counter.
- If symptoms continue 1 hour after taking pseudoephedrine, call your doctor and go to the emergency room.

When should I call or see my doctor?

- You have questions about how to take the medication.
- You are having an inadequate response.
- You are thinking of stopping your medication.
- You are having side effects that are bothersome.
- You have symptoms of priapism.

Who can I call if I have questions?

Intermountain Homecare & Hospice.
Call 800-527-1118 or 801-977- 9900 and ask for the pharmacy.

Intermountain® Homecare & Hospice

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