

heparin and sodium chloride 0.9% drug information

description and indications

Heparin flush belongs to the family of drugs called anticoagulants. This is used to prevent blood from clotting or “stopping up” your intravenous (IV) line. Heparin, in the doses used to flush IV lines, should not normally keep your blood from clotting elsewhere in your body. Heparin may or may not be used in your therapy.

Sodium Chloride 0.9% flush may also be used to prevent your blood from clotting or “stopping up” your IV line or to flush or “clean” the IV line before and after your medication is given.

before using this medication

- Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are allergic to any medications.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breast feeding.
- Tell your doctor and your home health nurse if you are currently taking any prescription or nonprescription medications.
- Tell your doctor if you have any history of kidney or liver disease.

side effects

Although side effects from heparin and sodium chloride 0.9% flush are not common, they can occur. If you experience any of the following symptoms, contact your doctor: bleeding, bruising, hives, itching, or skin irritation. Contact your doctor immediately if you experience bloody or tarry stools.

administration

Heparin flush and sodium chloride 0.9% flush are usually infused or given through the IV line over 5-10 seconds.

IV lines are usually flushed with sodium chloride 0.9 % immediately BEFORE and AFTER your medication dose is given. IV lines are usually flushed with heparin following the administration of prescribed medication and sodium chloride.

storage and stability

Both medications may be kept at room temperature, but avoid excessive heat or freezing. Do not use medication after the expiration date marked on the label. Do not use the medication if it is cloudy, discolored, or if the container is cracked or leaking.

lab monitoring

Usually not required during therapy, but your doctor may monitor blood chemistries.

cchh flush protocol

Procedure: Heparin and sodium chloride 0.9% (Normal Saline) flushes will be administered using the "SASH" method.

- **Peripheral Venous Catheter (PIV)** – CCHH protocol is to flush with 2-5 ml of Normal Saline (0.9%) before and after each medication. CCHH protocol is to flush with 1 ml of Heparin (10 units/ml) as a final flush. Heparin flush for a PIV will be done at the completion of IV medication doses and no more frequently than every 4 hours. For a PIV that is not in use, it will be flushed every 12 hours with Heparin only.

SALINE – ADMINISTER MEDICATION – SALINE – HEPARIN

- **Central Venous Catheter (single, double, triple lumen Hickman, Broviac, PICC lines, Midline Catheter, Midclavicular Catheter)** – CCHH protocol is to flush with 2-5 ml Normal Saline (0.9%) before and after each medication. The catheter is then flushed with 3 ml Heparin (100 units/ml) as a final flush. This is done at the completion of IV medications doses and no more frequently than every 4 hours. For catheter lines that are capped and not in use, flush daily with Heparin only. ***For children who weigh 10 kg (22 pounds) or less, Heparin (10 units/ml) is used for flushing the catheter.***

SALINE – ADMINISTER MEDICATION – SALINE – HEPARIN

- **Implanted Access Device (Port)** – CCHH protocol is to flush with 3-5 ml of Normal Saline (0.9%) before and after each medication. The port is then flushed with 3 ml of Heparin (100 units/ml) after the completion of IV medication doses (no more frequently than every 4 hours & prior to the removal of the needle) and/or monthly when the port is not in use.

SALINE – ADMINISTER MEDICATION – SALINE – HEPARIN

***Note:** These guidelines are not used for Dialysis Catheters. Preservative free Heparin and Normal Saline are used on children less than 1 year of age.

questions

For any questions concerning your therapy, equipment, or supplies, please call (682) 885-6294 or toll free at (800) 747-8242. CCHH Staff is available 24 hours a day to assist you.

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