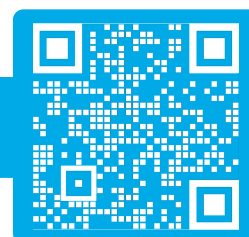


# Functional Properties of Human Cytomegalovirus Hyperimmunoglobulin and Standard Immunoglobulin Preparations

Germer M, Herbener P, Schüttrumpf J.

*Ann Transplant.* 2016;21:558-564. doi: 10.12659/aot.898050

Scan the QR code to read the study



## DISCLAIMER:

*The contents of this reprint carrier are based on a study that examined the functionality of cytomegalovirus hyperimmunoglobulin (CMV-HIG) preparations, including Cytogam and IVIg preparations, some of which are not available commercially in the United States. This reprint is provided for your information and education only. The conclusions of the study, including those regarding binding and neutralizing activity, should not be used to draw conclusions about clinical efficacy or safety of the products presented, nor should they be used to compare products in the clinical setting. Please see Limitations on back page.*

## INDICATION FOR CYTOGAM

Cytogam® (Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous [Human]) (CMV-IGIV) is indicated for the prophylaxis of cytomegalovirus disease associated with transplantation of kidney, lung, liver, pancreas, and heart. In transplants of these organs other than kidney from CMV seropositive donors into seronegative recipients, prophylactic CMV-IGIV should be considered in combination with ganciclovir.

## SELECTED IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM

Cytogam is contraindicated in individuals with a history of a prior severe reaction associated with the administration of this or other human immunoglobulin preparations. Persons with selective immunoglobulin A deficiency have the potential for developing antibodies to immunoglobulin A and could have anaphylactic reactions to subsequent administration of blood products that contain immunoglobulin A, including Cytogam.

Please see additional selected Important Safety Information throughout and [full Prescribing Information here](#).

# Comparing the Functionality of Both Cytogam & Cytotect CP CMV-HIG Preparations to 2 IVIg Preparations

## Introduction

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection is a major challenge following solid organ transplantation (SOT), which may be mitigated by treatment with CMV hyperimmunoglobulin (CMV-HIG) preparations. This study reports results of a comprehensive functional assessment of the Cytotect® CP (human cytomegalovirus immunoglobulin [CMVlg]) and Cytogam (human cytomegalovirus immunoglobulin [CMVlg]) preparations and 2 polyspecific intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) products, based on CMV-specific immunoglobulin G (IgG) immunological assays and neutralizing antibody titers.

## Methods

Two CMV-HIG preparations were analyzed: Cytogam and Cytotect CP.\* Based on the availability of samples, 3 lots of Cytogam and 2 lots of Cytotect CP were assessed.

In addition, single lots of 2 standard IVIg products were also analyzed: Ig VENA® (human normal immunoglobulin [IVIg]) and Flebogamma® (human normal immunoglobulin [IVIg]).† The Ig VENA and Flebogamma preparations were considered representative of standard IVIg products and are referred to herein as IVIg 1 and IVIg 2, respectively.

CMV-specific IgG antibody levels were determined by enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA); avidity indices were determined using a CMV IgG avidity enzyme immunoassay; binding of antigenic CMV glycoproteins was determined using immunoblot assays; and neutralization titers were determined by anti-CMV microneutralization assays. The Paul Ehrlich Institute (PEI) reference preparation CMV IgG (12/1996) was used for normalization of binding assays.

Primary outcomes were the functionality of:

- CMV-specific IgG antibody concentration
- CMV IgG avidity
- Neutralization titer

\*The Cytotect CP formulation replaced an earlier preparation in which viral inactivation treatment with  $\beta$ -propiolactone induced modifications of some amino acids, particularly the highly labile Fc fragment of IgG. Other modifications to the original plasma fractionation and purification processes were also implemented. These changes have been shown to enhance the immunomodulatory properties of Cytotect CP, including greater inhibition of allogeneic T-cell proliferation and cytokine production than in the original Cytotect product.

†Ig VENA and Flebogamma are standard intravenous (polyspecific) Ig (IVIg) products that are not specific to CMV antigens and are used off-label by some transplant centers for CMV prophylaxis. In these polyspecific products, the concentration of CMV IgG antibodies is not standardized within a given product.

