

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

**MAGNESIUM SULFATE INJECTION, USP**

Magnesium sulfate heptahydrate

Sterile Solution

500 mg / mL of Magnesium Sulfate heptahydrate

4.06 mEq / mL of Magnesium Sulfate anhydrous

2.03 mmol / mL of Magnesium Sulfate anhydrous

4060 mOsmol / L

pH 5.5 - 7.0 when diluted to a concentration of 5% (w/v)

For Intravenous Infusion or Intramuscular Use Only

Electrolyte Solution

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## PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

### 1 INDICATIONS

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP may be of therapeutic value in the following conditions:

- as an anticonvulsant, primarily in preeclampsia and eclampsia of pregnancy;
- as an electrolyte replenisher for hypomagnesemia and magnesium deficiency to maintain normal neuromuscular irritability.

#### 1.1 Pediatrics

**Pediatrics (<18 years of age):** Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use. ([See 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Route of administration, Intramuscular; 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Considerations for special population, Pediatrics; 4.3 Reconstitution, Deep Intramuscular Solutions, Pediatrics](#))

#### 1.2 Geriatrics

**Geriatrics:** Health Canada has not authorized an indication for geriatric use. (See [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Considerations for special populations, Geriatrics; 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal and 7.1.4 Geriatrics](#))

### 2 CONTRAINDICATIONS

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP should not be administered parenterally in patients with:

- heart block
- myocardial damage
- hypersensitivity to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation, including any non-medical ingredient, or component of the container. For a complete listing, see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).

### 4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### 4.1 Dosing Considerations

##### Renal

Parenteral use in the presence of renal insufficiency may lead to magnesium intoxication. In patients with severe renal impairment, dosage should not exceed 20 g in 48 hours. Serum magnesium should be monitored in such patients. (See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal, Aluminium toxicity](#).)

## 4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

### Usual Dose Range

1 to 40 g daily.

### Route of administration:

- **Intramuscular**

Adults and older children for severe hypomagnesemia 1 to 5 g (2 to 10 mL of 50% solution) daily in divided doses; administration is repeated daily until serum levels have returned to normal. If deficiency is not severe, 1 g (2 mL of 50% solution) can be given once or twice daily. Serum magnesium levels should serve as a guide to continued dosage.

- **Intravenous**

Must be diluted before IV use. 1 to 4 g Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP may be given intravenously in 10% to 20% solution, but only with great caution; the rate should not exceed 1.5 mL of 10% solution or equivalent per minute until relaxation is obtained.

Intravenous use in eclampsia should be reserved for immediate control of life-threatening convulsions. See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#).

- **Intravenous Infusion**

Must be diluted before IV use. 4 g in 250 mL of 5% Dextrose Injection, USP at a rate not exceeding 3 mL per minute.

### Recommended Dose per indication:

- **Electrolyte Replenisher**

Intramuscular 1 to 2 g in 50% solution four times a day until serum magnesium is within normal limits.

- **For Pre-eclampsia or Eclampsia**

Initially 1 to 2 g in 25% or 50% solution is given intramuscularly. Subsequently, 1 g is given every 30 minutes until relief is obtained. The blood pressure should be monitored after each injection.

Magnesium sulfate should be used for treatment of preeclampsia and eclampsia of pregnancy only if clearly needed and for the shortest time required. See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS](#).

Parenteral drug products should be visually inspected for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration whenever solution and container permit.

### Considerations for special populations:

- **Pediatrics**

Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

Usual pediatric dose: Intramuscular 20 to 40 mg/kg of body weight in a 20% solution repeated as necessary.

- **Geriatrics**

Geriatric patients often require reduced dosage because of impaired renal function. In patients with severe impairment, dosage should not exceed 20 g in 48 hours. Serum magnesium should be monitored in such patients.

#### **4.3 Reconstitution**

##### **Parenteral Products:**

- **Intravenous Solutions:**

- Must be diluted to a concentration of 20% or less prior to administration.
- Diluents commonly used: 5% Dextrose Injection, USP and 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP.

- **Deep Intramuscular Solutions:**

- **Adult:** Undiluted (50%) solution is appropriate in adults.
- **Pediatrics:** Solution should be diluted to a 20% or less concentration prior such injection in children.

## **5 OVERDOSAGE**

Hypermagnesemia is manifested by muscle weakness, hypotension, ECG changes, sedation, and confusion. As plasma concentrations of magnesium begin to exceed 4 mEq/L, the deep-tendon reflexes are decreased and may be absent at levels approaching 10 mEq/L. At 12 to 15 mEq/L, respiratory paralysis is a potential hazard; the respiratory effects can be antagonized to some extent by the intravenous administration of calcium salts. In cases of severe renal impairment, symptomatic hypermagnesemia may be an indication for dialysis. Although man usually tolerates high concentrations of magnesium in plasma, there are occasional instances when cardiac consequences may be seen in the form of complete heart block at concentrations well below 10 mEq/L.

