



TRANSFUSION MEDICINE PROTOCOLS

# Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 (Human Albumin 40g/L)

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

<p><b>AIM</b></p>	<p>To describe the indication, ordering, administration and documentation of plasma derived blood product Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 (Human Albumin 40g/L)</p>
<p><b>DESCRIPTION</b></p>	<p>Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 (Human Albumin 40g/L)</p>
<p><b>SPECIFICATIONS</b></p>	<p>Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 is a 4% iso-osmotic solution of human albumin that also contains Sodium 140mmol/L, Chloride 128mmol/L and Octanoate 6.4mmol/L. <a href="#">Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 Product Information</a></p>
<p><b>VIAL SIZE</b></p>	<p>Available in two sizes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50mL (2g of human albumin in 50mL electrolyte solution)</li> <li>• 500mL (20g of human albumin in 500mL electrolyte solution)</li> </ul> <p><b>⚠ WARNING</b> Albumex Human Albumin solution is available in two concentrations. Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4% and Albumex<sup>®</sup> 20%. Care should be taken to ensure the correct concentration is administered. Administration of 20% albumin instead of 4% in error could result in severe circulatory overload.</p>
<p><b>INDICATIONS</b></p>	<p>Approved for fluid resuscitation (i.e. treatment of hypovolaemia/shock), and for cardiopulmonary bypass surgery and plasma exchange.</p>
<p><b>CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS</b></p>	<p>Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 must not be used if there is a history of allergy to this product.</p> <p>Albumex<sup>®</sup> 4 is contraindicated in patients with pulmonary oedema or severe anaemia and should be used with <b>caution</b> in patients with cardiac failure.</p> <p><b>⚠ CAUTION</b> Hypotension has been reported in patients receiving albumin who are also taking ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors.</p>

<b>CONSUMER INFORMATION</b>	<a href="#">Albumex® 4 Consumer Medicine Information</a>
<b>CONSENT</b>	Manufactured from pooled human plasma. Written consent to blood products required. Refer to Transfusion Medicine Protocol – <a href="#">Blood Product Prescription Consent and Refusal</a> .
<b>DOSE</b>	The full <a href="#">Albumex® 4 product information</a> should be read prior to prescribing or administering Albumex. This can also be obtained from the insert accompanying the product.
<b>ORDERING</b>	Albumin may be ordered on a named patient basis from blood bank. For these specific cases the product will have a peel off product label which can be stuck on the transfusion medicine record form (MR735).
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two staff to perform checks as per <a href="#">WNHS Blood Products Pre Transfusion Checking Procedure</a>. Check Issue label and patient ID. Check right patient, right product, right dose – prescription matches product supplied. If not identical, contact TMU and prescribing doctor.</li> <li>• Albumex®4 contains no antimicrobial preservative. It must, therefore, be used immediately after opening. Any unused solution must be discarded.</li> <li>• Australian Red Cross Blood Service (ARCBS) recommends that each bottle of Albumex® 4 is used within 4 hours.</li> <li>• Do not use the product if it appears turbid.</li> <li>• Albumex® 4 should be administered through a standard IV giving set (no filter required).</li> <li>• Do not 'piggy-back' into other lines.</li> <li>• Administration from glass bottle requires a vented system.</li> <li>• Plum A+ pumps may be used to ensure constant delivery of accurate rates.</li> <li>• Refer to treating clinician for rate of infusion.</li> <li>• After the infusion is complete flush the line with sodium chloride 0.9%.</li> </ul>
<b>OBSERVATIONS</b>	Undertake observations as for all blood products. Vital signs (temperature, pulse, respiration, blood pressure) must be recorded on the observation chart in the medical record.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before the start of each infusion.</li> <li>• At 15 minutes from start of infusion.</li> <li>• Thereafter, hourly throughout the infusion.</li> <li>• On the completion of infusion.</li> </ul> <p>Patients should be monitored for circulatory overload and hypersensitivity to the product.</p>
<b>ADVERSE REACTIONS</b>	<p>Adverse reactions to albumin solution are uncommon and are usually mild and transient. Symptoms of adverse reactions may include: hypotension, chills, fever, allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, skin rashes, nausea, vomiting and increased salivation.</p> <p>Any adverse reaction should be reported to the Clinical Haematologist and TMU. Refer to <a href="#">WNHS Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events</a> as a guide to further treatment and management of the patient.</p>
<b>DOCUMENTATION</b>	<p>A record should be kept in the patient's history of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date and time of infusion</li> <li>• Patients observations and condition during the infusion</li> <li>• Amount given</li> <li>• The batch number and expiry date of each bottle used (place a sticker with the batch number on the Transfusion Medicine Record sheet MR735). This information is important should the patient have a reaction to the infusion or if there is a need to trace recipients of certain batch numbers at a later date.</li> </ul>
<p>For further information, refer to product insert</p> <p>Return product to TMU immediately if no longer required.</p> <p>Product should be used for intended patient (issue label) only.</p>	




## References

- Australian Red Cross Blood Service – Blood products and transfusion practice for health professionals. [Australian Red Cross](http://www.transfusion.com.au/blood_products/fractionated_plasma/albumin) website  
[http://www.transfusion.com.au/blood\\_products/fractionated\\_plasma/albumin](http://www.transfusion.com.au/blood_products/fractionated_plasma/albumin)
- Australian Red Cross Blood Service – Blood products and transfusion practice for health professionals. [Australian Red Cross](#) website

- The Australian Blood Service (ARCBS) Blood Component Information <http://www.transfusion.com.au/sites/default/files/BCI%202009.pdf>
- Flippin' Blood BloodSafe SA / ARCBS Second Edition June 2012
- <http://resources.transfusion.com.au/cdm/ref/collection/p16691coll1/id/20>
- CSL Global [Albumex® 4 Product list](#)
- National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards, October 2012. [Standard 7: Blood and Blood Products](#)

### Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines

- [KEMH Blood Transfusion Checking Procedure](#) Poster
- [WNHS Transfusion Medicine Blood Product Prescription Consent and Refusal](#)
- [WNHS Transfusion Medicine: General Practice and Equipment](#)
- [WNHS Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events](#)
- [WNHS Pharmacy Medication Checking and Administration](#)
- [Neonatology Clinical Care Guidelines](#)
- [Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Guidelines](#)

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