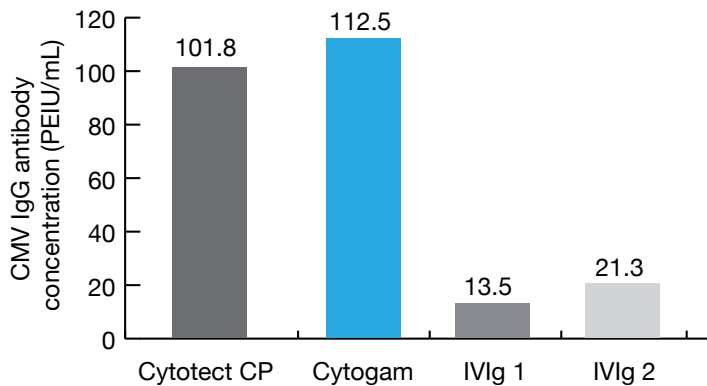
## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM (CONTINUED)

Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) products have been reported to be associated with renal dysfunction, acute renal failure, osmotic nephrosis, and death. Patients predisposed to acute renal failure include patients with any degree of preexisting renal insufficiency, diabetes mellitus, age greater than 65, volume depletion, sepsis, paraproteinemia, or patients receiving known nephrotoxic drugs. Especially in such patients, IGIV products should be administered at the minimum concentrations available and the minimum rate of infusion practicable. Agents containing sucrose as a stabilizer (Cytogam contains sucrose) have been associated with reports of renal dysfunction given at daily doses of 350 mg/kg or greater.

# Results

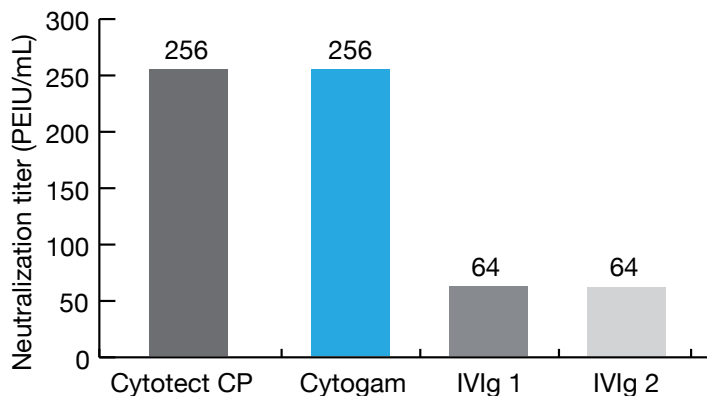
## CMV-specific antibody titers were 5- to 8-fold higher in Cytogam vs the IVIg preparations

### CMV IgG concentration was higher compared to standard IVIGs



CMV-specific IgG antibody concentration. Data are shown as medians for all lots tested (Cytotect CP, n=2; Cytogam, n=3; IVIg 1, n=1; IVIg 2, n=1). Values (PEIU/mL) for individual lots were: Cytotect CP, 111.8, 91.7; Cytogam, 112.9, 85.5, 131.2; IVIg 1, 13.5; IVIg 2, 21.3. CMV, cytomegalovirus; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IVIg, intravenous (polyspecific) Ig; PEIU, Paul Ehrlich Institute units.

### Cytogam has markedly higher (4-fold) neutralizing activity against CMV than standard IVIGs



Neutralization titer. Data are shown as medians for all lots tested (Cytotect CP, n=2; Cytogam, n=3; IVIg 1, n=1; IVIg 2, n=1). Values (PEIU/mL) for individual lots were: Cytotect CP, 1: 256, 1: 256; Cytogam, 1: 512, 1: 256, 1: 256; IVIg 1, 1: 64; IVIg 2, 1: 64. IVIg, intravenous (polyspecific) Ig; PEIU, Paul Ehrlich Institute units.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM (CONTINUED)

During administration, the patient's vital signs should be monitored continuously, and careful observation made for any symptoms throughout the infusion. Epinephrine and diphenhydramine should be available for the treatment of an acute anaphylactic reaction.

