

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

1. Why am I using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION contains the active ingredient heparin sodium derived from porcine (pig) intestinal mucosa. HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION is used to prevent the blockage of blood vessels by blood clots in adults 18 years and over. For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#) in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to heparin or pork products, any medicine derived from heparin or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI. Do not take heparin if you have or have had major bleeding disorders, injury to the brain, stomach or bowel problems, or bacterial infections of the heart.

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION and affect how it works. Heparin may lead to an increase of potassium in your blood. Therefore, you should tell your doctor if you are taking any medicines that raise your potassium level. A list of medicines that may affect how Heparin works is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

4. How do I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

- Your doctor will determine the dose you require and duration of use.
- HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION should not be injected by self-administration until you have been shown how to inject Heparin Sodium Injection using the prefilled syringe. It is injected by slow injection under the skin. It can also be injected into a vein by a doctor or nurse.

More instructions and how to use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION can be found in Section [4. How do I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#) in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION• Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding• Tell your doctor if you have diabetes, impaired kidney or liver function• Tell your doctor if you are taking any medicines to raise the potassium level in your blood
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION if you have:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• active bleeding (eg. from open wounds);• you have any illnesses or organ injuries that may be associated with increased bleeding tendency, including low blood platelet count, blood coagulation disorders, severe diseases of liver or pancreas;• Do not stop using this medicine or change the dosage without checking with your doctor.• Do not mix heparin sodium injection with other injections or fluids.• Do not inject HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION into your muscle
Drinking alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy alcohol drinkers are at greater risk of major heparin associated bleeding than moderate or non-drinkers
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Store below 25 °C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.• For single use only in one patient. Discard any residue

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#) in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

Less serious side effects include local irritation at the injection site, or mild pain around the injection site. Serious side effects that may occur include: allergic reactions, swelling or changing skin colour at injection site, easy bruising and increased bleeding. For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

Active ingredient: *heparin sodium (from porcine intestinal mucosa)*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION.

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 administered. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION contains the active ingredient heparin sodium. **HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION** is for use in patients over 18 years of age.

This medicine belongs to a group of medicines known as anti-coagulants. Anti-coagulants work by decreasing the clotting ability of the blood and help stop clots forming in the blood vessels.

Anti-coagulants are sometimes called "blood thinners", although they do not actually thin the blood. Heparin will not dissolve blood clots that have already formed, but it may prevent any clots that have already formed from becoming larger and causing serious problems.

This medicine is used to prevent and treat diseases caused by blood clots, such as deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and certain blood vessel, heart and lung conditions.

Heparin 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 heparin.

2. What should I know before I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

Warnings

Do not use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION if:

- you are allergic to heparin, pork products or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- you have any of the following medical conditions:
 - conditions where bleeding may be a problem, such as haemophilia, hiatus hernia, bleeding haemorrhoids (piles)
 - retinopathy (a disease of the retina)
 - problems with weak blood vessels
 - endocarditis (inflammation of the lining of the heart)
 - ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) deficiency
 - stroke (bleeding on the brain)
 - very high blood pressure
 - stomach or intestinal ulcers or other conditions which may bleed, such as ulcerative colitis
 - severe kidney or liver disease
 - major surgery involving the eyes, brain or spinal cord
 - immediately after childbirth, or imminent miscarriage
 - low blood platelet count (thrombocytopenia)
 - a drop in blood platelet count due to heparin or pentosan polysulfate.

If you are not sure whether you should be given this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Check with your doctor if you:

- have or have had any of the following medical conditions:
 - asthma
 - liver or kidney disease
 - high blood pressure (hypertension)
 - ulcer disease
 - vascular disease
 - recent medical, surgical or dental procedures
 - a heart infection, or other heart problems
 - recent surgery on your eyes, brain or spinal cord
 - chronic alcoholism
- take any medicines for any other conditions

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

Children

Do not give HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION to a child.

Patients to be Closely Monitored:

Elderly patients or Critically ill patients

You will be monitored closely if you are:

- an elderly patient, especially an elderly woman,
- critically ill (e.g. you need to stay in an intensive care unit)
- also receiving certain medicines that affect blood clotting or clotting system (see section 3. What if I am taking other medicines ?)

Liver or kidney disorders

Your doctor will carefully supervise and monitor your blood clotting values during therapy with this medicine if you have disorders of your kidneys or liver.

