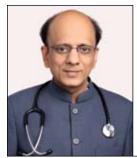
FROM THE DESK OF GROUP EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



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FDA Approves New Colon-Cleansing Drug

he US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved a new colon-cleansing drug, prepopik (sodium picosulfate, magnesium oxide and citric acid), a dual-acting stimulant and osmotic laxative, for colonoscopy preparation.

A previously available, low-volume oral phospho-soda preparation was removed from the market for safety reasons.

The advantage of a small-volume solution (300 ml) for bowel preparation is greater patient compliance, as use of large-volume cleansing preparations may be a deterrent to some patients for having the procedure.

Increased use of screening colonoscopy and cleaner bowel allowing high-quality colonoscopy may improve screening rates and cancer detection.

The preparation consists of two packets of sodium picosulfate, magnesium oxide and citric acid. In a split-dose regimen, patients dissolve the first packet of powder into water and drink the orange-flavored solution the night before a scheduled colonoscopy, and then do the same for the second packet the morning of the procedure.

If that split-dose regimen cannot be performed, patients may also take the drug as a day-before regimen in the afternoon and evening before a colonoscopy.

Patients are also advised to drink additional fluids during and after use of the preparation to reduce the risk for fluid and electrolyte imbalance.

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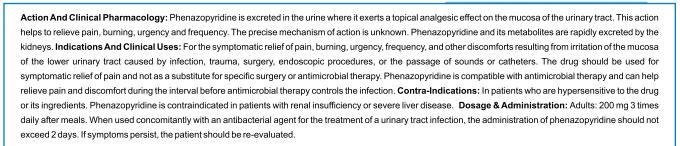
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In UTI associated with....

- Catheterization
- Trauma
- Surgery
- Endoscopic procedure associated with
 - Frequent urination
 - Painful micturition



1. Drehole M et al. Comparison of Cefdinir and Cefaclor in Treatment of Community Acquired Pneumonia. Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. 1997; 41(7): 1579-1583



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