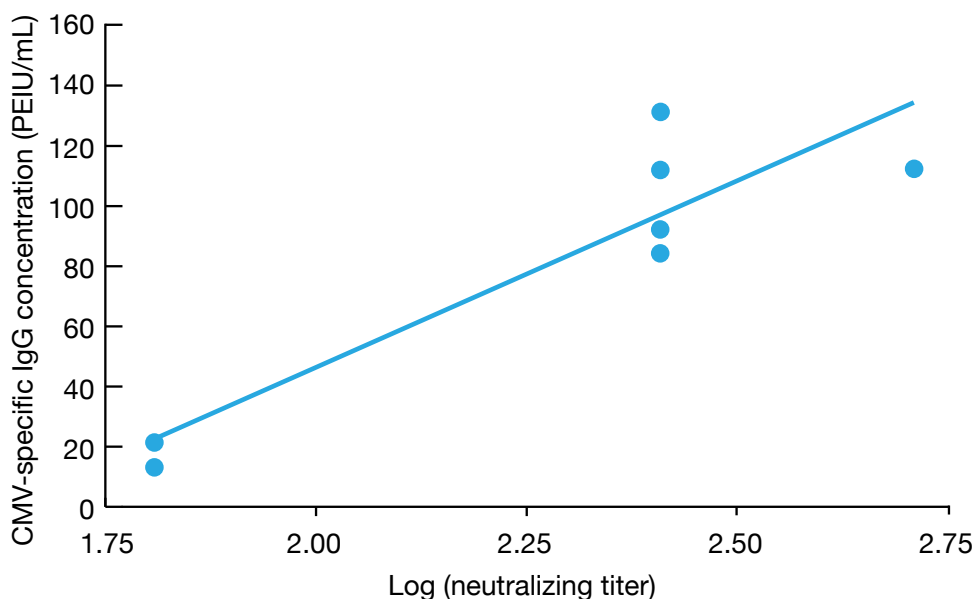
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## Results (continued)

### Cytotect CP and Cytogam antibody concentrations correlated with the CMV neutralization titer

By neutralizing free virus particles, Cytogam prevented infection of cells with CMV



Correlation between CMV-specific IgG antibody concentration and neutralization titer. CMV, cytomegalovirus; IgG, immunoglobulin G; PEIU, Paul Ehrlich Institute units.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM (CONTINUED)

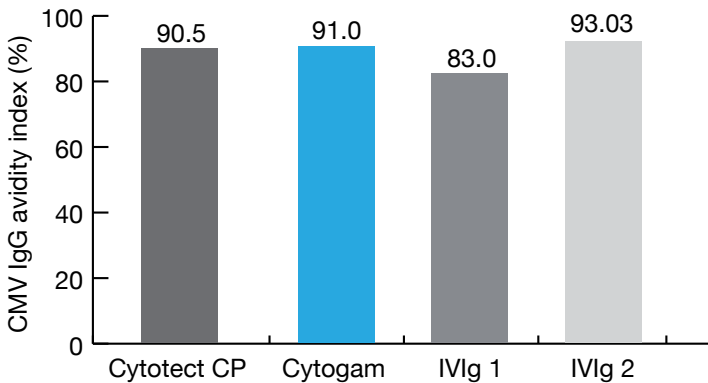
Increases in serum creatinine and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) have been observed as soon as one to two days following IGIV infusion. Progression to oliguria or anuria requiring dialysis has been observed.

Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) products can contain blood group antibodies which may act as hemolysins and induce in vivo coating of red blood cells with immunoglobulin, causing a positive direct antiglobulin reaction and, rarely, hemolysis.

## Avidity (CMV binding) was high across all preparations

Avidity testing showed that CMV-HIG preparations had high CMV binding. CMV binding avidity was also high in the 2 IVIg products, although somewhat lower (83%) in IVIg 1.

### CMV IgG avidity was ~90%



CMV IgG avidity index. Data are shown as medians for all lots tested. Values for individual lots were: Cytotect CP, 91.0%, 90.0%; Cytogam, 94.0%, 91.0%, 89.0%; IVIg 1, 83.0%; IVIg 2, 93.0%. CMV, cytomegalovirus; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IVIg, intravenous (polyspecific) Ig.

## Both CMV IgG preparations demonstrated high binding against all the antigenic CMV glycoproteins tested

Immunoblot assay showed consistently high binding of both CMV-HIG preparations against all the antigenic CMV glycoproteins tested. Recognition of certain antigens (IE1, CM2, and p65) was weaker for the 2 IVIg products.

