

# AMPHOTERICIN B LIPID COMPLEX

SYNONYMS	Amphotericin B phospholipid complex, ABLC
BRAND NAME	ABELCET
DRUG CLASS	Antifungal
AVAILABILITY	Vial contains 100 mg/20 mL of amphotericin B. Also contains dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine, dimyristoylphosphatidylglycerol and sodium chloride. The suspension is yellow and opaque. <sup>1</sup>

Anaphylactic reactions may occur. Resuscitation facilities must be readily available.<sup>1</sup>  
There are three formulations of amphotericin B and they are not interchangeable.  
Use brand names when communicating orders. Check product selection carefully.

pH	5–7 <sup>2</sup>
PREPARATION	Shake the vial gently to evenly disperse the contents. Withdraw the dose into a syringe using a 17 to 19 gauge needle. Remove the needle and replace with the 5 micrometre high-flow filter needle provided before adding to the infusion solution. Use a new filter needle for each vial. <sup>1</sup>
STABILITY	Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. <sup>1</sup> Infusion solution: stable for 24 hours at 2 to 8 °C and 6 hours below 25 °C. <sup>1,2</sup> Shake the suspension vigorously before use. <sup>1</sup>
ADMINISTRATION	
<b>IM injection</b>	Not recommended
<b>SUBCUT injection</b>	Not recommended
<b>IV injection</b>	Not recommended
<b>IV infusion</b>	Dilute the dose in 250–500 mL of glucose 5% to make a final concentration of 1 mg/mL. Shake the bag vigorously before use. <sup>1,2</sup> Flush the line with glucose 5% before and after the infusion. <sup>1</sup> Infuse at a rate of 2.5 mg/kg/hour or over 2 hours for a dose of 5 mg/kg. <sup>1,2</sup> If the infusion time is longer than 2 hours, shake the bag every 2 hours. <sup>2</sup> Infuse an initial test dose of 1 mg over 15 minutes. <sup>1</sup> A concentration of 2 mg/mL may be used in fluid-restricted patients. <sup>2</sup> An inline filter may be used if the size is not smaller than 5 micrometre. <sup>1</sup>
<b>IV use for infants and children</b>	Dilute the dose with glucose 5% to make a final concentration of 1 mg/mL and infuse at a rate of 2.5 mg/kg/hour. If the infusion time is longer than 2 hours, shake the bag every 2 hours. Flush the line with glucose 5% before and after the infusion. The maximum concentration is 2 mg/mL. <sup>3</sup> An inline filter may be used if the size is at least 5 micrometre. <sup>1</sup>
COMPATIBILITY	
<b>Fluids</b>	Glucose 5% <sup>1</sup>
<b>Y-site</b>	Multiple incompatibilities. <sup>2</sup> Do not mix with other drugs.
INCOMPATIBILITY	
<b>Fluids</b>	Sodium chloride 0.9% <sup>1</sup>
<b>Drugs</b>	Multiple incompatibilities <sup>2</sup>
SPECIAL NOTES	Monitor blood pressure, pulse and respiratory rate. Hypotension and cardiac arrhythmias are common. <sup>1</sup> Mild to moderate infusion reactions including fever, chills and headache may occur in the first few days of treatment. Give paracetamol, an NSAID and an antihistamine before starting the infusion. Stop or slow the rate of the infusion if an infusion reaction occurs and treat accordingly. <sup>1</sup>

## REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from [www.tga.gov.au](http://www.tga.gov.au). Accessed 30/08/2019.
2. McEvoy GK editor. Handbook on injectable drugs. 20th ed. Bethesda, MD: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2018.
3. Phelps SJ, Hageman TM, Lee KR, Thompson AJ. Pediatric injectable drugs. 11th ed. Bethesda, MD: Am Society of Health-System Pharm 2018.