Levomepromazine

General:

Levomepromazine is an aliphatic phenothiazine neuroleptic drug. It is a lowpotency antipsychotic (approximately half as potent as chlorpromazine) with strong analgesic and antiemetic properties.

Levomepromazine has an incomplete oral bioavailability, because it undergoes considerable first-pass-metabolism in the liver. It has a half-life of approximately 20 hours (15 to 30 hours). Maximum plasma levels are reached 1 to 4 hours after oral dosing. After i.m.-doses maximum plasma levels are seen after 30 to 90 minutes. Drug elimination (as metabolites, only 1% of unchanged levomepromazine is recovered) is relatively slow. The metabolites are found in stool and urine.

Serious side effects include tardive dyskinesia, akathisia, and the potentially fatal neuroleptic malignant syndrome. As is typical of phenothiazine antipsychotics, it exerts its effects by blocking a variety of receptors, including adrenergic receptors, dopamine receptors, histamine receptors, muscarinic acetylcholine receptors, and serotonin receptors.

Levomepromazine is used for the treatment of psychosis, particular those of schizophrenia, and manic phases of bipolar disorder. It should be used only with caution in the treatment of agitated depressions, as it can cause akathisia as a side effect, which could worsen the agitation. It is also used at lower doses for the treatment of nausea.

Material:	1 ml serum
TAT:	5-7 days*
Method:	LCMS
Units:	µg/L
Ref.- range:	30.0 - 160

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit
http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/

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