

For the use of a Registered Medical Practitioner only.
Human Normal Immunoglobulin for Intravenous Use I.P. 5%, Solution

GLOBUCEL[®] VF
 (5g/100ml)

ग्लोबुसेल[®] VF
 Manufactured from human plasma - Virus Filtered
 For Intravenous Use Only

GENERIC NAME

Human Normal Immunoglobulin for Intravenous Use I.P. 5%, Solution

QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Concentration Available 5%
 Pack size 100 ml
 Each vial contains:
 Total Protein..... 50 g/L
 Immunoglobulin..... ≥ 3.5%
 Maltose (as stabilizer)..... 100 g/L
 IgG Content..... ≥ 570 µg/ml
 IgG subclass..... Normal Distribution (IgG1: 60.73 to 71.20%, IgG2: 21.34 to 35.96%, IgG3: 1.32% to 3.41% and IgG4: 1.20% to 4.84%)
 Water for injection..... q.s.

DOSEAGE FORM AND STRENGTH

Human normal immunoglobulin solution is for intravenous (I.V.) use only.
 It is supplied as 100 mL (5 g) vial.

CLINICAL PARTICULARS

THERAPEUTIC INDICATION

Immunoglobulin preparations are indicated in several clinical conditions. An approved list of clinical conditions where IVIG is indicated is as under:

Primary Immunodeficiency (PID) Syndromes

Replacement therapy to promote passive immunity; the following PID syndromes can be treated with intravenous replacement of IgG and are considered well established:

- Congenital agammaglobulinemia and hypogammaglobulinemia
- Common variable immunodeficiency
- X-linked agammaglobulinemia
- Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome
- Severe combined immunodeficiencies

IVIG may be preferred in patients who require an immediate or large increase in intravascular immunoglobulin concentrations, in patients with small muscle mass, and in patients with bleeding tendencies in whom intramuscular (IM) injections are contraindicated.

Secondary Immunodeficiency (SID) Syndromes

IgG can also be used as replacement therapy in:

- Secondary hypogammaglobulinemia in patients with B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) or multiple myeloma (MM) with recurrent infections.
- Paediatric HIV infection who have bacterial infections: HIV-infected infants and children with hypogammaglobulinemia (IgG <400 mg/dL) should receive IVIG (400 mg/kg once every 2-4 weeks) to prevent serious bacterial infections.

Kawasaki Syndrome

IVIG is used in conjunction with aspirin therapy for initial treatment of the acute phase of Kawasaki disease. Approximately 210% of patients with Kawasaki disease fail to respond to initial treatment with IVIG and aspirin therapy and have persistent fever or recurrent fever after an initial afebrile period. Retreatment with IVIG (within 24-48 hours of persistent or recrudescence fever) and continued aspirin therapy usually is recommended for these patients.

Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura

IVIG is indicated for the treatment of idiopathic or chronic (e.g., >6 months duration) idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura.

Allogeneic Bone marrow transplantation (BMT)

In adults and children undergoing BMT, IVIG can be used to decrease the risk of infections (e.g., septicemia), interstitial pneumonia of infectious or idiopathic etiologies, and acute graft-versus-host disease.

G Guillain-Barre syndrome

IVIG initiated within 2 weeks of symptom onset appears to be as effective as plasma exchange.

Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP)

IVIG may be used for the treatment of chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy to improve neuromuscular disability and impairment and for maintenance therapy to prevent relapse.

POSOLOGY AND METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

For intravenous use only.

IVIG liquid should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. Do not use if turbid and/or discoloration is observed.

IVIG liquid must not be mixed with other medicinal products or administered simultaneously with other intravenous preparation in the same infusion set. Do not mix with intravenous immunoglobulin products from other manufacturers.

IVIG liquid should be at room temperature during administration. Any bottle that has been opened should be used promptly. Partially used bottles should be discarded since this drug does not contain any preservatives.

Prior to initiation of IVIG infusion, ensure that patients are not volume depleted and are adequately hydrated.

Individualize the rate of infusion on the individual patient requirements.

In general, in patients receiving initial doses of IVIG or switching from one IVIG preparation to another, initiate the infusion rate at the lower end of the recommended range and increase to the maximum recommended rate only after the patient has tolerated several infusions at an intermediate infusion rate.

If an adverse reaction occurs during the IVIG infusion, decrease the rate of infusion or stop the infusion until the reaction subsides.

