

# Gelofusine®



#### Composition

1000 ml solution for infusion contains:

Active ingredients

Succinylated gelatin (Modified fluid gelatin) 40.00 g Weight average molecular weight  $(\overline{M}_w)$ 30 000 Number average molecular weight  $(\overline{M}_n)$ 23 200 Sodium chloride 7.01 g 1.36 g Sodium hydroxide

Excipients

Water for Injections

**Electrolyte concentrations** 

Sodium 154 mmol/l Chloride 120 mmol/l

Physico-chemical characteristic

Theoretical osmolarity: 274 m0sm/l 7.1 - 7.7pН Gel point ≤ 3°C

Pharmaceutical form Solution for infusion.

## Pharmaco-therapeutic group

Colloidal plasma volume substitute.

#### **Therapeutic Indications**

Gelofusine® is a colloidal volume substitute for

- Treatment of absolute and relative hypovolaemia and shock. • prophylaxis and treatment of hypotension
- caused by relative hypovolaemia during induction of epidural or
- spinal anaesthesia - due to imminent significant blood loss in a surgical setting
- Procedures involving extracorporeal circulation as a component of
- priming fluid in combination with crystalloid solutions (e.g. heart-lung machine).

## Contraindications

Gelofusine® must not be administered in cases of

- know hypersensitivity to gelatin
- Hypersensitivity to galactose- $\alpha$ -1,3-galactose (alpha-Gal) or known allergy to red meat (mammal meat) and offal
- hypervolaemia hyperhydration
- Acute congestive cardiac failure

#### Gelofusine® should only be administered with great caution in cases of

- at risk due to circulatory overload e.g. patients with right or left ventricular insufficiency, hypertension, pulmonary oedema or renal insufficiency with oligo- or anuria.
- with severely impaired renal function
- with severe hypernatraemia
- with severe hyperchloraemia • having oedema with water/salt retention
- with major blood coagulation disorders
- of advanced age (elderly patients) as those are more prone to develop disorders such as cardiac or renal insufficiency

#### Precautions for use

The following precautions must be taken into account: Electrolytes should be substituted as required.

#### **Necessary monitoring**

It is necessary to monitor the serum ionogram and fluid balance. This is particularly the case in hypernatraemia, states of dehydration and renal insufficiency.

In cases of blood coagulation disturbances and chronic liver disease the coagulation parameters and serum albumin should be monitored. Because of the possibility of allergic (anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) reactions, appropriate monitoring of patients is necessary.

#### General guidelines concerning the prophylaxis and treatment of allergic (anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) side effects

- · Adequate information should be available to doctors and nursing staff concerning the type and severity of reactions attributable to colloidal volume substitutes,
- Equipment and medicaments for resuscitation must be readily available, Careful observation of the patient during infusion and particularly during administration of the first 20 - 30 ml.
- The infusion must be stopped immediately at the first signs of side effects. (see table below)

There is no known test for advance identification of patients liable to experience anaphylactoid or anaphylactic reactions.

The course of an intolerance reaction cannot be predicted. Allergic (anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) reactions to gelatin solutions can be both histamine-mediated and histamine-independent. The release of histamine can be inhibited prophylactically with H1 and H2-blockers. The prophylactic administration of corticosteroids has not proved useful.

Adverse reactions can occur both in conscious and anaesthetised patients. However, in the acute phase of hypovolaemic shock, so far allergic (anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) reactions have never been observed.

## schwarz + Schwarzverlauf

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## **Emergency Treatment - Anaphylactic/Anaphylactoid Reactions**

Intensity/ Grade	Manifestation	Clinical signs & symptoms	Measures & drug therapy				
la	localized skin reaction	localized erythema		_			
	mild systemic reaction	anxiety, headache, flush- ing, generalized urticaria, mucosal edemas, paraesthesia	Stop infusion and				• H <sub>1</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> -antihistamines as appropriate
	cardiovascular	tachycardia, fall in blood pressure	Oxygen supply  Endo-tracheal intubation	Infusion of Crystalloids  Infusion of colloids (human albumin)  Catech amin  Catech amin  Administrations right	Catechol-		<ul> <li>epinephrine, e.g. inhaled epinephrine or 0.5-1.0 ml epinephrine 1:10,000 slowly i.v.</li> <li>corticosteroids i.v. as appropriate</li> <li>H<sub>1</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>-antihistamines as required</li> <li>catecholamines, e.g. 1 ml epinephrine 1:10,000 slowly i.v., repeated doses if necessary up to a total dose of 10 ml</li> <li>in cases of severe bronchocon - striction: theophyllin i.v.</li> <li>corticosteroids i.v. as appropriate</li> <li>H<sub>1</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>-antihistamines as required</li> </ul>
	pulmonary and/or	dyspnoea, beginning of bronchospasms			Dosage and Administra- tion see right column)		
		nausea, vomiting					
	alarming systemic reaction	severe hypotension and shock					
		severe dyspnoea and bronchospasm					
	life-threatening systemic reaction	respiratory and cardiac arrest				Cardio- pulmonary resuscitation	basic life support     advanced life support     catecholamines, e.g. 10 ml     epinephrine 1:10,000 i.v.,     repeated if necessary     consider other drugs like:     noradrenaline, dopamine,     dobutamine     sodium bicarbonate

(modified from Ahnefeld et al., 1994, Results of a consensus conference: Anaesthesist 43, 211-222)

## Effect on clinical-chemical parameters

Clinical-chemical parameters may be affected. Thus, the results of the following laboratory determinations can be elevated: blood sedimentation rate, specific gravity of the urine and non-specific protein determinations (e.g. by the biuret method).