Heparin resistance

Resistance to heparin can occur and is suspected if people require unusually high doses. Increased doses should only be prescribed if monitoring of the effect of the medication occurs (anti-Xa level measurement).

Monitoring

Before the start and during your heparin therapy, blood samples will be taken at certain time intervals, to determine your blood clotting time values and the blood platelet count.

Heparin may lead to an increase of potassium in your blood. Therefore, the potassium level should be monitored if you are at risk to develop high potassium level in your blood. This can be the case if you have, e.g. diabetes, an impaired kidney function or if you are taking drugs that raise the potassium level in the blood (please refer to section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#))

Your doctor will check your water and salt balance during heparin therapy, if you receive the medicine for a prolonged time or whenever your doctor decides that a check of these parameters is required.

During and immediately following spinal anaesthesia Heparin sodium will only be administered to you with extreme caution since there is increased risk of bleeding.

Heparin Sodium Injection will only be given to you after thorough weighing of risks against benefits in your individual case.

For safety reasons it is recommended to observe a puncture-free interval of 4 hours between the last

administration of heparin and the next administration of heparin or the removal of a spinal/peridural catheter. Earliest 1 hour thereafter, a new injection of Heparin can be administered. If, during heparin therapy, blood vessels become blocked by blood clots, your doctor will take into consideration that you may suffer from a special disease associated with low blood cell counts called heparin-induced thrombocytopenia type II. Then, your doctor will initiate blood platelet counts.

After prolonged use of heparin, you may develop the brittle bone disease (osteoporosis). This may happen more likely to elderly people (especially women), pregnant or breast-feeding women or to children.

This medicine may intensify and prolong menstrual bleeding. If bleeding is unusually heavy and irregular, you should undergo a gynaecological examination in order to rule out organic causes.

Your doctor will take special care if you are allergic to other heparins, like so called low-molecular-weight heparin.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

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

Some medicines and HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION may interfere with each other.

Medicines that may increase the effect of HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION include:

- corticosteroids, such as prednisolone and hydrocortisone,
- medicines for rheumatoid arthritis, such as hydroxychloroquine,
- medicines for reducing swelling of the body such as etacrynic acid,
- medicines for treating gout such as probenecid,
- high-dose acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin),
- drugs used to dissolve existing blood clots (fibrinolytics),
- anticlotting medicines such as: warfarin, tirofiban, streptokinase, urokinase, alteplase; anistreplase
- some non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen, diclofenac and ketorolac,
- antibiotics, such as cefamandole and penicillin at high doses,
- asparaginase (cytostatic anti-cancer drug)
- epoprostenol (a prostaglandin used for pulmonary arterial hypertension)
- medicines to restore lost blood containing dextrans,
- medicines used for epilepsy (seizures) such as valproic acid
- medicines used for thyroid problems such as propylthiouracil
- substances used to enhance the contrast of structures or fluids within the body in medical imaging

The action of these substances is intensified, which may be associated with an increased risk of bleeding.

Medicines that may reduce the effect of HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION include:

- tetracycline antibiotics
- insulin, an injection used to treat diabetes
- medicines for heart and circulation problems such as digitalis or digoxin
- vitamin C (ascorbic acid)
- quinine
- glyceryl trinitrate (used to treat angina to help restore oxygen supply to the heart)
- alkaline medicines (e.g. phenothiazine, tricyclic antidepressants, antihistamines)
- Nicotine abuse (smokers):
Nicotine may increase the elimination of heparin from your body and the effect of blood thinning of heparin may be weaker than intended.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION.

4. How do I use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

How much to use and when to use

- HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION dose and the duration of use will be determined by your doctor.
- The dose depends on your clotting values, the nature and course of your illness, your response to the therapy, side effects, weight and age.
- Follow the instructions provided by your doctor and use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION until your doctor tells you to stop.

How it is given

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneously) or as a slow injection into a vein (intravenously). It should not be given as an injection into a muscle (intramuscularly).

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION should not be injected by self-administration until you have been shown how to inject HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION using the prefilled syringe.