### Results of immunoblot assay for binding against antigenic CMV glycoproteins

Product	Antigen					
	IE1	P150	CM2	P65	gB1	gB2
Cytotect CP	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Cytogam	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
IVIg 1	++	+++	+	++	+++	+++
IVIg 2	++	+++	+	++	+++	+++

Intensity of binding: += weak; +=well visible; +++=very strong.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM (CONTINUED)

Cytogam is derived from human plasma. As with all plasma-derived products, the risk of transmission of infectious agents, including viruses and, theoretically, the Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agent, cannot be completely eliminated.

Please see additional selected Important Safety Information throughout and [full Prescribing Information here](#).



# Conclusions

This publication demonstrates the correlation between CMV antibody titer and the virus neutralization titer, the second of which is a more biologically relevant measure of anti-CMV efficacy for immunoglobulins.

- Cytogam was found to have CMV-specific antibody titers that were 5- to 8-fold higher than the polyspecific IVIGs
- Cytogam's neutralizing activity was 4-fold higher than that of the 2 polyspecific IVIG preparations
- The 2 CMV hyperimmune immunoglobulin products do not appear to differ in terms of functional activity, whereas the tested polyspecific IVIGs were found to have lower binding activity and relatively less recognition of the tested CMV-specific glycoproteins

## LIMITATIONS:

Limitations of the study include the following:

- This study tested 2 lots of Cytotect CP and 3 lots of Cytogam, respectively, and 1 lot of each of the 2 polyspecific IVIGs tested. These lots are representative of commercially released lots, and there may be lot-to-lot variation in the results
- Studies were conducted using commercially available assays, with some assays conducted in the authors' laboratories. Results may vary when studies are conducted in different laboratories

Cytotect CP is a registered trademark of Biotest.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR CYTOGAM (CONTINUED)

Minor reactions, such as flushing, chills, muscle cramps, back pain, fever, nausea, vomiting, arthralgia, and wheezing, were the most frequent adverse reactions observed during the clinical trials for Cytogam.

**Please see full Prescribing Information for full prescribing details.**

**To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Kamada at [pharmacovigilance@kamada.com](mailto:pharmacovigilance@kamada.com) or 1-866-916-0077 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).**



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**Kamada Ltd.****CytoGam®  
Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human)****Liquid Formulation  
Solvent Detergent Treated****R<sub>x</sub> only****DESCRIPTION**

CytoGam®, Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) (CMV-IGIV), is an immunoglobulin G (IgG) containing a standardized amount of antibody to Cytomegalovirus (CMV). CMV-IGIV is formulated in final vial as a sterile liquid. The globulin is stabilized with 5% sucrose and 1% Albumin (Human). CytoGam® contains no preservative. The purified immunoglobulin is derived from pooled adult human plasma selected for high titers of antibody for Cytomegalovirus (CMV) (1). Source material for fractionation may be obtained from another U.S. licensed manufacturer. Pooled plasma was fractionated by ethanol precipitation of the proteins according to Cohn Methods 6 and 9, modified to yield a product suitable for intravenous administration. A widely utilized solvent-detergent viral inactivation process is also used (2). Certain manufacturing operations may be performed by other firms. Each milliliter contains: 50 ± 10 mg of immunoglobulin, primarily IgG, and trace amounts of IgA and IgM; 50 mg of sucrose; 10 mg of Albumin (Human). The sodium content is 20-30 mEq per liter, i.e., 0.4-0.6 mEq per 20 mL or 1.0-1.5 mEq per 50 mL. The solution should appear colorless and translucent.

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

CytoGam® contains IgG antibodies representative of the large number of normal persons who contributed to the plasma pools from which the product was derived. The globulin contains a relatively high concentration of antibodies directed against Cytomegalovirus (CMV). In the case of persons who may be exposed to CMV, CytoGam® can raise the relevant antibodies to levels sufficient to attenuate or reduce the incidence of serious CMV disease.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) is indicated for the prophylaxis of cytomegalovirus disease associated with transplantation of kidney, lung, liver, pancreas and heart. In transplants of these organs other than kidney from CMV seropositive donors into seronegative recipients, prophylactic CMV-IGIV should be considered in combination with ganciclovir.

## CLINICAL STUDIES

Clinical studies have shown a 50% reduction in primary CMV disease in renal transplant patients given CMV-IGIV (3) and a 56% reduction in serious CMV disease (4) in liver transplant patients given CMV-IGIV. CMV-IGIV prophylaxis was associated with increased survival in liver transplant recipients (5).

