ALBERTA PRECISION LABORATORIES
Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

Albumin (Human) 25%

APPLICABILITY: This document applies to APL, AHS, Covenant Health, and all other health care professionals involved in the transfusion of blood components and products in Alberta.	***Other Names:*** *Plasbumin®-25, Alburex®-25* ***Company:*** *Grifols Canada Ltd, CSL Behring* ***Class:*** *Manufactured product, derived from human plasma*

	INTRAVENOUS			OTHER		
ROUTES	**DIRECT IV**	**IV Infusion**	**Continuous Infusion**	**SC**	**IM**	**OTHER**
Acceptable Routes*	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/A

*** Professionals performing these restricted activities have received authorization from their regulatory college and have the knowledge and skill to perform the skill competently.**

DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT:

- Sterile aqueous solution of albumin prepared from pooled human plasma, with a physiological pH and a sodium concentration of 130-150 mmol/L.
- Clear, slightly viscous liquid which can range from almost colorless to yellow, amber, or green.
- 25% albumin is hyperoncotic to normal human plasma.
- Also available in concentration of 5%. (see separate blood product monograph).
- Sizes: 50 mL, 100mL.
- Contains sodium caprylate and acetyltryptophan as stabilizers.
- Low aluminum content (≤ 200µg/L).
- Preservative free. Latex-free

AVAILABILITY

- Supplied by Canadian Blood Services.
- Contact your local laboratory/transfusion service regarding stock availability on site.

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

- Used to restore and maintain circulating blood volume when the use of a colloid is clinically appropriate.
- Primarily used in the treatment of shock associated with hemorrhage, surgery, trauma, burns and bacteremia.
- 25% albumin is the product of choice if an oncotic deficit exists (5% albumin can be used in conditions with a volume deficit alone
- Refer to Adult Critical Care Albumin for Resuscitation Decision Support Tool https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/about/scn/ahs-scn-cc-albumin-decision-tool.pdf
- On a case by case basis, arrangements may be made for reconstitution of certain medications with albumin. These **must** be approved by a Transfusion Medicine Physician.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Known hypersensitivity to albumin or to any of the constituents of its formulation (see package insert)
- In patients at risk of developing circulatory overload.
- Generally not indicated for :
  - Malnutrition, chronic nephrosis, or chronic cirrhosis.
  - Promotion of wound healing.
  - Solely to raise serum albumin level.
  - Initial resuscitation, but may be valuable in later stages.

WARNINGS:

- **Do not** dilute with sterile water, as this can cause potentially fatal hemolysis and acute renal failure**.**
- 25% Albumin is a hyperoncotic solution that expands plasma volume up to four (4) times the actual volume administered. Ensure the patient is adequately hydrated and monitor for circulatory overload and hyperhydration.
- 25% Albumin is relatively low in electrolytes compared to 5% albumin. Monitor the patient's electrolyte status.

DOSE (Refer to Product Insert):

- Dose to be determined by the most responsible health practitioner (MHRP).
- Should not exceed the level of albumin found in the normal individual (approx. 2g/kg body weight) in the absence of active bleeding.
- Each 100mL of 25% albumin supplies the oncotic equivalent of approximately 500 mL citrated plasma.

ADMINISTRATION:

Confirm written (signed) consent has been obtained and documented prior to requesting blood component from lab/transfusion service where possible.

Pre-Infusion:

- Ensure recent patient weight is on file and pertinent labs are available. Perform the appropriate pre-transfusion checks per nursing protocol.
- Visually inspect the vial and product. Do not use if solution is discolored, frozen; or if vial is cracked/damaged, or contains glass and/or cork material in the solution.

Access: Product can be given via CVC, PICC, or peripheral IV line

Administration Supplies:

- Administer via a vented set.

  *note: air eliminating micron filters are not compatible with Albumin.