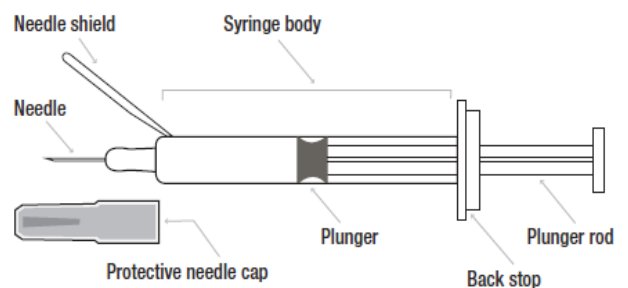
How to administer HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

Subcutaneous injection

- HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION should be given by slow injection under the skin.
Do not inject yourself or someone else until you have been shown how to inject HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION using the prefilled syringe.

- Your doctor, nurse or pharmacist will show you how to inject HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION properly using the prefilled syringe with needle shield; and how to cover the needle after injection. The needle shield will help prevent needle stick injuries to anyone who handles the prefilled syringe.
- Keep the HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringe in the blister packaging until you are ready to use it.
HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringes are for single, one-time use only. Do not re-use a HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringe.
- The prefilled syringe may have air bubbles. To avoid loss of medicine when using the prefilled syringe, do not push out (expel) any air bubbles from the prefilled syringe before giving the injection.

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringe parts:

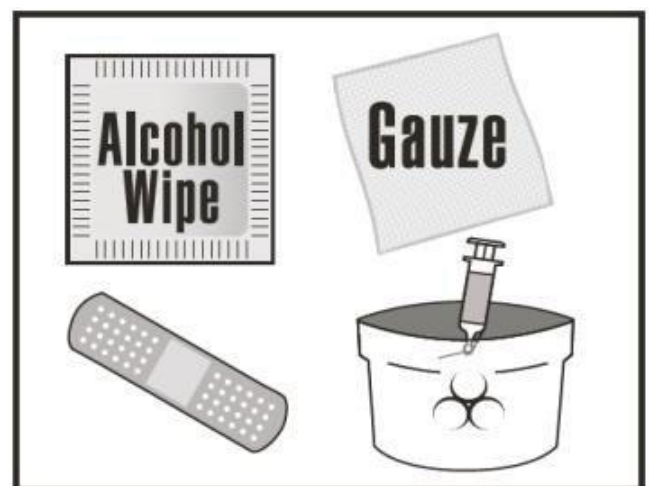


Step 1: Gather supplies needed for your injection

Included in the HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION box:
A HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringe.

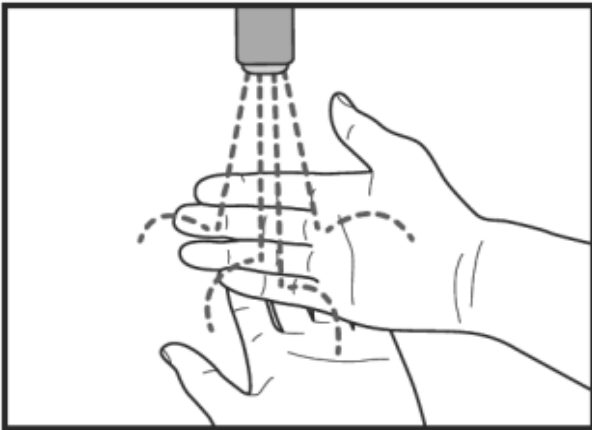
Not included in the box:

- 1 alcohol wipe
- sharps disposal container
- 1 piece of gauze
- 1 adhesive bandage (optional)



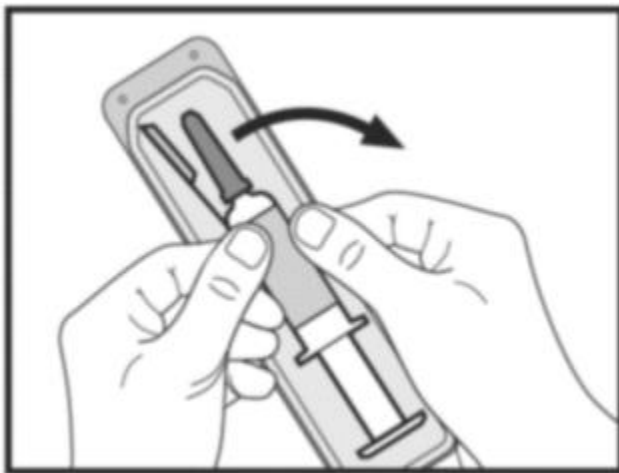
Step 2: Wash your hands well with soap and water