Do not administer by rapid IV infusion in patients with or at risk for renal dysfunction or thrombotic events.

Risk factors should be identified, such as pre-existing renal insufficiency, diabetes mellitus, hypovolemia, overweight, concomitant nephrotoxic medications, or over the age of 65.

Assure that patients are not volume depleted prior to the initiation of the infusion of IVIG. Patients should be observed for at least 20 minutes after administration.

Infusion rate: 0.01 – 0.02 mL/kg/min, for the first 30 minutes preferably using infusion pump; increase to maximum 0.07 mL/kg/min, if no adverse reactions are observed.

Irrespective of blood group, it can be transferred to all recipients.

Primary Immunodeficiency Syndrome

As there are significant differences in the half-life of IgG among patients with primary humoral immunodeficiencies, the frequency and amount of immunoglobulin therapy may vary from patient to patient. The proper amount can be determined by monitoring clinical response. The dosage regimen should achieve a trough level of IgG (measured before the next infusion) of at least 4 - 6 g/L. The dose of IVIG liquid for replacement therapy in primary humoral immunodeficiency diseases is 300 to 600 mg/kg body weight (6-12 mL/kg) administered every 3 to 4 weeks. The dosage may be adjusted over time to achieve the desired trough levels and clinical responses. Three to six months are required after the initiation of therapy for equilibration to occur.

Rate of Administration of IVIG 5%	mg/kg/min (mg/kg/hour)	mL/kg/min
First 30 min	0.5 (30)	0.01
Next 30 min	1.0 (60)	0.02
Next 30 min	2.0 (120)	0.04
Maximum	< 3.33 (<200)	<0.07

It is recommended that IVIG liquid be initially infused at infusion rates stated below, at least until the physician has had adequate experience with a given patient.

Patients judged to be at risk for developing renal dysfunction or thrombotic events, administer IVIG liquid at the minimum infusion rate practicable, not to exceed 0.07 mL/kg (3.3 mg/kg/minute (200 mg/kg/hour)). However, data are not available to date to identify maximum safe dose, concentration, and rate of infusion in patients at risk for renal dysfunction. Ensure that patients with pre-existing renal insufficiency are not volume depleted; discontinue IVIG if renal function deteriorates.

Kawasaki Disease or initial treatment of acute phase. AHA, AAP, and ACCP recommend a single dose of 2 g/kg of IVIG given in conjunction with aspirin (80-100 mg/kg daily for up to 14 days, then 1-5 mg/kg once daily for 6-8 weeks); initiate as soon as possible (optimally within 7-10 days of disease onset). If there is no response (i.e., fever persists or recurs >36 hours after initial IVIG dose), retreatment with another single dose of 2 g/kg of IVIG (given within 24-48 hours of persistent or recrudescence fever) and continued aspirin therapy is recommended.

Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP)

For induction therapy, give a dosage of 200-400 mg/kg once daily for 5 consecutive days. In acute childhood ITP, if an initial platelet count response to the first 2 doses is adequate (30,000-50,000/mm³), discontinue therapy after the second day of the 5-day regimen. For treatment of chronic ITP, if platelet count decreases to <30,000/mm³ and/or clinically important bleeding becomes apparent following initial induction therapy, administer 400 mg/kg as a single maintenance infusion. If an adequate response does not occur, increase the maintenance dose to 800-1000 mg/kg given as a single infusion.

Prevention of Serious Infections in HIV-infected Individuals

Infants and children with hypogammaglobulinemia (IgG <400 mg/dL); ACIP, AAP, CDC, NIH, and other experts recommend 400 mg/kg of IVIG once every 2-4 weeks.

Guillain-Barre Syndrome

European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS) and others recommend 0.4 g/kg daily for 5 days. The dosage regimen given below and antibiotic regimens should be decided based on physician's decision of patient's clinical condition.

