

BAXTER HEPARIN SODIUM in 0.9% SODIUM CHLORIDE Intravenous Infusion

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

1. Why am I receiving Heparin Sodium?

BAXTER HEPARIN SODIUM in 0.9% SODIUM CHLORIDE Intravenous Infusion ('Heparin Sodium') contains the active ingredient heparin sodium derived from porcine (pig) intestinal mucosa. Heparin Sodium is used to prevent your blood from clotting when it is removed from the body, for example during dialysis or to ensure that catheters do not become blocked.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I receiving Heparin Sodium?](#) in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before I receive Heparin Sodium?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to heparin, pork products or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I receive Heparin Sodium?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Heparin Sodium and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

4. How is Heparin Sodium given?

- Your doctor will determine the dose of Heparin Sodium you require and the duration of use, depending on your need and condition.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How is Heparin Sodium given?](#) in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while receiving Heparin Sodium?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">During and after treatment, discuss your progress with your doctor. Tell them if you've had any side effects or concerns, especially during the first few days of therapy.If you had or are having an epidural anaesthetic or spinal puncture, call your doctor straight away if you notice numbness, tingling or muscle weakness; abnormal function or loss of control of bowel or urine or any other symptom that worries you.Remind any doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Heparin Sodium.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not stop using this medicine suddenly.
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Heparin Sodium affects you.
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This medicine is stored in the pharmacy or the hospital ward, kept below 30°C.

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while receiving Heparin Sodium?](#) in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

Some of the common and less serious side effects include local irritation at the injection site, or mild pain around the injection site. Serious side effects that may occur include: allergic reaction, swelling or changing skin colour at the injection site, easy bruising and increased bleeding.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

BAXTER HEPARIN SODIUM in 0.9% SODIUM CHLORIDE Intravenous Infusion

Active ingredient: *heparin sodium in 0.9% sodium chloride*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using BAXTER HEPARIN SODIUM in 0.9% SODIUM CHLORIDE Intravenous Infusion ('Heparin Sodium'). **You should also speak to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Heparin Sodium.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I receiving Heparin Sodium?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I receive Heparin Sodium?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How is Heparin Sodium given?](#)
- [5. What should I know while receiving Heparin Sodium?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I receiving Heparin Sodium?

Heparin Sodium contains the active ingredient heparin sodium. Heparin Sodium is a medicine that prevents blood from clotting (anticoagulant). It is given to you by a healthcare professional.

Heparin Sodium can be used to:

- prevent your blood from clotting when it is removed from the body, for example during dialysis
- ensure that a catheter (a thin tube used to drain fluids from or deliver fluids into the body) does not become blocked.

2. What should I know before I receive Heparin Sodium?

Warnings

Do not use Heparin Sodium if:

- you are allergic to heparin, pork products or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- you have a bleeding condition or problems with your blood vessels

- you have low blood platelet count (thrombocytopenia), or are bruising or bleeding more easily than normal
- you have or have had major bleeding disorders, injury to the brain, stomach or bowel problems, or bacterial infections of the heart.

Check with your doctor if you:

- have asthma
- have heart problems or high blood pressure
- have liver or kidney problems
- have a stomach ulcer or other digestive issues
- have bleeding or clotting problems
- have heavy or irregular periods
- have recently had a surgical, medical or dental procedure, especially surgery on the eyes, brain or spinal cord
- have recently had a spinal tap, or local anaesthetic around the spinal cord
- have diabetes
- have had a reaction to heparin in the past
- have any other medical conditions
- take any medicines for any other condition
- smoke or use vapes

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

Use in Elderly

Check with your doctor about the risks of using this medicine if you are over 60 years of age. Your doctor may adjust the dose to prevent bleeding side effects.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines may interfere with Heparin Sodium and affect how it works.

- pain-relieving and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (aspirin, ibuprofen, indomethacin and phenylbutazone)
- medicines for rheumatoid arthritis (hydroxychloroquine)
- medicines for heart and circulation problems (digitalis, nitroglycerine, dipyridamole and epoprostenol)
- medicines for hay fever, insomnia or travel sickness (antihistamines)
- smoking cessation products containing nicotine such as gum or patches
- anticlotting medicines (dicumarol, clopidogrel, thienopyridines, glycoprotein IIb/IIIa antagonists, antithrombin III and warfarin)
- medicine for boosting blood volume (dextran)
- medicines for treating infections – antibiotics (tetracyclines)
- medicines used in the treatment of high blood pressure (angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin II receptor antagonist)

Heparin may lead to an increase of potassium in your blood. Therefore, you should tell your doctor if you are taking any medicines that raise your potassium level.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Heparin Sodium.