In two separate clinical trials, CytoGam® was shown to provide effective prophylaxis in renal transplant recipients at risk for primary CMV disease. In the first randomized trial, (3) the incidence of virologically confirmed CMV-associated syndromes was reduced from 60% in controls (n=35) to 21% in recipients of CMV immune globulin (n=24) ( $P < 0.01$ ); marked leukopenia was reduced from 37% in controls to 4% in globulin recipients ( $P < 0.01$ ); and fungal or parasitic superinfections were not seen in globulin recipients but occurred in 20% of controls ( $P = 0.05$ ). Serious CMV disease was reduced from 46% to 13%. There was a concomitant but not statistically significant reduction in the incidence of CMV pneumonia (17% of controls as compared with 4% of globulin recipients). There was no effect on rates of viral isolation or seroconversion although the rate of viremia was less in CytoGam® recipients. In a subsequent non-randomized trial in renal transplant recipients (n=36) (6), the incidence of virologically confirmed CMV-associated syndrome was reduced to 36% in the globulin recipients in comparison to a 60% incidence in control patients (n=35) in the randomized trial. The rates of serious CMV disease, and concomitant fungal and parasitic superinfection were similar to patients receiving CMV-IGIV in the first trial.

In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in liver transplant recipients (4), the incidence of serious CMV-associated disease was reduced from 26% in the 72 control patients to 12% in the 69 CMV-IGIV recipients ( $p=0.02$ ); serious CMV-associated disease included CMV disease in 2 or more organs, CMV pneumonia, or CMV-associated invasive fungal infection, the incidence of which was 18% in controls and 7% in CMV-IGIV recipients ( $p=0.04$ ). In follow-up (5) of the liver transplant patients studied in this randomized controlled trial and a subsequent open-label trial (7), the one year survival of the 72 control patients was 72% versus 86% in the 90 recipients of CMV-IGIV ( $p=0.03$ ). In the randomized control trial, the reduction in serious CMV-associated disease in CMV seronegative recipients of livers from a CMV seropositive donor (7/19 in the CMV-IGIV group vs. 9/19 in control) was less than in transplants with other donor and recipient serologic status (1/50 in the CMV-IGIV group vs. 10/53 in the control group). This finding was similar to that of Merigan et al. (8) in a study of ganciclovir prophylaxis after heart transplantation. In this study, patients received ganciclovir IV at 5 mg/kg twice a day for the initial 14 days post-transplant, then at 6 mg/kg each day for 5 days per week through day 28.

Recent studies of combined prophylaxis with CMV-IGIV and ganciclovir have shown reductions in the incidence of serious CMV associated disease in CMV seronegative recipients of CMV seropositive organs below that expected from one drug alone (9-12).



Ham et al. (9) used CMV-IGIV with a dosage schedule of 150 mg/kg CMV-IGIV within 72 hours of transplant; 100 mg/kg at two, four, six and eight weeks following liver transplant and then 50 mg/kg at 12 and 16 weeks post-transplant in combination with ganciclovir (10 mg/kg/day for 14 days). The incidence of CMV disease was reduced from an expected 60- 80% rate to 7% in 15 seronegative recipients of a seropositive organ.

Snydman (10) using the CMV-IGIV dosage schedule listed under *DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION* section in combination with ganciclovir (10 mg/kg/day for 14 days) reduced the incidence of serious CMV disease in D+R- liver transplant recipients receiving placebo or one drug from 16/47 (34%) to 3/41 (7%) in patients receiving both drugs for prophylaxis.

Martin (11) using CMV-IGIV 100 mg/kg every two weeks for six weeks followed by 50 mg/kg every two weeks with a final dose at week 16, in combination with ganciclovir 10 mg/kg/day for 14 days after transplantation, observed severe CMV disease in 1/74 (1%) of CMV seronegative recipients of a kidney from a CMV seropositive donor, in 0/14 (0%) of CMV seronegative recipients of a kidney-pancreas transplant from a CMV seropositive donor and in 1/12 (8%) of CMV seronegative recipients of a liver from a CMV seropositive donor. The incidence of serious CMV disease with combined CMV-IGIV and ganciclovir prophylaxis was lower than previous experience with single drug prophylaxis.

