Calcium Chloride 10% Injection

1. Why is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection being given?

Calcium Chloride 10% Injection contains the active ingredient calcium chloride dihydrate. The injection is used to treat or prevent calcium deficiency and to treat high levels of potassium in the blood.

For more information, see Section 1. Why is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection being given? in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before Calcium Chloride 10% Injection is given?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to calcium chloride or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

For more information, see Section 2. What should I know before Calcium Chloride 10% Injection is given? in the full CMI.

3. What if I am using other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Calcium Chloride 10% Injection and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section 3. What if I am using other medicines? in the full CMI.

4. How is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection given?

- The injection must only be given by a doctor or nurse, and the doctor will decide how much injection to be used.

More instructions can be found in Section 4. How is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection given? in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while using Calcium Chloride 10% Injection?

Things you should do	• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that Calcium Chloride 10% Injection is being given to you. • Remind your doctor if you have any medical conditions. • Remind your doctor or nurse if you have any allergies.
Things you should not do	• The injection should not be given to infants by mouth, as it may severely irritate their stomach. • Do not receive the injection if the solution is discoloured, cloudy, turbid, or a precipitate or particles are present.
Driving or using machines	• Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Calcium Chloride Injection affects you.
Looking after your medicine	• Calcium Chloride Injection will be stored in the surgery, pharmacy or ward of a hospital. The injection is kept in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.

For more information, see Section 5. What should I know while using Calcium Chloride 10% Injection? in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

Calcium Chloride 10% Injection side effects include sweating and hot flushes, dizziness, feeling faint, irregular, fast or slow heartbeat, skin redness, pain, rash, burning or hardening of the skin at injection site, nausea or vomiting, mental disturbances, constipation or abdominal pain, muscle weakness and excessive thirst or urination.

Calcium Chloride 10% Injection may cause allergic reactions including shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body and rash, itching or hives on the skin.

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.

Calcium Chloride 10% Injection

Active ingredient: *calcium chloride dihydrate*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Calcium Chloride 10% Injection. **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 Calcium Chloride Injection.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

1. Why is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection being given?
2. What should I know before Calcium Chloride 10% Injection is given?
3. What if I am using other medicines?
4. How is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection given?
5. What should I know while using Calcium Chloride 10% Injection?
6. Are there any side effects?
7. Product details

1. Why is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection being given?

Calcium Chloride 10% Injection contains the active ingredient calcium chloride dihydrate. Calcium Chloride is a calcium salt used primarily to treat or prevent calcium deficiency. It is also used to treat high levels of potassium in the blood.

This medicine works by increasing the level of calcium in the blood.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Calcium Chloride Injection has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

2. What should I know before Calcium Chloride 10% Injection is given?

Warnings

You should not be given Calcium Chloride Injection if:

- you are allergic to calcium chloride, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

  Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:
  - 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

  Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- the calcium levels in your blood or urine are above normal
- you have any of the following medical conditions:
  - a dangerously fast heartbeat
  - severe kidney disease or kidney stones
  - sarcoidosis, a disease that causes tiny lumps of cells in your body
- the Calcium Chloride Injection is given to infants by mouth, as it may severely irritate their stomach.
- the solution is discoloured, cloudy, turbid, or a precipitate or particles are present. The solution is normally a clear, colourless liquid.
- when diluted with another solution it causes the solution to precipitate, become cloudy, turbid, discolour, or particles are visible.
- this medicine is after the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering. If you are given this medicine after the expiry date has passed it may not work as well.

Check with your doctor if you:

- have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.
- have any other medical conditions
  - low blood pressure
  - kidney disease
  - heart disease
  - kidney stones or stones of the urinary tract
  - breathing difficulties or increased rate of breathing
  - dehydration or any other chemical imbalance in the blood
- if you are not sure whether you should be given this medicine, talk to your doctor.

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

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits involved.

3. What if I am using 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 may interfere with Calcium Chloride Injection and affect how it works.

These include:

- Digoxin - a medicine used to treat heart disease
- Verapamil - a medicine used to relax the blood vessels and prevent abnormal beating of the heart
- Other medicines containing calcium or magnesium

These medicines may be affected by Calcium Chloride Injection, or may affect how well it works. Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while being given this medicine.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect with Calcium Chloride Injection.

4. How is Calcium Chloride 10% Injection given?

How much to use

- Calcium Chloride Injection must only be given by a doctor or nurse. Your doctor will decide what dose of calcium chloride you will receive and for how long you will receive it. This depends on your medical condition and other factors, such as your weight.
- It is usually given as a slow injection into a vein while the patient is lying down.
- Sometimes only a single dose of calcium chloride is required.

If too much Calcium Chloride Injection is given

Calcium Chloride Injection must only be given by a nurse or doctor so an overdose is not likely to occur.

Some medical conditions may result in too much calcium in the blood. Your doctor or nurse will monitor the level of calcium in the blood.

Symptoms of an overdose are the same as side effects but may be more severe.

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 Calcium Chloride 10% Injection?

Things you should do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you have been given Calcium Chloride Injection.

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

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

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Your doctor may do some tests from time to time to make sure the medicine is working and to prevent unwanted side effects.

Call your doctor straight away if you:

- do not feel well while you are being given Calcium Chloride Injection.
  This medicine may have unwanted side effects in a few people. 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. See additional information under Section 6. Are there any side effects?

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you have been given Calcium Chloride Injection.

Things to be careful of

You should continue to lie down for a short time after you have been given Calcium Chloride Injection.

If you feel light-headed, dizzy or faint when getting out of bed or standing up, get up slowly.

Standing up slowly, especially when you get up from chairs, will help your body get used to change in position and blood pressure. If this problem continues or gets worse, talk to your doctor.

Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Calcium Chloride Injection affects you.

Looking after your medicine

- Calcium Chloride Injection will be stored in the surgery, pharmacy or ward of a hospital. The injection is kept in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30ºC.
- Calcium Chloride Injection will be opened when it is time for use. It will be used only once and then it will be discarded. It will never be stored after it is opened nor used for more than one person.

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
Skin-related: • sweating, hot flushes • skin redness, pain, rash, burning or hardening of the skin at injection site **Taste-related:** • a calcium or chalky taste **Nervous system:** • dizziness, feeling faint **Heart-related:** • irregular, fast or slow heartbeat	**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
Digestive system: • nausea or vomiting • constipation or abdominal pain **Nervous system:** • mental disturbances **Muscle-related:** • muscle weakness **Endocrine system:** • excessive thirst or urination	**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.**

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

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

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.

Always make sure 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 Calcium Chloride 10% Injection contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	calcium chloride dihydrate
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	hydrochloric acid sodium hydroxide water for injections

Calcium Chloride Injection does not contain lactose, sucrose, gluten, tartrazine, alcohol, dyes or any preservatives.

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

What Calcium Chloride 10% Injection looks like

Calcium Chloride Injection is a clear, colourless solution. It is available in 10 mL clear glass vials, packed in a pack of 10 with a plastic top (Aust R 137325).

The vial stopper is not made with natural rubber latex.

Who distributes Calcium Chloride 10% Injection

In Australia:

Phebra Pty Ltd

17-19 Orion Road

Lane Cove West, NSW 2066

Australia

Telephone: 1800 720 020

In New Zealand:

AFT Pharmaceuticals Ltd PO Box 33-203, Auckland.
Telephone: +64 9 4880232

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