

SULPHETRONE.

METHOD OF PREPARING THE INJECTION SOLUTION FROM THE GRANULES.

4:4'-bis-(γ phenylpropylamino) diphenyl sulphone- α : γ : α' : γ' -
tetrasodium tetrasulphonate.

*(This method was first demonstrated in this country to a team of
Brazilian leprologists, led by Dr. Ernani Agricola and Dr. Alcantara
Madeira, when they visited England in 1950.)*

PREPARATION OF INJECTABLE SOLUTIONS

' Sulphetrone ' brand 4:4'-bis-(γ phenylpropylamino) diphenyl sulphone- α : γ : α' : γ' -tetrasodium tetrasulphonate in contrast with the majority of the other derivatives of diaminodiphenyl sulphone is soluble in water and the preparation of solutions for parenteral administration is an easy matter. The stability of ' Sulphetrone ' solutions is to a certain degree dependent upon the concentration. Solutions of high concentration (50 to 60%) withstand heating very well. Approximately isotonic solutions (10%) are much less stable than those of higher concentration.

Solutions of 50-60 per cent. concentration may be sterilised by autoclaving at 115 degrees C. (steam at 10-lbs. pressure) and such solutions may be kept for a long period in sealed ampoules.

A slight change in colour or a faint opalescence after sterilisation has been shown to have no significance.

DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARING 100 MILS OF 'SULPHETRONE' SOLUTION 50%.

'Sulphetrone' Granules 50 grammes.

Water for Injection (B.P. or U.S.P.) sufficient to make 100 mils.

Add the 50 grammes of 'Sulphetrone' a little at a time to 60 mils of hot Water for Injection, stirring until all the 'Sulphetrone' has dissolved. Allow to cool. Make up the volume to 100 mils with more Water for Injection and stir thoroughly. Filter the solution through a suitable filter to give a clear filtrate.

Fifty per cent. solutions of 'Sulphetrone' may be sterilised by autoclaving in sealed ampoules or in multi-dose containers. Phenol or Chlorocresol may be added as bacteriostatic agents to 50% Sulphetrone Solutions in multidose containers.

AUTOCLAVING

Containers of 500/1000 mils may be sterilised by heating at 115° (10-lbs. steam pressure) for 45 minutes.

Containers of 100 mils or less need be heated for 30 minutes only.

Multi-dose containers should be well-filled and the solution should be protected from contact with air by a suitable air-tight closure. Under such conditions the solution should be stable for a long period. The solution in partly filled containers should be used up within a few days.

'Sulphetrone' solutions are somewhat sensitive to light and should be protected from excessive exposure to daylight.

This method was devised with the technical assistance of the staff of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Proprietors, The Wellcome Foundation).