

## Albumin 20% use in Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

### Guideline Responsibilities and Authorisation

<b>Department Responsible for Guideline</b>	NICU
<b>Document Facilitator Name</b>	Joyce Mok
<b>Document Facilitator Title</b>	ACNM
<b>Document Owner Name</b>	David Bouchier
<b>Document Owner Title</b>	Clinical Director
<b>Target Audience</b>	Nurses, registrar, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, consultant
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### Guideline Review History

Version	Updated by	Date Updated	Summary of Changes
2	Joyce Mok	June 2015	3 yearly review
3	Joyce Mok	Sept 2018	3 yearly review

## Albumin 20% use in Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

### 1 Overview

#### 1.1 Purpose

To outline the guideline on the administration of albumin 20% in neonates

#### 1.2 Scope

Waikato staff working in NICU

#### 1.3 Patient / client group

Neonates and infants in NICU

#### 1.4 Exceptions / contraindications

Parental/cultural/religious reasons.

#### 1.5 Indications

Hypoalbuminemia

### 2 Clinical Management

#### 2.1 Guideline

**Dose:** 1 g/kg

**Route:** Intravenous over 20-60 minutes. UAC only after consultation with NICU consultant

**Supplied as:** Albumex® 20, i.e. 20% albumin (20 g/100 ml = 1 g/5 ml) in 10 ml vial

**Dilution:** 1:1 dilution with an equal volume of sterile water for injection.

**Filter:** A filter is not required. Remove or bypass baby's IV filter.

#### ABO

**compatibility:** Compatibility is not relevant for manufactured (fractionated) plasma product transfusion

**Consent:** Required.

**Flush:** Use sodium chloride 0.9% for flushes

**Do Not:** Do not add medications to blood products.

**Comment:**

- Not to be used for volume expansion, where 0.9% sodium chloride is the preferred agent.
- Albumex® 20 is hyperoncotic: monitor infusion and baby to avoid circulatory overload.
- Always observe for turbidity, floating material and sediment

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- Monitoring:** According to NICU nursing and medical procedures for blood transfusion
- Storage:** It is preferable to allow the bottle to come to room temperature before infusing.  
Ensure the bottle is designated for the patient being transfused.

### 3 Evidence base

#### 3.1 References

- Waikato DHB Blood Resources (2014). How to administer albumin (Albumex) - Quick Guide. Retrieved on September 2, 2018 from <https://clinicaldata.nzblood.co.nz/resourcefolder/index.php?dhbid=6>
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion and Australian College of Nursing (2018). Guidelines for the administration of blood products. Retrieved on September 19, 2018 from [https://anzsbt.org.au/data/ANZSBT\\_Guidelines\\_Administration\\_Blood\\_Products\\_3rdEd\\_Jan\\_2018.pdf](https://anzsbt.org.au/data/ANZSBT_Guidelines_Administration_Blood_Products_3rdEd_Jan_2018.pdf)
- New Zealand Blood Services (2016). Transfusion medicine handbook: A guide to the clinical use of blood components, blood products and blood transfusion procedures in New Zealand, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Retrieved on September 20, 2018 from <https://www.nzblood.co.nz/assets/Transfusion-Medicine/PDFs/Transfusion-Medicine-Handbook-2016.pdf>

#### 3.2 Associated Waikato DHB Documents

- Waikato DHB NICU Medical Procedure: [Blood Transfusions to Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit](#) procedure (1645)
- Waikato DHB NICU Nursing Procedure: [Blood Transfusions by Aliquots or Infusion - Nursing Management in NICU](#) procedure (4822)

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