4. How is Heparin Sodium given?

How it is given

Your doctor will decide the best way to give you Heparin Sodium, depending on your need and condition.

- Your doctor or trained nurse may give Heparin Sodium by an infusion into a vein (intravenously). A cannula (administration needle) is placed in a vein prior to the infusion.
- If Heparin Sodium is being used to prevent blood clotting during dialysis, your doctor or nurse will add it to the dialysis machine. They will do this before and sometimes during the cycle.
- If it is being used to ensure that your catheter does not become blocked, your doctor or nurse will inject a small amount into the catheter from time to time.

Heparin Sodium is usually given in a hospital, clinic or nursing home. The infusion requires special equipment and medical training. You may receive it at home if your doctor has arranged for it.

How much is given

- Your doctor will decide how much Heparin Sodium to give. The amount depends on your need and condition.
- If it is being used to clear your catheter, the dose will depend on the type of catheter you have.

If you use too much Heparin Sodium

Overdose is unlikely as treatment will be given by trained medical personnel. Your doctor or pharmacist has information on how to recognise and treat an overdose.

If you think that you may have been given too much Heparin you may need urgent medical attention.

You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling 13 11 26), or
- contact your doctor, or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

5. What should I know while receiving Heparin Sodium?

Things you should do

During and after treatment, discuss your progress with your doctor. Tell them if you've had any side effects or concerns, especially during the first few days of therapy.

Your doctor and nurse will closely monitor you during treatment, and may use laboratory tests to make sure you are safely receiving the right amount of Heparin Sodium.

Discuss with your doctor straight away if you:

Have had or are having an epidural anaesthetic or spinal puncture, and you notice any of the following symptoms:

- numbness, tingling or muscle weakness
- abnormal function or loss of control of bowel or urine
- any other symptom that worries you.

Remind any doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Heparin Sodium.

Things you should not do

- Do not stop using this medicine suddenly.

Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Heparin Sodium affects you.

Looking after your medicine

This medicine is stored in the pharmacy or the hospital ward, kept below 30°C.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

The infusion is for single use, and for one person only. Any unused portion must be discarded and not used later, either for you or anyone else.

If you have this medicine at home, and no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
Injection site-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">local reactions, like mild pain or irritation Hair and skin <ul style="list-style-type: none">temporary hair loss (alopecia)	Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.

Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
Allergy-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathingswelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body;rash, itching or hives on the skin, chills or fever Skin <ul style="list-style-type: none">any changes in skin colour or pain around the injection sitethe skin starts to swell, gets warm/red, becomes numb or starts to blister Bleeding-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">easy bruising or bleeding (e.g., nose bleeds, heavy menstrual periods, bleeding from gums when brushing teeth) during or after treatmentpassing blood in the urine or faeces, dark coloured faeces, or vomiting blood Bones <ul style="list-style-type: none">bone breaks /brittle bone (osteoporosis) - after long term treatment Reproductive System <ul style="list-style-type: none">persistent painful erection	Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.

Salt Balance-related:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">fatigue and muscle weaknesssalt cravingsweight lossnumbness or tingling	

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people. Some side effects may only be seen by your doctor.

If you are over 60 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects, especially if you are female.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

What Heparin Sodium contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	heparin sodium (from porcine mucosal membrane)
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	sodium chloride, citric acid monohydrate, dibasic sodium phosphate dodecahydrate, water for injections

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What Heparin Sodium looks like

Heparin Sodium is a clear, colourless solution filled in plastic bags:

- Baxter Heparin Sodium 1000IU 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection 500mL Injection Bag (Aust R 19434)
- Baxter Heparin Sodium 2000IU 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection 1000mL Injection Bag (Aust R 19435)

Who distributes Heparin Sodium

Baxter Healthcare Pty Ltd
1 Baxter Drive
Old Toongabbie
NSW 2146
Australia

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