Before the parenteral administration of each dose, the respiratory rate should be at least 16 per minute and urinary function should be adequate. In the event of overdose, assisted ventilation must be provided until calcium can be given intravenously. Peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis may be required in cases of extreme hypermagnesemia.

When Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is administered parenterally in doses that are sufficient to induce hypermagnesemia, the drug has a depressant effect on the central nervous system and, via the peripheral neuromuscular junction, on muscle.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

## 6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength / Composition	Non-medicinal Ingredients
Intravenous, Intramuscular	Solution, 500 mg / mL	Sulfuric Acid, NF Sodium Hydroxide, NF Water for Injection, USP

### Description

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is a sterile, concentrated solution (50%) of magnesium sulfate in Water for Injection.

Each mL contains 500 mg magnesium sulfate heptahydrate (49.3 mg Mg<sup>++</sup> and 194.7 mg SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>). pH adjusted with sulfuric acid or sodium hydroxide if necessary.

The solution contains no bacteriostatic agent or other preservatives.

Packaging type	Magnesium per mL	Sulfate per mL	Volume
Plastic vial Stopper contains latex.	49.3 mg	194.7 mg	10 mL in a 20 mL vial
Glass vial The stopper used for the glass vials is not made with natural rubber latex.	49.3 mg	194.7 mg	10 mL in a 20 mL vial
Pharmacy Bulk Package (Glass vial) – Not for Direct Infusion The stopper used for the glass vials is not made with natural rubber latex.	49.3 mg	194.7 mg	50 mL

## 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### General

Administer with caution if flushing and sweating occurs. (See [8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview](#).)

When barbiturates, narcotics or other hypnotics (or systemic anesthetics) are to be given in conjunction with magnesium, their dosage should be adjusted with caution because of additive CNS depressant effects of magnesium. A preparation of calcium salt should be readily available for intravenous injection to counteract potential serious signs of magnesium intoxication. (See [9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions](#).)

The principal hazard in parenteral magnesium therapy is the production of abnormally high levels of magnesium in the plasma. The most immediate danger to life is respiratory depression. A preparation of calcium, such as the gluconate or gluceptate, should be at hand for intravenous administration as an antidote. (See [5 OVERDOSAGE](#).)

## Monitoring and Laboratory Tests

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP should not be given unless hypomagnesemia has been confirmed and the serum concentration of magnesium is monitored. The normal serum level is 1.5 to 2.4 mEq/L.

### Renal

Since magnesium is excreted almost entirely by the kidneys, it should be given very cautiously in the presence of serious impairment of renal function. **Aluminium toxicity:** This product contains aluminum that may be toxic. Aluminum may reach toxic levels with prolonged parenteral administration if kidney function is impaired. Premature neonates are particularly at risk because their kidneys are immature, and they require large amounts of calcium and phosphate solutions which contain aluminum. Research indicates that patients with impaired kidney function, including premature neonates, who receive parenteral levels of aluminum at greater than 4 to 5 mcg per kg per day accumulate aluminum at levels associated with central nervous system and bone toxicity. Tissue loading may occur at even lower rates of administration of TPN products and of the lock-flush solutions used in their administration.

### Reproductive Health: Female and Male Potential

- **Fertility**

No studies have been conducted to determine if Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP has an effect on fertility.

- **Teratogenic Risk**

Continuous administration of magnesium sulfate (intravenous or intramuscular) beyond 5 to 7 days to pregnant women can lead to hypocalcemia and bone abnormalities in the developing fetus. These bone abnormalities include skeletal demineralization and osteopenia. In addition, cases of neonatal fracture have been reported. The shortest duration of treatment that can lead to fetal harm is not known. Magnesium sulfate should be used for treatment of preeclampsia and eclampsia of pregnancy only if clearly needed and for the shortest time required.

- **Non-teratogenic Risk**

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. When Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is administered to a toxemic mother, the newborn is usually not compromised. When Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is administered intravenously by a continuous infusion for longer than 24 hours before delivery, the possibility of the baby showing signs of neuromuscular or respiratory depression of the newborn should be considered, since fetal toxicity can occur. A baby with hypermagnesemia may require resuscitation and assisted ventilation. If this drug is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus.

## 7.1 Special Population

### 7.1.1 Pregnant Women

Magnesium sulfate should be used for treatment of preeclampsia and eclampsia of pregnancy only if clearly needed and for the shortest time required.



Intravenous use in eclampsia should be reserved for immediate control of life-threatening convulsions.

