

## CALCIUM GLUCONATE

<b>THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS</b>	<p>Essential for the transmission of nerve impulses that initiate the contraction of cardiac muscle. Calcium gluconate is a specific antagonist of the adverse effects of potassium. Onset of action is 1-3 minutes, duration is 30-50 minutes.</p>
<b>INDICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Renal patient with suspected hyperkalemia associated with <b>bradycardia</b> and hypotension or an unstable cardiac arrhythmia</li> <li>2. Calcium channel blocker overdose associated with bradycardia and hypotension or unstable arrhythmia</li> <li>3. <b>Crush injury syndrome</b> prior to release of compression or if, at any time, the patient has hypotension and bradycardia associated with EKG evidence of hyperkalemia</li> </ol>
<b>CONTRAINDICATIONS</b>	<p>Calcium gluconate should not be used during resuscitation efforts unless hyperkalemia, hypocalcemia, or calcium channel blocker toxicity is suspected.</p>
<b>PRECAUTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS</b>	<p>Use with extreme caution in patients known to take digoxin, as life threatening arrhythmias can result.</p> <p>Use a large secure vein; SQ infiltration can cause tissue necrosis. Flush the line before and after use, as calcium gluconate is incompatible with Sodium Bicarbonate.</p>
<b>ADULT DOSAGE/ROUTE</b>	<p>20 ml of 10% calcium gluconate IV/IO administered slowly over 1-2 minutes.</p>