IMMUNOGLOBULIN, TETANUS

BRAND NAME	TETANUS IMMUNOGLOBULIN-VF
DRUG CLASS	Immunoglobulin
AVAILABILITY	**Tetanus Immunoglobulin-VF IM** vial contains human immunoglobulin with 250 international units of tetanus antitoxin activity. Also contains glycine.[1] The solution is clear, colourless and thick.[2] **Tetanus Immunoglobulin-VF IV** vial contains human immunoglobulin with 4000 international units of tetanus antitoxin activity. Also contains maltose.[1] The solution is clear and colourless.[2]
WARNING	Immunoglobulins are blood products. Check your local guidelines for handling, storage and batch recording requirements. Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis may occur.[1]
pH	Tetanus immunoglobulin IM - 6.6[1] Tetanus immunoglobulin IV - 4.25[1]
PREPARATION	Ready to use. Allow the vial to reach room temperature before use.[1]
STABILITY	Vial: store at 2 to 8 °C. Protect from light. Do not freeze.[1]
ADMINISTRATION	
IM injection	Suitable in the management of tetanus-prone wounds. **Use Tetanus Immunoglobulin IM**. Inject slowly into the deltoid, lateral thigh or gluteal muscle.[1] The preferred site will depend on the volume of the injection. If the volume of the dose is more than 5 mL use two different sites.[1] Give the immunoglobulin injection at different site to the vaccine.[1] May be mixed with hyaluronidase or a local anaesthetic if required.[1]
SUBCUT injection	Not recommended
IV injection	Not recommended
IV infusion	Suitable in the treatment of tetanus. **Use Tetanus Immunoglobulin IV**.[1] Start the infusion at a rate of 1 mL/minute for the first 15 minutes. If tolerated, slowly increase to a maximum of 4 mL/minute over the next 15 minutes.[1] May be infused undiluted or diluted up to 4 times volume with a compatible fluid.[1]
COMPATIBILITY	**Tetanus Immunoglobulin IV only**: glucose 5%[1], sodium chloride 0.9%[1] Do not mix with other fluids or medicines[1]
INCOMPATIBILITY	No information
SPECIAL NOTES	Tetanus vaccine is given at the same time as the immunoglobulin, at a different site.[1,3] For **Tetanus Immunoglobulin IV**: monitor for infusion reactions including hypotension, abdominal pain, headache, flushing, chest tightness, dyspnoea, rash, nausea and vomiting. Stop or slow the infusion if necessary and restart at a slower rate once symptoms have resolved.[1] Infusion reaction are most common in the first hour and with faster rates.[1] Delayed reactions can occur up to 24 hours after the infusion and include nausea, vomiting, chest pain, rigors and aching legs.[1] Anaphylactic reactions are rare but are a medical emergency. Stop the infusion and treat accordingly.[1]

REFERENCES

1. Product information. Available at www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 21/08/2020.
2. Consumer medicine information. Available at www.tga.gov.au. Accessed 24/08/2020.
3. Tetanus. In: Australian Immunisation Handbook. Canberra: Department of Health; 2018. Available at www.immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au. Accessed 21/08/2020.