Table: Dosage recommendation for human intravenous immunoglobulin

Indication	Dose
Replacement therapy in primary immunodeficiency syndromes	Starting dose: 0.3 - 0.6 g/kg followed every 3-4 weeks adjusted to achieve desired trough serum IgG concentration and clinical response.
Replacement therapy in secondary immunodeficiency syndromes	0.2 - 0.4 g/kg, every 3-4 weeks adjusted to achieve desired trough serum IgG concentration and clinical response
Kawasaki syndrome	2 g/kg in one dose in association with acetylsalicylic acid or 1.6 - 2 g/kg in several doses for 2 - 5 days in association with acetylsalicylic acid
Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura	0.2 - 0.4 g/kg for 5 days or 0.8 - 1 g/kg on day 1, possibly repeated once with in three days.
B-cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia	Recommended dose is 0.4 g/kg every 3-4 weeks.
Paediatric HIV-1 infection	0.2 - 0.4 g/kg every 2-4 weeks.
Allogeneic bone marrow transplantation:	0.5 g/kg every week from day -7 up to three months after transplantation. Individualize dosage to maintain trough serum IgG concentrations exceeding 400-500 mg/dL; monitor trough serum IgG concentrations approximately every 2 weeks.
(1) Treatment of infection and prophylaxis of graft-versus-host disease	
(2) Persistent lack of antibody production	0.5 g/kg every month until antibody levels return to normal.
Guillain-Barre syndrome	0.4 g/kg id for 5 days
Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy	Initially loading dose of 2 g/kg (40 mL/kg) given in divided doses over 2 to 4 consecutive day. Maintenance infusion of 1 g/kg (20 mL/kg) administered over 1 day or divided into two doses of 0.5 g/kg (10 mL/kg) given on 2 consecutive days, every three weeks.

USE IN SPECIAL POPULATION

Pregnancy

USFDA Pregnancy category C.

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG). It is also not known whether intravenous immunoglobulin can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. There is the possibility of parvovirus B19 infection due to administration of this drug. In case of infection, fetal disorder such as abortion, fetal hydrops, and fetal death may occur. Intravenous immunoglobulin should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Intravenous immunoglobulin has not been evaluated in nursing mothers.

Pediatric Use

Safety and efficacy of intravenous immunoglobulin have not been established in children under 2 years of age. Intravenous immunoglobulin was evaluated in 11 pediatric subjects (age range 6 - 16 years). Here were no obvious differences observed between adults and pediatric subjects with respect to pharmacokinetics, efficacy and safety. No pediatric specific dose requirements were necessary to achieve the desired serum IgG levels.

Geriatric Use

Patients > 65 years of age may be at increased risk for developing certain adverse reactions such as thromboembolic events and acute renal failure (See Warnings and Precautions). In the clinical trial only 4 geriatric patients (> 65 years) were enrolled, a number insufficient to determine whether geriatric patients respond differently from younger subjects. In these 4 patients no particular issue with respect to safety was observed.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

IVIG is contraindicated in individuals who have had anaphylactic or severe systemic reactions to immunoglobulin or any ingredients in the formulation. Epinephrine should be available for immediate treatment of an anaphylactic reaction if it occurs.

IVIG is contraindicated in individuals with selective IgA deficiency or IgA deficiency with antibodies against IgA, since these individuals may have antibodies to IgA (or develop antibodies following administration of IVIG) or other blood products containing IgA.

Acute hypersensitivity reaction to corn; this product contains maltose derived from corn.

SPECIAL WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Human normal immunoglobulin solution is human plasma-derived Immunoglobulin preparation.

Bring the medicine to room or body temperature before use.

Sensitivity

Severe hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, reported rarely following administration of Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG), Intramuscular Immunoglobulin (IMIG) or Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIG). Epinephrine and general guidelines should be readily available in case anaphylaxis or an anaphylactoid reaction occurs. If a severe hypersensitivity reaction occurs, discontinue immune globulin immediately and institute appropriate therapy as indicated. IgA deficient patients with antibodies against IgA are at greater risk of developing severe hypersensitivity and anaphylactoid reactions when administered IVIG (See CONTRAINDICATIONS). Patients known to have corn allergies should avoid using IVIG (See CONTRAINDICATIONS).

Infection Reactions

There is a risk of reactions including fever, chills, nausea, and vomiting upon IV infusion. These reactions generally appear 30 minutes to 1 hour after initiation of the infusion and include flushing of the face, lightheadness in the chest, chills, fever, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, and hypotension or hypertension. Closely monitor for adverse reactions throughout the infusion since these reactions may rarely lead to shock.

Human normal immunoglobulin solution may cause a precipitous fall in BP and clinical manifestations of anaphylaxis, which appear to be related to the rate of infusion; do not exceed the recommended rate of infusion. If flushing, changes in BP or pulse, or other infusion reactions occur, slow or temporarily stop the infusion. In some cases when symptoms subside promptly, the infusion may be resumed at a rate that is comfortable for the patient. Stop infusion immediately if anaphylaxis or other severe reactions occur.

