

CALCIUM GLUCONATE
(KAL-see-um GLUE-koh-nayt)
Kalcinate

PHARMACOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION:

-calcium supplement/salt

THERAPEUTIC CLASSIFICATION:

-agent for electrolyte balance
-cardiotonic

MECHANISM OF ACTION:

-causes a significant increase in the myocardial contractile force and increases ventricular automaticity
-calcium is essential for maintaining the functional integrity of the nervous, muscular, and skeletal systems, and for cell membrane and capillary permeability

INDICATIONS:

-adjunct to treat insect bites or stings to relieve muscle cramping
-depression due to magnesium overdose
-hyperkalemia to antagonize cardiac toxicity
-hypocalcemia

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

-IV or SC use due to severe tissue necrosis, sloughing, and abscess formation
-hypercalcemia

DOSAGE:

-2.3—9.3 mEq (5—20 mL of the 10% solution)

SPECIAL INFORMATION:

-calcium gluconate is one-third the strength of calcium chloride
-should not be mixed with bicarbonates, sulfates, or phosphates (precipitate formation)