Compatible Solutions:

- Standard isotonic carbohydrate and electrolyte solutions (ex. D5W, RL, 2/3-1/3).
- 0.9% normal saline
- **Do not** mix with protein hydrolysates, amino acid solutions, or solutions containing alcohol.
- **Do not** pre-dilute any albumin solutions with sterile water for injection. This results in a substantial reduction in tonicity, which increases the risks for potentially fatal hemolysis and acute renal failure.

Administration

- Spike perpendicular to the plane of the stopper (i.e. at 90° angle) within the stopper area delineated by the raised ring to decrease the potential of pushing the stopper into the albumin vial.
- Intermittent Infusion:
  - Note: Pediatric patients may be transfused with small portions of a vial of albumin at any one time. However, all partially used vials must be discarded after 4 hours. Do not begin administration more than 4 hours after vial has been first entered.
  - Change infusion set at minimum, every 8 hours
- Continuous Infusion: change infusion set every 24 hours
- Do not share albumin vials between patients.
- Flush set with compatible solution after completion to ensure entire dose is administered.
- Once vial is entered, contents must be infused within 4 hrs.
- **Administration rate:**
  - Administration rate should be specified by the MRHP after patient assessment.
  - Must be adjusted to individual requirements.
  - Do not exceed 1-2 mL/min.

NURSING IMPLICATIONS:

Patient Monitoring:

	Pre-transfusion	Remainder of transfusion	Post-transfusion
Adults	Yes	q1h and On completion of dose	20-30 min post, then PRN

**Note: Vital signs/patient monitoring may be conducted more frequently as determined by clinical condition of patient.*

- Monitor closely for circulatory overload
- Blood coagulation parameters, hematocrit, and serum electrolytes should be monitored when a large volume of 25% albumin is administered

Patients receiving blood product transfusions must be observed closely for signs of any unexpected or untoward reactions. These reactions may occur during or after the infusion of blood or blood products. For follow up instructions to a transfusion reaction, go to: www.albertahealthservices.ca/lab/page4240.aspx

Documentation:

- The transfusion documentation should be double signed (where required) to indicate infusion.
- Start and stop time of infusion and assessment of patient tolerability should also be documented in appropriate flow chart or clinical record (electronic or paper) as required
  - Document vital signs as required in the appropriate flow chart or clinical record (electronic or paper).
  - Provide patient notification of transfusion documentation where required

POTENTIAL HAZARDS WITH PARENTERAL ADMINISTRATION:

- Potential adverse events related to a blood product transfusion range in severity from minor with no sequelae to life-threatening.
- All adverse events occurring during a transfusion should be evaluated to determine whether or not the transfusion can be safely continued/restarted.
- All adverse events suspected to be related to a product transfusion (whether during or after a transfusion) must be reported to your local transfusion service.
- The most commonly reported adverse reactions in patients receiving albumin are allergic in nature or due to high plasma protein levels from excessive or rapid albumin administration.

Side Effects:
- Flushing
- Headache
- Nausea
- Itching and redness at the venipuncture site

→ **Action:** Slow rate of infusion

Potential Allergic Reaction:
- Stuffy nose
- Hives/severe itching
- Cough
- Chest pain
- Wheezing
- Facial swelling
- Fainting

→ **Action:** **STOP** infusion **IMMEDIATELY** and contact physician

STORAGE & STABILITY OF PRODUCT:

- Plasbumin® is stored at room temperature (up to 30°C). **Do not freeze**.
- Alburex® is stored at 2-30ºC. Keep away from light. **Do not freeze.**
- Shelf life is 2-5 years depending on manufacturing process. Expiration date is printed on box and vial.
- Do not use expired product.

COMMENTS:

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For questions or comments regarding this document please contact: Transfusion.SafetyTeam@aplabs.ca

REFERENCES:

Canadian Blood Services Clinical Guide to Transfusion

Plasbumin® product monograph available at http://www.grifols.com

Alburex® product monograph available at http://www.cslbehring.ca