Dry your hands



Step 3: Remove the prefilled syringe from the blister packaging

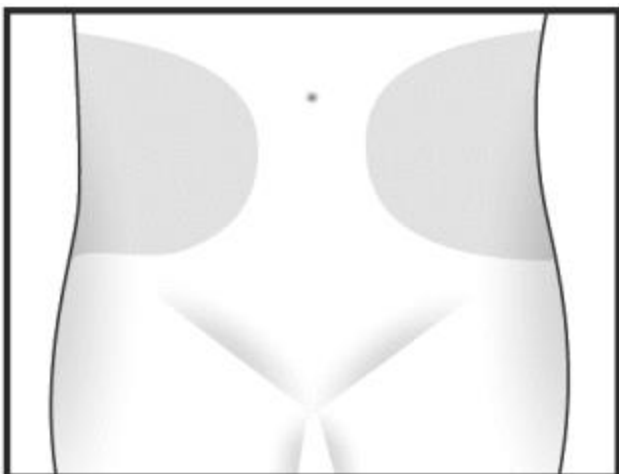
Do not remove by pulling on the plunger as this may damage the syringe. Place the syringe on a flat surface.



Step 4: Choose and clean your injection site.

Sit or lie down in a comfortable position. Choose an injection site on your stomach area (abdomen) to give your injection.

- Choose a different injection site each time you give yourself an injection, alternating between the left and right side of your stomach area.
- Clean the injection site with the alcohol wipe. Let it dry before injecting.



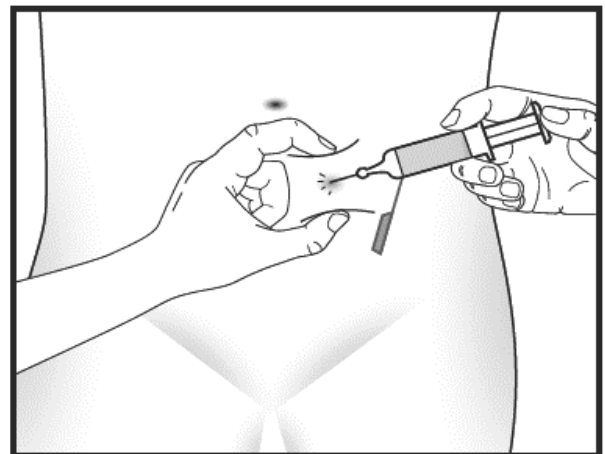
Step 5: Prepare the prefilled syringe.

- Pick up the prefilled syringe. Bend the needle shield towards the body of the prefilled syringe by approximately a 90-degree angle.
- Hold the body of the prefilled syringe firmly in one hand. Remove the protective needle cap by pulling it straight off the syringe. Throw away the needle cap in the sharps disposal container.

Do not touch the needle or let it come in contact with any surface before you give your injection.

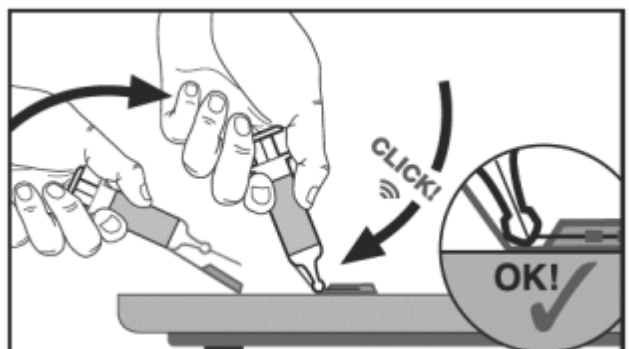
Step 6: Give your injection.

- Gently pinch the skin that has been cleaned to make a fold. Hold the fold between the thumb and the fore finger of one hand.
- Using the other hand, hold the prefilled syringe firmly and insert the full length of the needle at a 90-degree angle into the skin fold. The skin fold should be held during the entire injection.
- Inject all the medicine in the prefilled syringe by pressing down on the plunger as far as it will go. Inject the product slowly. When all the medicine has been injected, remove the needle from the skin fold.
- Press the injection site with a piece of gauze for a few seconds to minimize bruising, do not rub the injection site after you have given your injection. There may be a small amount of blood at the injection site. You may cover the injection site with a small adhesive bandage if needed.



Step 7: Secure needle in needle shield.