Magnesium sulfate can cause fetal abnormalities when administered beyond 5-7 days to pregnant women. There are retrospective epidemiological studies and case reports documenting fetal abnormalities such as hypocalcemia, skeletal demineralization, osteopenia and other skeletal abnormalities with continuous maternal administration of magnesium sulfate for more than 5 to 7 days.

### **7.1.2 Breast-feeding**

Since magnesium is distributed into milk during parenteral magnesium sulfate administration, caution should be exercised when Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is administered to a nursing women.

### **7.1.3 Pediatrics**

**Pediatrics (<18 years of age):** Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

### **7.1.4 Geriatrics**

Geriatric patients often require reduce dosage because of impaired renal function. (See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal](#) and [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment, Considerations for special populations, Geriatrics.](#))

## **8 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

### **8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview**

Principal adverse reactions are related to the high plasma levels of magnesium and include flushing, sweating, hypotension, circulatory collapse, and cardiac and central nervous system depression. Respiratory depression is the most life-threatening effect. Hypocalcemia with signs of tetany secondary to magnesium sulfate therapy for eclampsia has been reported.

## **9 DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions**

When barbiturates, narcotics, hypnotics (or systemic anesthetics), or other central nervous system depressants are to be given in conjunction with magnesium, their dosage should be adjusted with caution because of the additive central nervous system depressant effects of magnesium.

Central nervous system depression and peripheral transmission defects produced by magnesium may be antagonized by calcium.

### **9.5 Drug-Food Interactions**

Interactions with food have not been established.

## 9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

## 9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions

Interactions with laboratory tests have not been established.

# 10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Magnesium is the second most plentiful cation of the intracellular fluids. It is essential for the activity of many enzyme systems and plays an important role with regard to neurochemical transmission and muscular excitability. Deficiencies are accompanied by a variety of structural and functional disturbances.

## 10.1 Mechanism of Action

Some of the effects of magnesium on the nervous system are similar to those of calcium. An increased concentration of magnesium in the extracellular fluid causes depression of the central nervous system (CNS). Magnesium has a direct depressant effect on skeletal muscle.

Abnormally low concentrations of magnesium in the extracellular fluid result in increased acetylcholine release and increased muscle excitability that can produce tetany.

Magnesium slows the rate of SA nodal impulse formation. Higher concentrations of magnesium (greater than 15 mEq/L) produce cardiac arrest in diastole.

Excess magnesium causes vasodilation by both a direct action on blood vessels and ganglionic blockade.

## 10.3 Pharmacokinetics

### Elimination

Magnesium is excreted principally by the kidney by glomerular filtration.

# 11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL

Store vials at 15 °C to 30 °C.

Use only if solution is clear, and seal intact.

Unused portion of container should be discarded.

### Incompatibilities

Magnesium sulfate in solution may result in a precipitate formation when mixed with solutions containing:

Alcohol (in high concentrations), Heavy metals, Alkali carbonates and bicarbonates, Hydrocortisone sodium succinate, Alkali hydroxides Phosphates, Arsenates, Polymyxin B sulfate, Barium Procaine hydrochloride, Calcium, Salicylates, Clindamycin phosphate, Strontium, Tartrates.

The potential incompatibility will often be influenced by the changes in the concentration of reactants and the pH of the solutions.

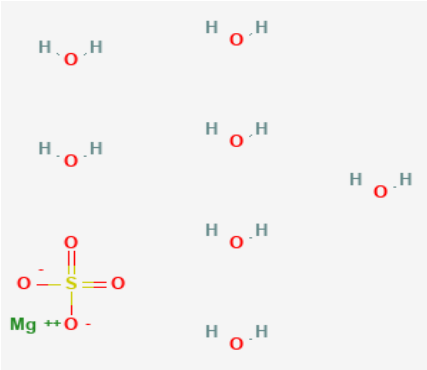
## **12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

This information is not available for this drug product.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### Drug Substance:

Proper name:	Magnesium sulfate heptahydrate
Chemical name:	Magnesium sulfate heptahydrate
Molecular formula:	MgSO <sub>4</sub> •7H <sub>2</sub> O
Molecular mass:	246.4746
Structural formula:	

Physicochemical properties:	Freely soluble in water, very soluble in boiling water, practically insoluble in ethanol (96 per cent).
Product characteristics:	White or almost white, crystalline powder or brilliant, colourless crystals.

### 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

The clinical trial data on which the original indication was authorized is not available.

### 15 MICROBIOLOGY

No microbiological information is required for this drug product.

### 16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

Information not available.

## **PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

### **READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

#### **MAGNESIUM SULFATE INJECTION, USP**

##### **Magnesium sulfate injection**

Read this carefully before you start taking **Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP**.

##### **What is Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP used for?**

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP is used in adults to:

- prevent seizures associated with pre-eclampsia and eclampsia during pregnancy.
- treat low levels of magnesium in the blood (hypomagnesemia).

