

**PRESCRIBING INFORMATION**

**GELOFUSINE®**

**Presentation:**  
Sterile 4% w/v succinylated Gelatin (Modified Fluid Gelatin) in Saline

Gelatin (MFQ) 40.0 gm/litre Chloride 125 mmol/litre  
Sodium 154 mmol/litre Av Mw 30,000

Av Mn 22,600 Relative viscosity at 37°C 1.9  
pH 7.4±0.3 Colloid osmotic pressure 465 mmH<sub>2</sub>O

Osmolarity 275mOsm/litre Gel point 0°C  
Iso-electric point pH 4.5±0.3

**Description:** Gelofusine is prepared by hydrolysis and succinylation of bovine collagen. **Uses, Actions:** Gelofusine is a colloidal plasma volume substitute. When used in the treatment of hypovolaemia it produces significant increases in blood volume, cardiac output, stroke volume, blood pressure, urinary output and oxygen delivery. The half-life of Gelofusine is about 4 hours, with the majority of the dose administered being eliminated by renal excretion within 24 hours. **Indications:** As a plasma volume substitute in the initial management of hypovolaemic shock due to, for example, haemorrhage, acute trauma or surgery, burns, sepsis, peritonitis, pancreatitis or crush injury. **Dosage and Administration:** Gelofusine is given intravenously. The volume and the rate of administration will depend upon the condition of the patient. The rate of administration can be increased by the application of pressure to the container or by use of a giving set pump. When given rapidly it should be warmed to no more than 37°C if possible. In severe acute blood loss 500ml may be given in 5-10 minutes until signs of hypovolaemia are relieved. When large volumes are infused, suitable monitoring should be employed to ensure that an adequate haematocrit is maintained, (the haematocrit should not be allowed to fall below 25%), and that dilutional effects upon coagulation are avoided (expert haematological advice should be sought especially in cases of massive blood loss). For massive fluid loss, Gelofusine may be used concomitantly with blood, the rate and amount of which would depend upon the clinical condition of the patient. The haemodynamic status of the patient should be monitored. If blood is to be given at the same time as Gelofusine it can be given through the same giving set since Gelofusine has a negligible calcium content and therefore does not clot blood. Gelofusine can also be used to reconstitute packed red cells. **Contra-Indications, warnings, etc.** Known hypersensitivity to Gelofusine. In common with other colloidal plasma volume expanders, mild urticarial reactions have been reported. Severe anaphylactic reactions following use of Gelofusine occur with a reported incidence of between 1 in 6000 and 1 in 13000 units administered. Such reactions are related to the release of vasoactive substances and can be assumed to be more frequent and particularly hazardous in patients with known allergic conditions such as asthma. **Treatment:** The infusion should be stopped and the patient treated symptomatically. Electrolytes should be monitored. If necessary, an alternative intravenous fluid and the parenteral administration of adrenaline (eg 0.5 to 1ml of a 1:1,000 solution intramuscularly, repeated every 15 minutes as necessary, or 5 to 10ml of a 1:100,000 solution slowly intravenously), and an antihistamine (eg chlorpheniramine 10 - 20mg slowly intravenously) should be considered. Gelofusine should be given with care to patients who are susceptible to circulatory overload (eg severe congestive cardiac failure or renal failure with oliguria or anuria) since excessive volumes may give rise to circulatory overload and electrolyte imbalance. **Treatment:** The infusion should be stopped and the patient treated symptomatically. Electrolytes should be monitored. 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Only clear solution should be used; it contains no preservative and any unused Gelofusine should be discarded once the seal has been opened. Although water soluble drugs can be given in Gelofusine, experience is limited. If essential, they may be given through the giving set, close to the intravenous cannula. The small calcium content of Gelofusine does not give rise to clotting in the giving set when clotted blood precipitates or follows its administration. **Legal Category:** POM. **Package quantities:** Plastic infusion containers of 500ml. Packs of 10. **Basic NHS Price:** £3.56/500ml unit. **Further information:** Gelofusine promotes an osmotic diuresis, thereby helping protect the kidneys from the adverse effects of hypovolaemia; it does not interfere with blood grouping or cross-matching. **Product licence number:** 0183/5025. **Product licence holder:** Consolidated Chemicals, Ltd, The Industrial Estate, Wrexham, Clwyd LL13 9PW. **Manufactured by:** B. Braun Medical A.G., PO Box 983, CH-9001 St-Gallen, Switzerland. **Name and address of importer:** B. Braun Medical Ltd, Braun House, 13-14 Farmbrough Close, Aylesbury Vale Industrial Park, Stocklake, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1DQ, England. Tel: 0296 393900, Fax: 0296 435714. **Date of preparation:** February 1992.

...eed - now easy access port for IV set insertion.  
**CONVENIENCE & FLEXIBILITY** - completely collapsible polyethylene container for normal fusion, or vented as soft bag (eg. for ressure infusion).

**STABILITY** - low sepsis rate compared with glass. Negligible adsorption of drugs compared with glass.

...ow, more than ever, when compared with urea - linked gelatin (polygeline), succinylated gelatin (Gelofusine®) the informed choice.

Specify Gelofusine® from B. Braun - the informed choice.

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ebb, A.R. et al. - Int. Care Med 1989; 15: 116-120.

**500ml Gelofusine**

Plastic infusion container, sterile, nonpyrogenic, hypotonic solution, 4% w/v succinylated gelatin in saline.

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**Contra-Indications:** Known hypersensitivity to Gelofusine.

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# THE DIFFERENCE