ALBUREX® 5 NZ

Human Albumin 5% (50g/L), solution for infusion

Manufactured from New Zealand plasma donations

ALBUMEX® 4 production has ceased.

The new Albumin 5% solution for infusion in New Zealand is ALBUREX® 5 NZ, 500mL.

COMPARISON

Differences	ALBUMEX® 4[1]		ALBUREX® 5 NZ[2]
Concentration	4% Albumin (40 g/L)		5% Albumin (50 g/L)
Presentation (vial) size	50 mL, 500 mL		500 mL
Colour	Due to differences in the manufacturing processes albumin products can vary in colour; it is a clear, almost colourless, yellow, amber, or green liquid.		
Shelf life	48 months		36 months
Storage conditions	ALBUMEX® 4 50 mL vial Store below 30°C (do not freeze)	ALBUMEX® 4 500 mL vial Store below 30°C (do not freeze)	ALBUREX® 5 NZ 500 mL vial Store below 25°C (do not freeze)
Excipients	Sodium (140 mmol/L) Octanoate (6.4 mmol/L) Water for injections		Sodium acetyltryptophanate (4 mmol/L) Sodium octanoate (4 mmol/L) Sodium chloride (NaCl is added to meet required sodium content) Water for injections
Osmolality	Normal osmolality of 260 mOsm/kg		Nominal osmolality of 258 mOsm/kg
pH	6.7 to 7.3		6.7 to 7.3
Oncotic pressure	Iso-oncotic		Mildly hypo-oncotic
Chloride (Cl)	128 mmol/L		Not tested
Sodium (Na)	140 mmol/L		140 mmol/L
Incompatibilities	ALBUMEX® 4 should not be mixed with protein hydrolysates, amino acid solutions, solutions containing alcohol, or solutions containing drugs that bind to albumin e.g. calcium channel blockers.		ALBUREX® 5 NZ must not be mixed with any other medicinal products, including whole blood, packed red cells, or other albumins.

SODIUM CONTENT

ALBUREX® 5 NZ contains approximately 3.2 mg sodium per mL of solution (140 mmol/L). This should be noted when the product is used in patients requiring sodium restriction.

ADMINISTRATION AND INFUSION RATES

ALBUREX® 5 NZ should be administered by intravenous route only, using a vented infusion set.

ALBUREX® 5 NZ contains no antimicrobial preservative. It must be used immediately after opening the vial and infusion completed within 4 hours.

ALBUREX® 5 NZ is supplied for a `named-patient' only. Ensure the swing label issued by Blood Bank with the product is permanently retained in the `named patient's' clinical records.

The infusion rate should be considered according to the individual patient's clinical condition, especially the elderly and paediatric population.

In plasma exchange the infusion rate should be adjusted to the rate of fluid removal.

Do not dilute ALBUREX® 5 NZ with water for injection as this may cause haemolysis.

Refer to the ALBUREX® 5 NZ Data Sheet for further information on compatibility and dilution.

MONITORING

Patients require regular monitoring to assess haemodynamic performance. This may include:

- blood pressure and pulse rate
- central venous pressure
- pulmonary artery wedge pressure
- urine output
- serum electrolytes
- haematocrit/haemoglobin

ADVERSE EFFECTS

Reactions are rare however human albumin solutions can cause mild reactions such as:

- flushing
- urticaria
- fever
- nausea

These reactions normally disappear rapidly when the infusion rate is slowed down, or the infusion is stopped. Severe allergic reactions such as anaphylactic shock are very rare. It is important to stop the infusion immediately, and seek medical review.

Any adverse event must be reported to the issuing Blood Bank.

References
1. Albumex® 4 NZ (4%), solution for infusion - Data Sheet https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/datasheet/a/Albumex4inf.pdf
2. Alburex® 5 NZ 5% (50g/L), solution for infusion - Data Sheet https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/datasheet/a/Alburex5inf.pdf

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