## Forms of interaction with other medicinal products

Caution should be exercised in patients concurrently taking or receiving medicinal products that can cause sodium retention (e.g. corticosteroids, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents) as concomitant administration may lead to oedema

## Special warnings

Paediatric use

There is insufficient experience with the use of Gelofusine® in children. Therefore, Gelofusine® should only be administered to these patients if the expected benefits clearly outweigh potential risks

## Elderly patients

Caution should be exercised in patients suffering from further diseases like cardiac insufficiency or renal insufficiency that are frequently associated with advanced age

## Use in pregnancy and lactation

There are no or limited amount of data from the use of Gelofusine® in pregnant women. Animal studies are insufficient with respect to reproductive toxicity

Due to the limited data available and the possibility of severe anaphylactic/ anaphylactoid reactions, with consecutive foetal and neonatal distress, the use of Gelofusine® solutions during pregnancy should be restricted to emergency situations.

There are no or limited data regarding the excretion of succinylated gelatine in mother's milk, but because of its high molecular weight it is not expected that the milk will contain relevant amounts. Sodium and chloride are normal constituents of the human body and of food. No significant increase in the content of these electrolytes in mother's milk is expected following the use of Gelofusine®.

## Dosage

Dosage, infusion rate and duration of administration depend upon individual requirements and should be adjusted to the current requirement by monitoring the usual circulation parameters (e.g. blood pressure). In order to allow early recognition of the allergic (anaphylactic/ anaphylactoid) reactions described under undesirable effects, the first 20 - 30 ml should be infused slowly with the patients under close observation.

The following dosage recommendations are a guideline and apply to adults:

## Indications

Average dosage

Prophylaxis of hypovolaemia and hypotension, treatment of mild hypovolaemia (e.g. slight losses of blood and plasma)

500 - 1000 ml

Treatment of severe hypovolaemia

In emergencies with vital indications

500 ml as rapid infusion (under pressure), then after improvement of circulation parameters, further infusion to commensurate with the volume deficit.

1000 - 2000 ml

Haemodilution (isovolaemic)

Gelofusine® administration corresponds to the volume of blood removed. As a rule, however, this should be no more than 20 ml/kg body weight per day.

Extra-corporeal circulation

Depending on the Circulation system used, but usually 500 to 1500 ml

In the case of patients with blood coagulation disturbances, renal insufficiency and chronic liver disease it is recommended to adjust the dosage according to the individual clinical situation, taking into account results of clinical-chemical investigations.

## Maximum daily amount

The maximum daily dose is determined by the degree of haemodilution. Care must be taken to avoid a decrease of the haemoglobin or haematocrit below critical values.

If necessary, blood or packed red cells must be transfused additionally. Attention must also be paid to the dilution of plasma proteins (e.g. albumin and coagulation factors), which must be adequately substituted if necessary.

## Maximum infusion rate

The maximum infusion rate depends on the particular cardio-circulatory situation.

## Note

Gelofusine® should be previously warmed to body temperature if it is to be administered by pressure infusion (pressure cuff, infusion pump).

Route of administration Intravenous use

## Overdose

Overdosage of Gelofusine® may lead to unintended hypervolaemia and circulatory overload, with a significant fall in haematocrit and plasma proteins, accompanied by an electrolyte and acid base imbalance. This may be associated with consecutive impairment of heart and lung function (pulmonary oedema). Symptoms of circulatory overload are e.g. headache, dyspnoea, and jugular vein congestion. As soon as symptoms of circulatory overload begin to manifest, e.g. dyspnoea, jugular vein congestion, the infusion must be stopped immediately, and a rapid-acting diuretic should be given. If an overdose occurs, the patient should be treated symptomatically with monitoring of electrolytes







#### **Undesirable effects**

As with all colloidal volume substitutes, allergic (anaphylactoid or anaphylactic) reactions of varying severity can occur during after infusion of Gelofusine®. These reactions manifest themselves as skin reactions (urticaria) or can result in a flushing of the face and neck. In rare cases, a drop in blood pressure, shock or cardiac and respiratory arrest could occur. Details of emergency treatment are given under "Precautions for use and special warnings" in the section "General guidelines concerning the prophylaxis and treatment of allergic (anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) side effects"

## Note

Patients are encouraged to report any adverse reactions they experience which are not mentioned in this leaflet to the doctor or the pharmacist.

The product must not be used beyond the expiry date stated on the label. The product should not be used if the solution is not clear or the container or its closure show visible signs of damage.

#### Presentation

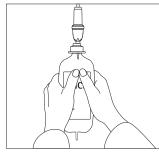
500 ml plastic container

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#### Method of administration

In the special case of rapid infusion under external pressure which may be necessary in emergency situations, before starting the infusion, all air must be removed from containers with air space inside, as otherwise there is a risk of producing air embolism during the infusion.

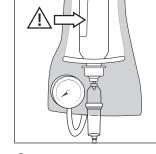
## Handling Instructions Ecoflac® plus





#### Pressure infusion

- Insert infusion set.
- Hold container upright. Leave clamp open, expel air from container and fill half of drip chamber.
- Turn container and expel air from
- infusion device.



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- Place container in pressure cuff.
- Build up pressure. - Open clamp and start infusion.