##### **How does Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP work?**

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP belongs to a group of medicines called electrolyte solutions. It works by replenishing magnesium in your body. It is a naturally occurring mineral (electrolyte) in your body and is important for many systems in the body, especially the muscles and nerves.

##### **What are the ingredients in Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP?**

Medicinal ingredients: Magnesium Sulfate Heptahydrate

Non-medicinal ingredients: Sodium Hydroxide, Sulfuric Acid and Water for Injection.

##### **Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP comes in the following dosage forms:**

Solution for Injection: 500 mg / mL

##### **Do not use Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP if:**

- you have heart block, a condition where the heart beats more slowly or with an abnormal rhythm.
- you have had a heart attack, or any other conditions in which your heart has been damaged.
- you are allergic to magnesium sulfate or any other ingredients in Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP or its container.

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- are taking the following medicines:

- barbiturates (used to treat anxiety, seizures, and headaches)
- narcotics (used to treat moderate to severe pain)
- hypnotics (used to induce, extend, or improve the quality of sleep) or
- systemic anesthetics (used to make a person sleep throughout a surgery)
- have kidney problems.
- have been told you have high levels of magnesium in your blood.
- have any heart problems, such as an irregular heartbeat, heart failure or heart disease.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

**Aluminum toxicity:** This medicine contains aluminum that may be toxic. It may reach toxic levels with long term use if you have kidney problems.

**Pregnancy:**

- If you are pregnant, your healthcare professional:
  - will give you Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP for the shortest time needed to prevent harm to your unborn baby. Taking Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP for more than 5 to 7 days may lead to low calcium levels and bone problems in the developing baby or fetus, including thin bones or bone breaks. Your healthcare professional will discuss the potential risks with you.
  - will closely monitor your health and that of your baby during your treatment.
  - may monitor your blood pressure after each injection.
- Tell your healthcare professional **right away** if you become pregnant, think you may be pregnant or want to get pregnant during your treatment with Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP.

**Effects on newborns:** In some cases, babies born to a mother taking Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP during pregnancy have experienced serious problems requiring hospitalization. Be prepared to seek immediate medical help for your newborn if they:

- have difficulty breathing,
- have floppy muscles (like a ragdoll),
- are overly sleepy.

**Breastfeeding:** Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP can pass into breast milk and may harm a breastfed baby. Talk to your healthcare professional about the best way to feed your baby while you are given Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP.

**Check-ups and testing:** Your healthcare professional will regularly monitor and assess your health before and while you are taking Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP. This includes blood tests to monitor the level of magnesium in your blood.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**The following may interact with Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP:**

- barbiturates (used to treat anxiety, seizures, and headaches)
- narcotics (used to treat moderate to severe pain)
- hypnotics (used to induce, extend, or improve the quality of sleep)
- systemic anesthetics (used to make a person sleep throughout a surgery)

**How to take Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP:**

Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP will be given to you by a healthcare professional in a hospital or medical office. It will be injected into a muscle or vein.

**Usual dose:**

Your healthcare professional will decide what dose of medication you will receive and for how long. This will depend on your medical condition and the results of your blood tests.

**Overdose:**

The symptoms of an overdose with Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP include:

- muscle weakness, loss of tendon reflexes
- low blood pressure, fast, slow or irregular heart rate
- drowsiness, confusion
- respiratory depression (slow and ineffective breathing)

<p>If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have been given too much Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.</p>
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**What are possible side effects from using Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP. If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>UNKNOWN FREQUENCY</b>			
<b>Hypermagnesemia</b> (high level of magnesium in the blood): flushing, sweating, feeling thirsty, low blood pressure, drowsiness, dizziness, headache, itchy skin, tingling sensation of the skin, nausea, vomiting, confusion, slurred speech, double vision, lack of energy, slow and ineffective breathing, electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, loss of tendon reflexes, muscle weakness, fast, slow or irregular heart rate, coma, heart suddenly stops beating			√
<b>Hypocalcemia</b> (low level of calcium in the blood): involuntary contraction of muscles, numbness around the mouth, muscle cramps, burning or prickling sensation of the hands and feet			√
<b>Respiratory depression</b> (slow and ineffective breathing): slow, shallow or weak breathing, tiredness, confusion, headache, blue lips, fingers, or toes			√

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

<p><b>Reporting Side Effects</b></p> <p>You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html</a>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or</li> <li>• Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.</li> </ul> <p><i>NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.</i></p>
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**Storage:**

- Store at room temperature (15 °C to 30 °C).
- Keep out of reach and sight of children.

**If you want more information about Magnesium Sulfate Injection, USP:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website (<https://www.fresenius-kabi.com/en-ca/>) or by calling 1-877-821-7724.

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