TRANSFUSION MEDICINE PROTOCOLS

Albumex® (Human Albumin solutions)

This document should be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer

Albumex® Human Albumin solution is available in two concentrations.

- Albumex® 4%
- Albumex® 20%

⚠ WARNING

Care should be taken to ensure the correct concentration is administered. Erroneous administration of 20% albumin instead of 4% could result in severe circulatory overload.

Albumex® 4 (Human Albumin 40g/L)	
DESCRIPTION & ORDERING	Albumex® 4 is a slightly viscous, clear yellow, amber, or green liquid (almost colourless). Available in two sizes for intravenous infusion: • 50mL (2g of human albumin in 50mL electrolyte solution) • 500mL (20g of human albumin in 500mL electrolyte solution) Ordered from blood bank. When ordered for individual patient use the product will have a peel off product label to attach to the Blood Record form (MR735). Return product to Blood Bank immediately if no longer required.
SPECIFICATIONS	Albumex® 4 is a 4% iso-osmotic solution containing: • Human Albumin 40g/L • Sodium 140mmol/L • Chloride 128mmol/L • Octanoate 6.4mmol/L
INDICATIONS	• CSL Behring Australian Product Information - Albumex® 4 • Fluid resuscitation in hypovolaemia /shock associated with significant hypoalbuminaemia and patients with multiple organ failure. • Cardiopulmonary bypass surgery and plasma exchange.
CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS	Must not be used if there is a history of allergy to this product. Contraindicated in patients with pulmonary oedema or severe anaemia and should be used with **caution** in patients with cardiac failure.

	⚠CAUTION Hypotension has been reported in patients receiving albumin who are also taking ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors.
ADVERSE REACTIONS	• Adverse reaction to albumin solution is uncommon and usually mild and transient. Symptoms may include hypotension, chills, fever, allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, skin rashes, nausea, vomiting and increased salivation. • Report adverse reactions to the Haematologist and Blood Bank. See WNHS Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events
DOSE	• Refer to treating clinician for rate of infusion. • Prescribe on Fluid Order form. See product information.
CONSENT	Manufactured from pooled human plasma, written consent to blood products is required. Refer to Blood Products (Adults), Blood Products (Neonates).
CONSUMER INFORMATION	CSL Behring - Albumex® 4 Consumer Medicine Information
ADMINISTRATION AND DOCUMENTATION	• Two staff to perform double independent checks of patient, product, prescription as per Blood Products (Adults), Blood Products (Neonates). Complete Blood Record form MR 735 • Albumex®4 contains no antimicrobial preservative and must be started immediately after opening and used within 4 hours. Do not use the product if it appears turbid and discard any unused solution. • Administer through a standard IV giving set (blood giving set not required). • Do not 'piggy-back' into other lines. • Administration from glass bottle requires a vented system. • Infusion pumps may be used to ensure constant delivery of accurate rates. • After the infusion is complete flush the line with sodium chloride 0.9%.
MONITORING & OBSERVATIONS	• Monitor patient for circulatory overload and hypersensitivity to the product. • Record vital signs (temperature, pulse, respiration, blood pressure) and document on Observation Response Charts. ✓ Before the start of each infusion. ✓ After 15 minutes then hourly throughout the infusion. ✓ On completion

Albumex® 20 (Human Albumin 200g/L)	
DESCRIPTION & ORDERING	Albumex® 20 is a slightly viscous, clear yellow, amber, or green liquid (almost colourless). Available in two sizes for intravenous infusion: • 10mL (2g of human albumin in 10mL electrolyte solution) • 100mL (20g of human albumin in 100mL electrolyte solution) Ordered from blood bank. When ordered for individual patient use the product will have a peel off product label to attach to the Blood Record form (MR735). Return product to Blood Bank immediately if no longer required.
SPECIFICATIONS	Albumex® 20 is a 20% hyper-oncotic solution containing: • Human Albumin 200g/L • Sodium 48-100 mmol/L • Octanoate 32 mmol/L.
INDICATIONS	Approved for the treatment of hypoproteinaemia in critically ill patients, nephrotic syndrome, shock, burns, acute respiratory distress syndrome, haemodialysis, and therapeutic plasma exchange. CSL Behring Australian Product Information: Albumex 20
CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS	• Albumin may be contraindicated in any disease state that would be exacerbated by volume expansion, including (but not limited to) severe anaemia, congestive heart failure and pulmonary oedema. • Contraindicated in patients who have experienced previous allergic or anaphylactic reactions. • ⚠CAUTION Hypotension has been reported in patients receiving albumin who are also taking ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors.
ADVERSE REACTIONS	Adverse reaction to albumin solution is uncommon and usually mild and transient. Symptoms may include hypotension, chills, fever, allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, skin rashes, nausea, vomiting and increased salivation. Report any adverse reaction to the Haematologist and Blood Bank. Refer to Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events (Transfusion Medicine Protocol)
DOSE	• Refer to treating clinician for rate of infusion. • Prescribe on Fluid Order form
CONSENT	Manufactured from pooled human plasma. Written consent to blood products required. Refer to Blood Products (Adults), Blood Products (Neonates).
CONSUMER INFORMATION	CSL Behring - Albumex® 20 Consumer Medicine Information

ADMINISTRATION	• Two staff to perform double independent checks of patient, product, prescription as per Blood Products (Adults), Blood Products (Neonates). Complete Blood Record form MR 735 • Albumex®20 contains no antimicrobial preservative and must be started immediately after opening and used within 4 hours. Do not use the product if it appears turbid and discard any unused solution. • Administration from glass bottle requires a vented system. • Administer through a standard IV giving set (blood giving set not required). Do not 'piggy-back' into other lines. • Infusion pumps may be used to ensure constant delivery of accurate rates. • After the infusion is complete flush the line with sodium chloride 0.9%.
OBSERVATIONS	Monitor patient for circulatory overload and hypersensitivity to the product. Record vital signs (temperature, pulse, respiration, blood pressure) on Observation Response Charts. • Before the start of each infusion. • After 15 minutes and then hourly throughout the infusion. • On completion

References

- Australian Red Cross website http://www.transfusion.com.au/blood_products/fractionated_plasma/albumin
- CSL Behring Biotherapies for Life Website

Related WNHS policies, procedures, and guidelines

- Transfusion Medicine Protocols (A-Z)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocol: Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events
- Neonatology Clinical Care Guidelines
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Guidelines

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Document owner:	Chair of KEMH Hospital Transfusion Committee		
Author /Reviewer:	Consultant Haematologist, Scientist in Charge Transfusion Medicine, KEMH Transfusion Coordinator		
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