Valantine and Luikart (12) compared prophylaxis with CMV-IGIV (biweekly for three months) in combination with ganciclovir prophylaxis (IV at 5 mg/kg twice a day for the initial 14 days post-transplant, then at 6 mg/kg through day 28) in 16 CMV seronegative recipients of hearts from CMV seropositive donors with 16 matched controls receiving ganciclovir alone. The actuarial incidence of CMV disease was reduced from 55% in the ganciclovir group to 46% in the combined group ( $p \leq 0.06$ ) and survival was increased from 61% to 94% ( $p \leq 0.001$ ). In heart- lung or lung transplant patients in whom either the donor or recipient was CMV seropositive, the actuarial incidence of CMV disease in patients receiving ganciclovir alone ( $n=25$ ) was 85% as compared to 36% of the 33 patients receiving both CMV-IGIV and ganciclovir ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). Survival was 60% in the ganciclovir group and 80% in patients receiving CMV-IGIV and ganciclovir ( $p \leq 0.01$ ).

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

CytoGam® should not be used in individuals with a history of a prior severe reaction associated with the administration of this or other human immunoglobulin preparations. Persons with selective immunoglobulin A deficiency have the potential for developing antibodies to immunoglobulin A and could have anaphylactic reactions to subsequent administration of blood products that contain immunoglobulin A, including CytoGam®.

## WARNINGS

Because CMV-IGIV is made from human blood, it may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents, e.g., viruses, the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) agent and, theoretically, the Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agent. The risk of transmission of recognized blood-borne viruses is considered to be low because of the viral inactivation and removal properties in the Cohn-Oncley cold ethanol

precipitation procedure used for purification of immune globulin products (13-15). Until 1993, cold ethanol manufactured immune globulins licensed in the United States had not been documented to transmit any viral agent. However, during a brief period in late 1993 to early 1994, intravenous immune globulin made by one U.S. manufacturer was associated with transmission of Hepatitis C virus (16). To further guard against possible transmission of blood-borne viruses, including Hepatitis C, CMV-IGIV is treated with a solvent detergent viral inactivation procedure (2) known to inactivate a wide spectrum of lipid enveloped viruses, including HIV-1, HIV-2, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C (17). However, because new blood-borne viruses may yet emerge, some of which may not be inactivated by the manufacturing process or by solvent detergent treatment, CMV-IGIV, like any other blood product, should be given only if a benefit is expected.

Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) products have been reported to be associated with renal dysfunction, acute renal failure, osmotic nephrosis and death (18-25). Patients predisposed to acute renal failure include patients with any degree of pre-existing renal insufficiency, diabetes mellitus, age greater than 65, volume depletion, sepsis, paraproteinemia or patients receiving known nephrotoxic drugs. Especially in such patients, IGIV products should be administered at the minimum concentrations available and the minimum rate of infusion practicable. While these reports of renal dysfunction and acute renal failure have been associated with the use of many IGIV products, those containing sucrose as a stabilizer (and given at daily doses of 350 mg/kg or greater) account for a disproportionate share of the total number (18). CytoGam® contains sucrose as a stabilizer. See *PRECAUTIONS* and *DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION* sections for important information intended to reduce the risk of acute renal failure.

During administration, the patient's vital signs should be monitored continuously and careful observation made for any symptoms throughout the infusion. Epinephrine should be available for the treatment of an acute anaphylactic reaction (see *PRECAUTIONS* section).

## **PRECAUTIONS**

### **General:**

CytoGam® does not contain a preservative. The vial should be entered only once for administration purposes and the infusion should begin within 6 hours. The infusion schedule should be adhered to closely (see Infusion section). Do not use if the solution is turbid.

Although systemic allergic reactions are rare (see *ADVERSE REACTIONS* section), epinephrine and diphenhydramine should be available for treatment of acute allergic symptoms. If hypotension or anaphylaxis occur, the administration of the immunoglobulin should be discontinued immediately and an antidote should be given as noted above.