Acute renal failure

Renal dysfunction, acute renal failure, osmotic nephrosis, and death reported in patients receiving immune globulin. Patients at increased risk for acute renal failure include those with any degree of pre-existing renal insufficiency, diabetes mellitus, volume depletion, sepsis, or paraproteinemia, those receiving concomitant nephrotoxic drugs; and/or those >65 years of age. To minimize risk of acute renal failure, ensure that patients are not volume depleted and are adequately hydrated prior to administration of IVIG. Always use lowest effective dosage at the minimum concentration available and at the minimum practicable rate of infusion, especially in patients at increased risk for acute renal failure. Assess urine output and renal function including blood urea nitrogen (BUN)/serum creatinine, prior to and at appropriate intervals during therapy with IVIG, especially in patients considered at increased risk for acute renal failure. If renal dysfunction occurs, consider discontinuing immune globulin therapy.

Risk of Transmissible Agents in Plasma-derived Preparations

Because immune globulin preparations are prepared from pooled human plasma, they may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents, including the causative agents of viral hepatitis and HIV infection, and theoretically may carry a risk of transmitting the causative agent of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) or variant CJD (vCJD).

Risk for transmission of recognized blood-borne viruses is considered to be low because plasma donors are screened for certain viruses (HBV, HCV, HIV) and viral reduction/inactivation procedures used

in immune globulin production reduce the risk of transmission. Despite such stringent procedures, a risk of transmission still remains.

Because no purification method has been shown to be totally effective in removing the risk of viral infectivity from plasma-derived preparations and because new blood-borne viruses or other disease agents may emerge that may not be inactivated by the manufacturing process or various treatment procedures used, carefully weigh risk of pathogen transmission against the benefits of immune globulin therapy.

Report all infections thought possibly to have been transmitted by immune globulin preparations to the manufacturer.

Thrombotic Effects

Thrombotic events (e.g., chest pain, MI, CHF, cerebral infarction, ischemic encephalopathy, severe headache requiring hospitalization, pulmonary embolism, retinal vein occlusion, peripheral venous thrombosis), including some fatalities, reported in patients receiving IVIG. IVIG-induced alterations of blood rheology (e.g., platelet activation, increased blood viscosity) and infusion-related hypersensitive effects appear to contribute to the development of thrombotic complications. Patients with a history of atherosclerosis, multiple cardiovascular risk factors, hypertension, impaired cardiac output, cerebrovascular disease, coronary artery disease, coagulation or hypercoagulable disorders (e.g., factor V Leiden), prolonged periods of immobilization, advanced age, obesity, diabetes mellitus, acquired or inherited thrombotic disorder, previous thrombotic or thromboembolic event, or known or suspected hyperviscosity, and/or those receiving estrogen-containing products may be at increased risk. Weigh potential risks and benefits of immune globulin against those of alternative therapies in all patients in whom immune globulin is being considered.

Prior to immune globulin therapy, carefully evaluate patients with thrombotic risk factors (e.g., those with advanced age, hypertension, cerebrovascular disease, CAD, diabetes mellitus, high serum levels of a monodonal protein, a history of prolonged immobilization (e.g., bed-bound), and/or a history of thrombotic episodes).

Because of potential increased risk of thrombosis, consider baseline assessment of blood viscosity in patients at risk for hyperviscosity (e.g., those with cryoglobulins, fasting chylomicronemia/markedly high triglycerides, or monoclonal gammopathies).

Hemolysis

IVIG and immune globulin subcutaneous can contain blood group antibodies which may act as hemolysins and induce in vivo coating of RBCs with immunoglobulin, causing a positive direct antiglobulin reaction and, rarely, hemolysis. Monitor for clinical signs and symptoms of hemolysis (e.g., increased heart rate, swelling, fatigue, difficulty breathing, yellowing of skin or eyes, dark-colored urine) and, if necessary, perform confirmatory laboratory testing. If a blood transfusion is indicated for a patient who developed hemolysis with clinically compromising anaemia after receiving immune globulin, adequate cross-matching should be performed to avoid exacerbating on-going hemolysis.

Hemolytic anaemia also can develop subsequent to immune globulin therapy due to enhanced RBC sequestration and/or intravascular RBC destruction.

