

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use HEPARIN SODIUM IN 0.45% SODIUM CHLORIDE INJECTION or HEPARIN SODIUM IN 5% DEXTROSE INJECTION safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for HEPARIN SODIUM IN 0.45% SODIUM CHLORIDE INJECTION or HEPARIN SODIUM IN 5% DEXTROSE INJECTION.

## HEPARIN SODIUM, for intravenous use

Initial U.S. Approval: 1939

<b>Rx only</b>
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## INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Heparin sodium is an anticoagulant indicated for: (1)

- Prophylaxis and treatment of venous thromboembolism and pulmonary embolism
- Atrial fibrillation with embolization
- Treatment of acute and chronic consumptive coagulopathies (disseminated intravascular coagulation)
- Prevention of clotting in arterial and cardiac surgery
- Prophylaxis and treatment of peripheral arterial embolism
- Anticoagulant use in blood transfusions, extracorporeal circulation, and dialysis procedures.

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Recommended Adult Dosages:

- Therapeutic Anticoagulant Effect with Full-Dose Heparin\* (2.3)

Intermittent Intravenous Injection	Initial Dose	10,000 units
	Every 4 to 6 hours	5,000 to 10,000 units
Continuous Intravenous Infusion	Initial Dose	5,000 units by intravenous injection
	Continuous	20,000 to 40,000 units/24 hours

\*Based on 150 lb. (68 kg) patient.

- Surgery of the Heart and Blood Vessels (2.5)

Intravascular via Total Body Perfusion	Initial Dose	≥ 150 units/kg; adjust for longer procedures
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- Extracorporeal Dialysis (2.8)

Intravascular via Extracorporeal Dialysis	Follow equipment manufacturer’s operating directions carefully.
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- See full prescribing information for recommended pediatric dosage. (2.4)

## DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Heparin sodium is available as: (3)

***Heparin Sodium in 0.45% Sodium Chloride Injection:***

- Injection: 50 USP units per mL in 0.45% Sodium Chloride clear solution (25,000 USP units per 500 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag
- Injection: 100 USP units per mL in 0.45% Sodium Chloride clear solution (25,000 USP units per 250 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag

***Heparin Sodium in 5% Dextrose Injection:***

- Injection: 50 USP units per mL in 5% Dextrose clear solution (25,000 USP units per 500 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag
- Injection: 100 USP units per mL in 5% Dextrose clear solution (25,000 USP units per 250 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

- History of Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT) and Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia and Thrombosis (HITT) (4)
- Known hypersensitivity to heparin or pork products (4)
- In whom suitable blood coagulation tests cannot be performed at appropriate intervals (4)

## WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Fatal Medication Errors: Confirm choice of correct strength prior to administration. (5.1)
- Hemorrhage: Fatal cases have occurred. Use caution in conditions with increased risk of hemorrhage. (5.2)
- HIT and HITT: Monitor for signs and symptoms and discontinue if indicative of HIT and HITT. (5.3)
- Monitoring: Blood coagulation tests guide therapy for full-dose heparin. Monitor platelet count and hematocrit in all patients receiving heparin. (5.5)

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most common adverse reactions are hemorrhage, thrombocytopenia, HIT and HITT, hypersensitivity reactions, and elevations of aminotransferase levels. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact **Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC at 1-800-551-7176 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).**

## DRUG INTERACTIONS

Drugs that interfere with coagulation, platelet aggregation or drugs that counteract coagulation may induce bleeding. (7)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION.

Method of Administration	Frequency	Recommended Dose*
Intermittent Intravenous Injection	Initial Dose	10,000 units
	Every 4 to 6 hours	5,000 to 10,000 units
Continuous Intravenous Infusion	Initial Dose	5,000 units by intravenous injection
	Continuous	20,000 to 40,000 units per 24 hours

\* Based on 150 lb. (68 kg) patient.

## 2.4 Pediatric Use

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies on heparin use in pediatric patients. Pediatric dosing recommendations are based on clinical experience. In general, the following dosage schedule may be used as a guideline in pediatric patients:

Initial Dose:	75 to 100 units/kg (intravenous bolus over 10 minutes)
Maintenance Dose	Infants: 25 to 30 units/kg/hour; Infants < 2 months have the highest requirements (average 28 units/kg/hour) Children > 1 year of age: 18 to 20 units/kg/hour; Older children may require less heparin, similar to weight-adjusted adult dosage
Monitoring:	Adjust heparin to maintain aPTT of 60 to 85 seconds, assuming this reflects an anti-Factor Xa level of 0.35 to 0.70.

