TRANSFUSION MEDICINE PROTOCOLS

Albumex® 20 (Human Albumin 200g/L)

This document should be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer

AIM	To describe the indication, ordering, administration and documentation of plasma derived blood product Albumex® 20 (Human Albumin 200g/L)
DESCRIPTION	Albumex® 20 (Human Albumin 200g/L)
SPECIFICATIONS	Albumex® 20 is a 20% hyper-oncotic solution of human serum. Human Albumin 200g/L, Sodium 48-100 mmol/L, Octanoate 32 mmol/L. Albumex® 20 Product Information
VIAL SIZE	Available in two sizes: • 10mL (2g of human albumin in 10mL electrolyte solution) • 100mL (20g of human albumin in 100mL electrolyte solution) **WARNING Albumex® Human Albumin solution is available in two concentrations. Albumex® 4% and Albumex® 20%. 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.**
INDICATIONS	Approved for the treatment of extremely low albumin in critically ill patients, nephrotic syndrome and other hypoproteinaemic states, shock, burns, acute respiratory distress syndrome, haemodialysis and therapeutic plasma exchange.
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. Albumin is also contraindicated in patients who have experienced previous allergic or anaphylactic reactions after receiving it.

	⚠CAUTION Hypotension has been reported in patients receiving albumin who are also taking ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors.
CONSUMER INFORMATION	Albumex® 20 Consumer Medicine Information
CONSENT	Manufactured from pooled human plasma. Written consent to blood products required. Refer to Transfusion Medicine Protocol – Blood Product Prescription and Informed Consent.
DOSE	⚠CAUTION **In the presence of intact capillary permeability, 20% albumin may exert 5 times the volume expanding effect of 4% albumin i.e. 5 mL/Kg of 20% albumin is equivalent to 25 mL/Kg of 4% albumin. If administered rapidly it may cause hypertension and precipitate pulmonary oedema.** The full Albumex® 20 Product Information should be read prior to prescribing or administering Albumex. This can also be obtained from the insert accompanying the product.
ORDERING	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).
ADMINISTRATION	• Two staff to perform checks as per WNHS Blood Products Pre Transfusion Checking Procedure. 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. • Australian Red Cross Blood Service (ARCBS) recommends that each bottle of Albumex® 20 is used within 4 hours. • Do not use the product if it appears turbid. • Albumex® 20 should be administered through a standard IV giving set (no filter is required). • Do not 'piggy-back' into other lines. • Administration from glass bottle requires a vented system. • Plum A+ pumps may be used to ensure constant delivery of accurate rates. • Refer to treating clinician for rate of infusion.

	• After the infusion is complete flush the line with sodium chloride 0.9%.
OBSERVATIONS	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. • Before the start of each infusion. • At 15 minutes from start of infusion. • Thereafter, hourly throughout the infusion. • On the completion of infusion. Patients should be monitored for circulatory overload and hypersensitivity to the product.
ADVERSE REACTIONS	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. Any adverse reaction should be reported to the Clinical Haematologist and TMU. Refer to WNHS Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events as a guide to further treatment and management of the patient.
DOCUMENTATION	• A record should be kept in the patient's history of the following: • The date and time of infusion • Patients observations and condition during the infusion • Amount given • 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.
For further information, refer to product insert Return product to TMU immediately if no longer required. Product should be used for intended patient (issue label) only.	

References

- Australian Red Cross Blood Service – Blood products and transfusion practice for health professionals. Australian Red Cross website 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
- CSL Website Albumex® 20 Product Information
- 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

Related policies

- 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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Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1 Governance, 5 Patient ID/Procedure Matching, 7 Blood Products

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