

Arginine is a hypertonic, hyperosmolar solution, and is highly irritating to human tissue” Snyder and Hess (2016).

Background:

Arginine is a natural amino acid commonly used as a pituitary provocative agent in growth hormone testing. Arginine is a hypertonic, hyperosmolar solution, and is highly irritating to human tissue. The solution is administered intravenously (IV) by rapid infusion over 30 minutes. Adverse reactions to arginine may include nausea, vomiting, cutaneous allergic reactions, anaphylaxis, hypophosphatemia, and thrombocytopenia.

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Reference:

Snyder, C. and Hess, C. (2016) Tissue Necrosis: A Rare Adverse Event of Arginine Infusion during Growth Hormone Stimulation Testing. *Journal of Paediatric Nursing*. 31(3), p.364.

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