



HEPARINISED SALINE

Indication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priming or flushing vascular access lines • Heparin lock for UAC or peripheral IAL when disconnection from infusion is required (e.g. during transport or a procedure) 		
INTRAVENOUS	Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ampoule 50 units/5mL 	
	Dosage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 units (1 mL) 	
	Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required 	
	Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow local procedures • Flush <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IV injection over 1 minute 	
ARTERIAL	Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ampoule 50 units/5mL 	
	Dosage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 units (1 mL) 	
	Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required 	
	Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a luer lock syringe and administer via a 3-way stopcock • Priming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow local procedures • Flush <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IV injection via UAC or peripheral IAL over 1 minute • Heparin lock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow local procedures for disconnecting and reconnecting arterial lines 	
Special considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the risk of selection errors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Store separately from other heparin products, 0.9 % sodium chloride ampoules and medicines in similar ampoules (e.g. 1% lignocaine in 5 mL)¹ 		
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor volume administered to prevent overdose and minimise side effects 		
Compatibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5% glucose¹ and 10% glucose², 0.9% sodium chloride¹, 0.45% sodium chloride² • Y-site¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aciclovir, adrenaline (epinephrine), ampicillin, atracurium, atropine, caffeine citrate, calcium gluconate, cefazolin, dexamethasone, digoxin, dopamine, ertapenem, esmolol, fentanyl, fluconazole, foscarnet, furosemide (frusemide), glyceryl trinitrate, hydralazine, hyoscine hydrobromide, lidocaine (lignocaine), magnesium sulfate, metoprolol, morphine, neostigmine, noradrenaline (norepinephrine), paracetamol, pancuronium, piperacillin-tazobactam (EDTA-free), ranitidine, sodium bicarbonate, suxamethonium, vecuronium, zidovudine 		
Incompatibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluids¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fat emulsion • Drugs¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amikacin, amiodarone, benzylpenicillin, cefalothin, ciprofloxacin, cisatracurium, dobutamine, dolasetron, erythromycin, filgrastim, gentamicin, haloperidol, ketamine, pethidine, protamine, tobramycin 		
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil significant 		
Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store below 25 °C • Single use only, discard unused portion³ 		
Side effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases the risk of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT)¹ 		
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticoagulant that inhibits the formation of fibrin clots • Action begins immediately and effective for 3–6 hours 		
Abbreviations	HIT: heparin-induced thrombocytopenia, IAL: intra-arterial line; IV: intravenous, UAC: umbilical arterial catheter		

Keywords

heparinised saline, heparin lock, HIT, heparin induced thrombocytopenia

The Queensland Clinical Guideline *Neonatal Medicines* is integral to and should be read in conjunction with this monograph. Refer to the disclaimer. Destroy all printed copies of this monograph after use.

References

1. Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook. Nicolette Burrige, Keli Symons, editors. Heparinised saline. 7th ed. [Internet]. New South Wales: Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA); June 2018 [cited 2018 August 27]. Available from: <https://aidh.hcn.com.au>.
2. Trissels™ 2 Clinical Pharmaceutics Database. IV Compatibility Module. [online database] 2019 [cited 2019 May 12]. Available from: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/micromedex2/librarian>.
3. MIMS Online. Heparinised saline. [Internet]: MIMS Australia; January 2013 [cited 2018 August 27]. Available from: <https://www.mimsonline.com.au>.

Document history

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