What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some of the common questions people ask about Sodium Chloride Injection. It does not contain all the information that is known about Sodium Chloride Injection.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor will have weighed the risks of you being given Sodium Chloride Injection against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

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

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

What Sodium Chloride Injection is for

Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9% is used to replace lost body fluids and salts. Other medicines which are given by injection or by a drip, may be diluted with Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9%.

Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9% can also be used as a sterile irrigation solution.

Sodium Chloride Injection 20% can be used as an additive to glucose drips, to correct any salt and fluid imbalances in your body.

Sodium Chloride Injection 20% can also be used to treat varicose veins.

Your doctor will have explained why you are being given Sodium Chloride Injection.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

Your doctor may prescribe this medicine for another use. Ask your doctor if you want more information.

Sodium Chloride Injection is not addictive.

You should not be given Sodium Chloride Injection if you are pregnant or breastfeeding unless your doctor says it is safe. Ask your doctor about the risks and benefits involved.

You should not be given Sodium Chloride Injection if you have the following medical conditions:
* congestive heart failure
* severe kidney disease
* swelling due to excess fluid
* cirrhosis of the liver

Before you are given it

You must tell your doctor if you have any of these medical conditions:
* heart problems
* excess fluid in the lungs
* swelling due to excess fluid
* kidney disease
* high blood pressure including high blood pressure due to pregnancy
* problems with your urinary tract
It may not be safe for you to be given Sodium Chloride Injection if you have any of these conditions.

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy at the chemist, supermarket or health food shop including:
* corticosteroids
These medicines may affect the way Sodium Chloride Injection works.

Before you are given Sodium Chloride Injection

You may already have been given Sodium Chloride Injection. Your doctor will have considered the situation carefully and decided to use it. However, if any of the following applies to you, tell your doctor immediately.

When you must not use it

Sodium Chloride Injection will only be used if the solution is clear, the package is undamaged and the use by (expiry) date marked on the pack has not been passed.
Your doctor or pharmacist can tell you what to do if you are taking any of these medicines.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of these things, tell them before you are given any Sodium Chloride Injection.**

**How Sodium Chloride Injection is given**

Sodium Chloride Injection will be given to you by your doctor or a specially trained nurse.

It will be given by injection, or applied to open wounds if it is being used as an irrigation solution.

The dosage you will be given will depend on your body size, age and the condition being treated.

**Overdose**

The doctor or nurse giving you Sodium Chloride Injection will be experienced in its use so it is extremely unlikely that you will be given too much.

However, the first signs of overdose can be nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, cramps, reduced saliva and increased thirst.

**Side effects**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are being given Sodium Chloride Injection.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

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

Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea
- reduced saliva or dry eyes
- headache
- tiredness or drowsiness
- dizziness
- increased sweating
- increased thirst
- muscle weakness or cramps
- restlessness or irritability
- confusion
- fever

**Storage**

Sodium Chloride Injection will be stored by your doctor or pharmacist under the recommended conditions.

It should be kept in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30 degrees C for glass ampoules, 25 degrees C for the 0.9% 5 mL plastic ampoules and 30 degrees C for the 0.9% 10 mL plastic ampoules and 20% 10 mL plastic ampoules.

**Disposal**

Ask your pharmacist what to do with any Sodium Chloride Injection you have left over or you find that the expiry date has passed.

**Product description**

Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9% is a clear, colourless solution.

It contains sodium chloride 0.9% as the active ingredient, plus Water for Injections.

Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9% is available as:

Glass ampoules 2mL and 10mL in boxes of 5.

Polyamp DuoFit(R) 5mL and 10mL in boxes of 50;

Sodium Chloride Injection 20% is a clear, colourless solution.

It contains sodium chloride 20% as the active ingredient, plus Water for Injections.

Sodium Chloride Injection 20% is available as:

Polyamp DuoFit(R) 10mL in boxes of 50

**Manufacturer**

AstraZeneca Pty Ltd
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Alma Road
NORTH RYDE NSW 2113

This leaflet was prepared in October 2004.

Australian Registration Numbers

Sodium Chloride 0.9% Injection

10mL amp  48347
5mL amp  48346
2mL amp  11974

Sodium Chloride 20% Injection

10 mL amp  11983

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