## 2.5 Cardiovascular Surgery

Patients undergoing total body perfusion for open-heart surgery should receive an initial dose of not less than 150 units of heparin sodium per kilogram of body weight. Frequently, a dose of 300 units per kilogram is used for procedures estimated to last less than 60 minutes or 400 units per kilogram for those estimated to last longer than 60 minutes.

## 2.6 Converting to Warfarin

To ensure continuous anticoagulation when converting from Heparin Sodium to warfarin, continue full heparin therapy for several days until the INR (prothrombin time) has reached a stable therapeutic range. Heparin therapy may then be discontinued without tapering [*see Drug Interactions (7.1)*].

## 2.7 Converting to Oral Anticoagulants other than Warfarin

For patients currently receiving intravenous heparin, stop intravenous infusion of heparin sodium immediately after administering the first dose of oral anticoagulant; or for intermittent intravenous administration of heparin sodium, start oral anticoagulant 0 to 2 hours before the time that the next dose of heparin was to have been administered.

## 2.8 Extracorporeal Dialysis

Follow equipment manufacturer’s operating directions carefully. A dose of 25 to 30 units/kg followed by an infusion rate of 1,500 to 2,000 units/hour is suggested based on pharmacodynamic data if specific manufacturers’ recommendations are not available.

## 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Heparin Sodium in 0.45% Sodium Chloride Injection is available as:

- Injection: 50 USP units per mL in 0.45% Sodium Chloride clear solution (25,000 USP units per 500 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag
- Injection: 100 USP units per mL in 0.45% Sodium Chloride clear solution (25,000 USP units per 250 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag

Heparin Sodium in 5% Dextrose Injection is available as:

- Injection: 50 USP units per mL in 5% Dextrose clear solution (25,000 USP units per 500 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag
- Injection: 100 USP units per mL in 5% Dextrose clear solution (25,000 USP units per 250 mL) in single-dose **freeflex**<sup>®</sup> bag

## 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

The use of Heparin Sodium in 0.45% Sodium Chloride Injection or Heparin Sodium in 5% Dextrose Injection is contraindicated in patients with the following conditions:

- History of Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT) and Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia and Thrombosis (HITT) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*]
- Known hypersensitivity to heparin or pork products (e.g., anaphylactoid reactions) [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]
- In whom suitable blood coagulation tests — e.g., the whole blood clotting time, partial thromboplastin time, etc., — cannot be performed at appropriate intervals (this contraindication refers to full-dose heparin; there is usually no need to monitor coagulation parameters in patients receiving low-dose heparin) [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.5)*]
- An uncontrolled bleeding state [*see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*], except when this is due to disseminated intravascular coagulation.

## 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### 5.1 Fatal Medication Errors

Do not use this product as a “catheter lock flush” product. Heparin is supplied in various strengths. Fatal hemorrhages have occurred due to medication errors. Carefully examine all heparin products to confirm the correct container choice prior to administration of the drug.

### 5.2 Hemorrhage

Avoid using heparin in the presence of major bleeding, except when the benefits of heparin therapy outweigh the potential risks.

Hemorrhage, including fatal events, has occurred in patients receiving Heparin Sodium. Hemorrhage can occur at virtually any site in patients receiving heparin. Adrenal hemorrhage (with resultant acute adrenal insufficiency), ovarian hemorrhage, and retroperitoneal hemorrhage have occurred during anticoagulant therapy with heparin [*see Adverse Reactions (6.1)*]. A higher incidence of bleeding has been reported in patients, particularly women, over 60 years of age [*see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*]. An unexplained fall in hematocrit or fall in blood pressure should lead to serious consideration of a hemorrhagic event.

Use heparin sodium with caution in disease states in which there is increased risk of hemorrhage, including:

- Cardiovascular** — Subacute bacterial endocarditis, severe hypertension.
- Surgical** — During and immediately following (a) spinal tap or spinal anesthesia or (b) major surgery, especially involving the brain, spinal cord or eye.
- Hematologic** — Conditions associated with increased bleeding tendencies, such as hemophilia, thrombocytopenia and some vascular purpuras.
- Patients with hereditary antithrombin III deficiency receiving concurrent antithrombin III therapy** — The anticoagulant effect of heparin is enhanced by concurrent treatment with antithrombin III (human) in patients with hereditary antithrombin III deficiency. To reduce the risk of bleeding, reduce the heparin dose during concomitant treatment with antlithrombin III (human).
- Gastrointestinal** — Ulcerative lesions and continuous tube drainage of the stomach or small intestine.
- Other** — Menstruation, liver disease with impaired hemostasis.

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