

# DIGOXIN IMMUNE FAB

SYNONYMS	Digoxin immune Fab (ovine)	
BRAND NAME	DIGIFAB	
DRUG CLASS	Antidote to digoxin	
AVAILABILITY	Vial contains 40 mg of digoxin immune Fab fragments (derived from sheep). Also contains mannitol and sodium acetate. <sup>1</sup>	
WARNING	Digifab causes a false elevation in serum digoxin concentrations for several days, or longer in patients with renal impairment. <sup>1,2</sup>	
pH	4.5–5.5 when reconstituted <sup>1</sup>	
PREPARATION	Reconstitute each vial with 4 mL of water for injections. Mix gently. The concentration is approximately 10 mg/mL. The solution is clear to slightly opalescent and colourless to pale yellow. <sup>1</sup>	
STABILITY	Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Do not freeze. <sup>1</sup> Reconstituted solution: stable for 4 hours at 2 to 8 °C. <sup>3</sup> Infusion solution: use immediately. <sup>1</sup>	
ADMINISTRATION		
<b>IM injection</b>	Not recommended <sup>1</sup>	
<b>SUBCUT injection</b>	Not recommended <sup>1</sup>	
<b>IV injection</b>	If cardiac arrest has occurred or is imminent inject undiluted over 3 to 5 minutes. <sup>1,2</sup>	
<b>IV infusion</b>	Preferred if the patient is not in cardiac arrest. Dilute the dose with 50–100 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% and infuse over 30 minutes. <sup>1,2</sup>	
<b>IV use for infants and children</b>	Use the 10 mg/mL reconstituted solution or dilute further with 36 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% to make a concentration of 1 mg/mL. Infuse the dose over at least 30 minutes. <sup>1</sup> If cardiac arrest is imminent inject the dose undiluted over 3 to 5 minutes. <sup>1</sup>	
COMPATIBILITY		
<b>Fluids</b>	Sodium chloride 0.9% <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Y-site</b>	No information	
INCOMPATIBILITY	No information	
SPECIAL NOTES	The dose depends on whether the poisoning is acute or chronic and whether the patient is in cardiac arrest (or arrest is imminent) or not. <b>Initial doses</b> are given below, seek advice from a clinical toxicologist. <sup>2</sup>	
	<b>Patient in cardiac arrest</b>	<b>Patient not in cardiac arrest</b>
Acute poisoning	5 vials by IV injection	2 vials by IV infusion
Chronic poisoning	2 vials by IV injection	1 vial by IV infusion
	Monitor the patient for 12 hours after giving digoxin immune Fab for acute digoxin poisoning and until cardiac effects have resolved for chronic poisoning. <sup>2</sup>	
	Temperature, blood pressure, potassium concentration and continuous cardiac monitoring are recommended. <sup>1</sup>	
	Each vial will bind approximately 0.5 mg of digoxin. <sup>1</sup>	

## REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available from [www.tga.gov.au](http://www.tga.gov.au). Accessed 06/06/2019.
2. Toxicology: Digoxin [August 2020]. In: eTG complete [internet]. Melbourne: Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd; August 2020.
3. DigiFab. US prescribing information. West Conshohocken, PA: BTG International. Approved 2001. Updated January 2012. Available from [www.dailymed.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.dailymed.nlm.nih.gov).