



# ALBUMIN

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| BRAND NAME                             | ALBUMEX 20, ALBUREX 5 AU, ALBUREX 20 AU   |
| DRUG CLASS                             | Plasma volume expander  |
| AVAILABILITY                           | Albumex 20 bottle contains 2 g/10 mL (20%) of human albumin. Also contains sodium and octanoate. (Will be discontinued in 2024).<br>Alburex 5 AU vial contains 12.5 g/250 mL or 25 g/500 mL (5%) of human albumin.<br>Alburex 20 AU vial contains 10 g/50 mL or 20 g/100 mL (20%) of human albumin.<br>Alburex 5 AU and 20 AU also contain sodium acetyltryptophanate, sodium octanoate and sodium chloride. <sup>1</sup><br>The solution is clear to slightly opalescent and slightly thicker than water. It is almost colourless or pale yellow but may range from amber to green. Do not use if the solution is cloudy. <sup>1</sup> Albumex 20 contains 48–100 mmol/L of sodium. <sup>1</sup><br>Alburex 5 AU and Alburex 20 AU contains 140 mmol/L of sodium. <sup>1</sup> |
| WARNING                                | Multiple strengths are available. Check product selection carefully.<br>Albumin is a blood product. Check your local guidelines for handling, storage and batch recording requirements.<br>Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis may occur.  |
| pH                                     | 6.7–7.3 <sup>1</sup>  |
| PREPARATION                            | If refrigerated, allow to reach room temperature. Use immediately after opening. <sup>1</sup><br>If necessary, albumin 20% can be diluted to 5% with a compatible fluid, i.e. for each 1 mL of albumin 20%, add 3 mL of compatible fluid. Do not use water for injections. <sup>1</sup>   |
| STABILITY                              | Albumex 20, 10 mL bottle: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. <sup>1</sup><br>Alburex 5 AU and Alburex 20 AU: store below 25 °C. Do not freeze. Protect from light. <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>                     | Infuse through a standard IV giving set. The glass bottle must be vented during use. <sup>1</sup><br>The infusion rate depends on the indication and the patient. <sup>1</sup> Follow your local guidelines.<br>The usual rate of infusion is 1–2 mL/minute. <sup>1,2</sup> Faster rates may be used in the treatment of shock.<br>Monitor the volume and rate of infusion to avoid circulatory overload. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>IV use for infants and children</b> | Infuse through a standard IV giving set. The glass bottle must be vented during use. <sup>1</sup><br>The rate of infusion depends on the indication. <sup>3</sup> Follow your local guidelines.<br>Monitor the volume and rate of infusion to avoid circulatory overload. <sup>1</sup>  |
| COMPATIBILITY                          |   |
| <b>Fluids</b>                          | Glucose 5% <sup>4</sup> , glucose 10% <sup>4</sup> , glucose in sodium chloride solutions <sup>4</sup> , Hartmann's <sup>4</sup> , Ringer's <sup>4</sup> , sodium chloride 0.9% <sup>4</sup>  |
| <b>Y-site</b>                          | Defibrotide <sup>4</sup> , meropenem <sup>4</sup>   |
| INCOMPATIBILITY                        |   |
| <b>Fluids</b>                          | Amino acid solutions <sup>1</sup> , fat emulsion <sup>4</sup> , solutions containing alcohol <sup>1</sup>   |
| <b>Drugs</b>                           | Drugs that bind to albumin (e.g. phenytoin, diazepam), <sup>1</sup> ceftolozane-tazobactam <sup>4</sup> , fosfomicin <sup>4</sup> , isavuconazole <sup>4</sup> , labetalol <sup>5</sup> , micafungin <sup>4</sup> , midazolam <sup>4</sup> , piperacillin-tazobactam <sup>1</sup> , vancomycin <sup>4</sup> , verapamil <sup>1</sup>  |
| SPECIAL NOTES                          | Monitor blood pressure and pulse rate during infusion. <sup>1</sup>   |

## REFERENCES

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2. Lexicomp adult drug information handbook. 31st ed. Hudson, OH: UpToDate Inc; 2022–2023.
3. Phelps SJ, Hagemann TM, Lee KR, Thompson AJ. Pediatric injectable drugs. The teddy bear book. 11th ed. Bethesda, MD: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2018.
4. ASHP Injectable drug information 2021. Bethesda, MD: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2021.
5. Albumin. In: IV index [internet]. Trissel's 2 clinical pharmaceuticals database (parenteral compatibility). Greenwood Village, CO: IBM Watson Health. Accessed 29/01/2024.