Transfusion-related Acute Lung Injury

Transfusion-related acute lung injury (noncardiogenic pulmonary edema) has been reported in patients receiving IVIG. Typically occurs within 1-6 hours after the infusion and is characterized by severe respiratory distress, pulmonary edema, hypoxemia, normal left ventricular function, and fever. Monitor patients receiving human normal immunoglobulin solution for adverse pulmonary reactions. If transfusion-related acute lung injury is suspected, perform appropriate tests for the presence of antineutrophil antibodies and anti-human leukocyte antigen (HLA) antibodies in both the product and patient serum. Manage using oxygen therapy with adequate ventilatory support.

Aseptic Meningitis Syndrome

Receiving meningitis syndrome reported infrequently in patients receiving immune globulin, especially at high doses (e.g., >1 g/kg) and/or by rapid IV infusion which should be rarely possible with Human normal immunoglobulin solution. Symptoms (e.g., severe headache, nuchal rigidity, drowsiness, fever, photophobia, painful eye movements, nausea, vomiting) may occur within several hours to 2 days following the administration.

Hyperproteinemia, Increased Viscosity, and Hyponatremia

Hyperproteinemia, increased serum viscosity, and hyponatremia may occur in patients receiving IVIG. The hyponatremia is likely to be pseudohyponatremia, as demonstrated by decreased calculated serum osmolality or elevated osmolar gap.

Hyponatremia occurs, it is critical to distinguish true hyponatremia from pseudohyponatremia. Treatment aimed at decreasing serum free water in patients with pseudohyponatremia may lead to volume depletion, a further increase in serum viscosity, and may predispose to thromboembolic events.

Volume Overload

Close IVIG regimens (1 g/kg daily for 1-2 days) used for treatment of chronic ITP are not recommended in individuals with expanded fluid volumes or when fluid volume may be a concern.

Blood Glucose Testing

IVIG preparations that contain maltose may cause falsely elevated results in blood glucose determinations with tests that use nonspecific methods based on glucose dehydrogenase pyroquinolinequinone (GDH-PQQ) or glucose-6-phosphate oxidoreductase. This has resulted in the inappropriate administration of insulin, resulting in life-threatening hypoglycemia. Also, cases of true hypoglycemia may go untreated if the hypoglycemic state is masked by falsely elevated glucose readings. Accordingly, when administering IVIG, the measurement of blood glucose must be done with a glucose-specific method. The product information of the blood glucose testing system, including that of the test strips, should be carefully reviewed to determine if the system is appropriate for use with maltose-containing parenteral products.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Interactions of intravenous immunoglobulin with other drugs and intravenous solutions have not been evaluated. It is recommended that intravenous immunoglobulin liquid be administered separately from other drugs or medications which the patient may be receiving. The product should not be mixed with IVIG from other manufacturers.

The infusion line may be flushed before and after administration of intravenous immunoglobulin with either normal saline or 5% dextrose in water. Various passively transferred antibodies in immunoglobulin preparations can confound the results of serological testing.

Antibodies in intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) may interfere with the response to live viral vaccines, including measles, mumps, and rubella virus vaccine live (MMR) and varicella virus vaccine live. No evidence of interference with the immune response to influenza virus vaccine live intranasal, yellow fever virus vaccine live, typhoid vaccine live oral, rotavirus vaccine live oral, zoster vaccine live, or poliovirus vaccine live oral. However, caution should be exercised during use of above vaccine and physicians should follow the prescribing information of respective vaccine. Physicians should be informed of recent therapy with IVIGs, so that administration of live viral vaccines, if indicated, can be appropriately delayed 3 or more months from the time of IVIG administration. In the case of measles, this impairment may persist for up to 1 year. Therefore patients receiving measles vaccine should have their antibody status checked.

No information on the ability to drive and use machines have been known. Patients may experience effects, such as dizziness or nausea, during treatment with Human normal immunoglobulin solution that might affect the ability to drive and use machines. If this happens, you should not drive or use machines until these effects have disappeared.

INDISIRABLE EFFECTS

Certain severe drug reactions may be related to the rate of infusion. Possible adverse reactions with human normal immunoglobulin solution are listed below.

The most common adverse reactions reported in ≥ 5% of clinical trial subjects occurring during or within 48 hours of an infusion were headache, nausea, chills, asthenia (fatigue), pyrexia, upper abdominal pain, diarrhea, back pain, hyperhidrosis, and flushing. In post-marketing surveillance, serious adverse reactions reported with intravenous immunoglobulin were anaphylaxis, acute renal failure, myocardial infarction, cerebral vascular accident, transient ischemic attack, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, aseptic meningitis, acute hemolysis, and TRALI. Rare cases of infusion, cutaneous reactions (including cutaneous lupus erythematosus) have been observed.

