

# Potassium Chloride

22.3% Concentrated Injection 2.23g in 10mL

## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor.

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

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

**Keep this leaflet in a safe place.** You may need to read it again.

### What Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is used for

**Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is a concentrated solution and is diluted before it is used.**

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is used to treat:

- patients with lower than normal levels of potassium in their blood.
- patients with an overdose of digoxin, a medicine used to treat heart failure.

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is used as an injection to raise the level of potassium in the blood when a patient is unable to take potassium by mouth or potassium levels in the blood are very low.

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

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

### Before you are given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection

*When you must not be given it*

**You should not be given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection if you have an allergy to:**

- any medicine containing potassium chloride
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other similar medicines.
- or have increased sensitivity to potassium.

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.

**You should not be given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection if you have:**

- a dangerously fast heart beat
- severe burns
- severe dehydration
- heat cramps
- high levels of potassium in the blood.

**You should not be given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection if you have the following medical conditions:**

- higher than normal levels of adrenal hormones known as hyperadrenalism
- lower than normal levels of adrenal hormones known as Addison's disease
- kidney problems causing the passing of less urine than normal
- kidney disease.

**You should not be given this medicine if the solution is discoloured, cloudy, turbid, or particles or a precipitate is present.**

The solution is normally a clear, colourless to faintly straw coloured solution.

**You should not be given this medicine, if when diluted with another solution, it causes the solution to precipitate, become cloudy, turbid, discolour, or particles are visible.**

**You should not be given this medicine if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering, or if the expiry date on the pack has passed. If you are given this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work as well.**

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

*Before you are given it*

**Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.**

**Tell your doctor if you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:**

- chronic kidney problems
- any disease which affects the adrenal glands
- any disease affecting the excretion of potassium
- heart disease
- slow or irregular heart beat
- too much acid in the blood which may cause an increased rate of breathing.

**Tell your doctor if you are on a low salt diet.** You may require chloride as well as potassium.

**Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding.**

Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you are given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection.**

#### *Taking other medicines*

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

Some medicines and Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection may interfere with each other. These include:

- medicines used to reduce the excretion of potassium in the urine such as spironolactone or triamterene.

These medicines may be affected by Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

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## How Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is given

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**Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection must only be given by a doctor or nurse.**

#### *How it is given*

**Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is a concentrated solution and must be diluted before use.**

It will be diluted with a large volume of intravenous solution and then infused into a vein.

#### *How much is given*

Your doctor will decide what dose of Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection you will receive and for how long you will receive it. This depends on your medical condition and other factors, such as your weight.

Sometimes only a single dose of Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is required.

#### *If you are given too much (overdose)*

As Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is always given to you in a hospital under the supervision of a doctor, it is unlikely that you will receive an overdose.

Some medical conditions may result in too much potassium in the blood. Your doctor or nurse will monitor the level of potassium in your blood and any change in heart function.

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

The symptoms of a side effect are listed under Side effects below.

**If you notice any symptoms of an overdose, immediately contact your doctor or go to the Emergency Department at the nearest hospital.**

**Contact the Poisons information centre on 13 11 26 for further advice on overdose management.**

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## While you are being given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection

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#### *Things you must do*

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

**Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you that you have been given this medicine.**

**If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you have been given this medicine.**

It may affect other medicines used during the 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 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.

#### *Things to be careful of*

**Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection affects you.**

**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 beds or chairs, will help your body get used to the change in position and blood pressure. If this problem continues to get worse talk to your doctor.

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## Side Effects

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**Tell your doctor or nurse as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are being given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection.**

This medicine helps most people with low levels of potassium in their blood, but it 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.

If you are over 65 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects.

**Do not be alarmed by the following list of side effects. You may not experience any of them.**

**Ask your doctor to answer any questions you may have.**

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

- nausea, vomiting
- diarrhoea
- stomach pain
- pain at infusion site.

The above list includes the more common side effects of your medicine.

**If any of the following happen, tell your doctor or nurse immediately or go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital:**

- tingling or numbness of the hands or feet
- weakness or heaviness of the legs or limp muscles
- a lack in mental and physical alertness and activity
- mental confusion
- dizziness or light-headedness
- changes in heart rate
- slow or irregular heart beat.

The above list includes very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation. These side effects are very rare.

**Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

Some of these side effects can only be found when your doctor does tests from time to time to check your progress.

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## After being given Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection

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### Storage

Potassium Chloride Concentrated 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.

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection will be opened when it is time for you to have the injection.

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## Product description

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### What it looks like

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is a clear, colourless solution in a clear glass vial sealed with a grey rubber stopper and aluminium seal with a black plastic flip off cap.

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is available in a 10mL vial.

### Ingredients

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection contains 2.23g/10mL of potassium chloride in water for injections with sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid for pH adjustment.

This medicine does not contain lactose, sucrose, gluten, tartrazine, dyes or any preservatives.

### Manufacturer

Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection is made in Australia by:  
**Phebra Pty Ltd**  
19 Orion Road  
Lane Cove West, NSW 2066  
Australia



Potassium Chloride Concentrated Injection 2.23g/10ml (22.3%)  
10mL vial  
AUST R 23073  
Phebra product code- INJ014

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