Do not try to secure the needle in the needle shield with your fingers. Secure the needle in the groove of the safety shield by pressing it against a stable surface.



Step 8: Dispose of used HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION prefilled syringes.

Put the used prefilled syringe in a sharps disposal container right away after use. Do not throw away the prefilled syringe in the household trash. If you do not have a sharps disposal container, you may use a household container that is:

- Made of heavy-duty plastic.
- Can be closed with a tight-fitting, puncture resistant lid, without sharps being able to come out.
- Upright and stable during use.
- Leak-resistant, and
- Properly labelled to warn of hazardous waste inside the container.
- When your sharps disposal container is almost full, ask your pharmacist about how to dispose of it safely. Do not throw the used sharps disposal container into the trash.
- Do not recycle your used sharps disposal container.

Important: Always keep the sharps disposal container out of the reach of children.



If you forget to use HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION should be used regularly at the same time each day. If you miss your dose at the usual time, skip the dose and wait until your next dose.

If it is almost time for your next dose of heparin, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.

If you use too much HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

As HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION is given to you under the supervision of your doctor, it is very unlikely that you will receive too much.

However, if you experience any severe side effects after being given this medicine, tell your doctor or nurse

immediately, or, if you are not in hospital, go to the Accident and Emergency department at your nearest hospital.

You may need urgent medical attention.

You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (**by calling 13 11 26**), or
- contact your doctor, or
- Go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

5. What should I know while using HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION?

Things you should do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you are being given HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you are being given this medicine. It may affect other medicines used during surgery.

Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are being given this medicine. It may interfere with the results of some tests.

If you have any serious, physical accidents once you leave hospital, advise your treating doctor or nurse that you have been given this medicine recently.

Things you should not do

- Do not stop using this medicine or change the dosage without checking with your doctor
- Do not inject into a muscle
- Do not give this medicine to anyone else even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not use this medicine to treat any other complaints unless a doctor tells you to.
- Do not mix this medicine with other injections or infusion fluids. Certain medicines or solutions contain ingredients that could interact with HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION affects you.

Drinking alcohol

Tell your doctor if you drink alcohol.

Heavy alcohol drinkers are at greater risk of major heparin associated bleeding than moderate or non-drinkers.

Looking after your medicine

- Store below 25 °C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.
- Keep syringes in the pack until it is time to use them.
- HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION is for single use only.

Keep it where young children cannot reach it.

When to discard your medicine

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION and its packaging must not be disposed of via household waste. Ask your doctor or pharmacist how the product and its packaging should be disposed.

Any unused solution should be discarded.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION after the expiry date which is stated on the label. The expiry date refers to the last date of that month.

6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
Injection site-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local reactions, like mild pain or irritation Hair and skin <ul style="list-style-type: none">• temporary hair loss (alopecia) after long-term use,	Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.

Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
Allergy-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">• shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing• swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body;• rash, itching or hives on the skin, chills or fever. Skin <ul style="list-style-type: none">• any changes in skin colour or pain around the injection site,	Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.

Serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the skin starts to swell, gets warm/red, becomes numb or starts to blister Bleeding-related <ul style="list-style-type: none">• easy bruising or bleeding (e.g., nose bleeds, heavy menstrual periods, bleeding from gums when brushing teeth) during or after treatment• passing blood in the urine or faeces, dark coloured faeces, or vomiting blood Bones <ul style="list-style-type: none">• osteoporosis (brittle bones) – after long term treatment Reproductive System <ul style="list-style-type: none">• persistent painful erection	

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people. Some side effects may only be seen by your doctor.

If you are over 60 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects, especially if you are female.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine **you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

What HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	Heparin sodium (from porcine mucosal membrane)
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	Water for injection Sodium hydroxide Hydrochloric acid

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION looks like

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION is a clear, colourless solution.

HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION contains heparin sodium 5,000 IU in 0.5 mL solution in a pre-filled syringe with a 27 gauge x ½ inch needle attached. It is available in packs of 10 pre-filled syringes. (AUST R 394930).

Who distributes HEPARIN INTERPHARMA INJECTION

InterPharma Pty Ltd
Suite 103, 39 East Esplanade
MANLY NSW 2095 AUSTRALIA
Ph.: 02 9976 6876
admin@interpharma.com.au

This leaflet was prepared in Nov 2023.