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of IVIG products. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or to establish a causal relationship to IVIG products:

Blood and lymphatic system disorders: Leukopenia, haemolytic anaemia, pancytopenia, leukopenia, hemolysis

Immune system disorders: Hypersensitivity, anaphylactic shock, anaphylactic reaction, anaphylactoid reaction, angioneurotic oedema, face oedema

Metabolic and nutritional disorders: Fluid overload

Psychiatric disorders: Agitation

Nervous system disorders: Headache, cerebrovascular accident, meningitis aseptic, migraine, dizziness, paraesthesia, coma, loss of consciousness, seizures, tremors

Cardiac disorders: Myocardial infarction, tachycardia, palpitations, cardiac arrest, thromboembolism

Vascular disorders: Hypotension, thrombosis, peripheral circulatory failure, hypertension, vascular collapse

Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders: Respiratory failure, pulmonary embolism, pulmonary oedema, bronchospasm, dyspnoea, cough, Apnea, Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), Transfusion Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI), cyanosis, hypoxemia

Gastrointestinal disorders: Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, hepatic dysfunction

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders: Eczema, urticaria, rash, rash erythematous, dermatitis, pruritus, alopecia Steven-Johnson syndrome, epidermolysis, erythema multiforme, bullous dermatitis

Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders: Back pain, arthralgia, myalgia, pain in extremity

Renal and urinary disorders: Acute renal failure

General disorders and administration site conditions: Fatigue, injection site reaction, pyrexia, chills, chest pain, hot flush, flushing, hyperhidrosis, malaise

Investigations: Hepatic enzymes increased, blood glucose false positive

OVERDOSE

Overdose is very unlikely to occur because Human normal immunoglobulin solution is usually administered under medical supervision. Overdose of Human normal immunoglobulin solution can lead to fluid overload and increased thickness of the blood (hyperviscosity), particularly in at-risk patients, including elderly patients or patients with impaired renal function. In case of overdose, further infusion should be halted and medical supervision is suggested along with symptomatic management.

PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

MECHANISM OF ACTION

Human normal immunoglobulin solution having very high titres of antibodies against the infectious agents. It will provide passive immunity for the prevention and treatment of the infections. The mechanism of action has not been fully elucidated.

PHARMACODYNAMIC PROPERTIES

IVIG, human intravenous immunoglobulin, provides a broad spectrum of opsonic and neutralizing IgG antibodies against a wide variety of bacterial and viral agents reflecting the IgG activity found in the donor population. It has an IgG subclass distribution similar to that of native human plasma. IgG antibodies contained in IVIG provide passive immunity by increasing an individual's antibody titer and antigen-antibody reaction potential and prevent or modify certain infectious diseases in susceptible individuals. Adequate doses of IVIG can restore abnormally low IgG level to the normal range. The role of these antibodies and mechanism of action of IgG in different diseases has not been fully elucidated.

PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES

Peak levels of IgG are reached immediately after infusion of IVIG in patients with primary immunodeficiency syndrome. Following infusion, IVIG products show a biphasic decay curve. The initial (α) phase is characterized by an immediate post-infusion peak in serum IgG and is followed by rapid decay due to equilibration between the plasma and extravascular fluid compartments until approximately half is partitioned in the extravascular space. After approximately 3-5 days, equilibrium is reached between the intra and extravascular compartments. The second (β) phase is characterized by a slower and constant rate of decay. As a class, IgG survives longer in vivo than other serum proteins. Peak levels of IgG are reached within 30 minutes after an intravenous infusion of IVIG.

Half-life of IgG in individuals with normal serum IgG concentrations is around 18-25 days while it is 12-45 days in patients with immunodeficiencies. The half-life of IgG can vary considerably from person to person, however. In particular, high serum concentrations of IgG and hypermetabolism associated with fever and infection have been seen to coincide with a shortened half-life of IgG. IgG and IgG-complexes are broken down in cells of the reticuloendothelial system.

NONCLINICAL PROPERTIES

ANIMAL TOXICOLOGY OR PHARMACOLOGY

Being human plasma-derived proteins, safety testing in animals is not particularly relevant