

SODIUM BICARBONATE INTRAVENOUS INFUSION CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have benefits and risks. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you being given Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion against the benefits they expect it to have for you.

This medicine is likely to be used while you are at the clinic or in hospital. If possible, please read this leaflet carefully before this medicine is given to you. In some cases this leaflet may be given to you after the medicine has been used.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

What SODIUM BICARBONATE INTRAVENOUS INFUSION is used for

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion is given to patients who have too much acid, or who have not enough sodium or bicarbonate in their blood. This chemical is naturally present in body fluids and is needed for normal body function.

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion may be used for the treatment of other conditions that are not mentioned above. Your doctor will be able to tell you about the specific condition for which you have been prescribed Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why it has been prescribed for you.

Before you are treated with SODIUM BICARBONATE INTRAVENOUS INFUSION

When Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion must not be given

You will not be given Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion if:

1. You have an allergy to sodium bicarbonate or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

2. You have or have had:

- kidney problems including kidney stones
- high blood pressure
- heart disease
- any swelling of the face or limbs

It may not be safe for you to be given sodium bicarbonate, if you are not sure whether any of these apply to you, check with your doctor.

Before treatment with Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion

You must tell your doctor if:

1. you have any allergies to:

- any other medicine
 - any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes
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2. you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant

your doctor will discuss the possible risks and benefit of being given Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion during pregnancy

3. you are breast feeding or plan to breast feed

It is not known whether sodium bicarbonate passes into breast milk, however there have been no problems reported in breast fed infants.

Taking other medicines

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

Some medicines may affect the way sodium bicarbonate works. These include:

- some antibiotics
- some decongestants
- medicines to control irregular heart beat
- anti-inflammatory agents such as corticosteroids
- stimulants such as amphetamines

If you are unsure whether you are taking one of the above drugs, ask your doctor or pharmacist. These medicines may be affected by sodium bicarbonate or may affect how well it works. You may need to take different amounts of your medicine or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist may have more information on medicines to be careful with while being given Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion and will advise you about continuing to take other medicines

Your doctor will advise you about continuing to take other medicines.

How SODIUM BICARBONATE INTRAVENOUS INFUSION is given

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion treatment usually occurs in a hospital. It will be given to you as a slow injection into one of your veins (this is called an intravenous infusion) by your doctor or a specially trained nurse.

How much is given

Your doctor will decide what dose, how often and how long you will receive it. This depends on your condition and other factors, such as your weight, age, blood tests, how well your kidneys are working, and whether or not other medicines are being given at the same time.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully.

These directions may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

Never administer this medicine yourself.

If you are given too much (overdose)

This rarely happens as Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion is administered under the care of a highly trained doctor or nurse.

However, if you are given too much sodium bicarbonate you may experience some of the effects listed under "Side Effects" below.

Your doctor has information on how to recognise and treat an overdose. Ask your doctor if you have any concerns.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or nurse as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are being given Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion.

Like other medicines, sodium bicarbonate can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor or temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

Ask your doctor or nurse to answer any questions that you may have.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Tell your doctor or nurse as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- twitching or cramps particularly of the muscles in the face, hands or feet
- restlessness or irritability
- peeling skin at the site of injection
- sleepiness or confusion

These are the more common side effects of sodium bicarbonate. Mostly these are mild and short-lived.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some patients. If you notice any other effects, check with your doctor. Some side effects may only be seen by your doctor.

Product Description

What it looks like

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion is a clear, colourless solution contained in a 100mL glass vial.

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion can be identified by an Australian Register Number which is found on the package - AUST R 10801

Ingredients

Sodium Bicarbonate Intravenous Infusion contains sodium bicarbonate and disodium edetate in Water for Injections. It does not contain a preservative.

Manufacturer

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This Consumer Medicine Information was written in March 2000.

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