### **Renal Function:**

Assure that patients are not volume depleted prior to the initiation of IGIV. Periodic monitoring of renal function tests and urine output is particularly important in patients judged to have a potential increased risk for developing acute renal failure. Renal function, including the measurement of blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and serum creatinine should be assessed prior to the

initial infusion of CytoGam® and again at appropriate intervals thereafter. If renal function deteriorates, discontinuation of the product should be considered. The recommended rate of CytoGam® infusion for prophylaxis of CMV disease in solid organ transplant patients is 60 mg Ig/kg/hr (see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)).

**Aseptic Meningitis Syndrome:**

An aseptic meningitis syndrome (AMS) has been reported to occur infrequently in association with Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) (IGIV) treatment (26-29). The syndrome usually begins within several hours to two days following IGIV treatment. It is characterized by symptoms and signs including severe headache, nuchal rigidity, drowsiness, fever, photophobia, painful eye movements, and nausea and vomiting. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) studies are frequently positive with pleocytosis up to several thousand cells per cu.mm., predominantly from the granulocytic series, and elevated protein levels up to several hundred mg/dL. Patients exhibiting such symptoms and signs should receive a thorough neurological examination, including CSF studies, to rule out other causes of meningitis. AMS may occur more frequently in association with high dose (2 g/kg) IGIV treatment. Discontinuation of IGIV treatment has resulted in remission of AMS within several days without sequelae.

**Hemolysis:**

Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) (IGIV) products can contain blood group antibodies which may act as hemolysins and induce *in vivo* coating of red blood cells with immunoglobulin, causing a positive direct antiglobulin reaction and, rarely, hemolysis (30-32). Hemolytic anemia can develop subsequent to IGIV therapy due to enhanced RBC sequestration (33) [See [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)]. IGIV recipients should be monitored for clinical signs and symptoms of hemolysis [See [PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory Tests](#)].

**Transfusion-Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI):**

There have been reports of noncardiogenic pulmonary edema [Transfusion-Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI)] in patients administered IGIV (34). TRALI is characterized by severe respiratory distress, pulmonary edema, hypoxemia, normal left ventricular function, and fever and typically occurs within 1-6 hours after transfusion. Patients with TRALI may be managed using oxygen therapy with adequate ventilatory support.

IGIV recipients should be monitored for pulmonary adverse reactions. If TRALI is suspected, appropriate tests should be performed for the presence of anti-neutrophil antibodies in both the product and patient serum [See [PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory Tests](#)].

**Thrombotic Events:**

Thrombotic events have been reported in association with IGIV (35-37) (See [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)). Patients at risk may include those with a history of atherosclerosis, multiple cardiovascular risk factors, advanced age, impaired cardiac output, and/or known or suspected hyperviscosity. The potential risks and benefits of IGIV should be weighed against those of alternative therapies for all patients for whom IGIV administration is being considered. Baseline assessment of blood viscosity should be considered in patients at risk for hyperviscosity, including those with cryoglobulins, fasting chylomicronemia/markedly high triacylglycerols

(triglycerides), or monoclonal gammopathies [See [PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory Tests](#)].

**Laboratory Tests:**

If signs and/or symptoms of hemolysis are present after IGIV infusion, appropriate confirmatory laboratory testing should be done [See [PRECAUTIONS](#)].

If TRALI is suspected, appropriate tests should be performed for the presence of anti-neutrophil antibodies in both the product and the patient serum [See [PRECAUTIONS](#)].

Because of the potentially increased risk of thrombosis, baseline assessment of blood viscosity should be considered in patients at risk for hyperviscosity, including those with cryoglobulins, fasting chylomicronemia/markedly high triacylglycerols (triglycerides), or monoclonal gammopathies [See [PRECAUTIONS](#)].

**Drug Interactions:**

Antibodies present in immune globulin preparations may interfere with the immune response to live virus vaccines such as measles, mumps, and rubella; therefore, vaccination with live virus vaccines should be deferred until approximately three months after administration of CytoGam®. If such vaccinations were given shortly after CytoGam®, a revaccination may be necessary. Admixtures of CytoGam® with other drugs have not been evaluated. It is recommended that CytoGam® be administered separately from other drugs or medications which the patient may be receiving (see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#) section).

**Pregnancy:**

Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human). It is also not known whether Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can effect reproduction capacity. Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed.

**Information for Patients:**

Patients should be instructed to report all infections directly to their physician and to Kamada at 1(866)916-0077. The risks and benefits of this product should be discussed with the patient.

In addition, patients should be instructed to immediately report symptoms of decreased urine output, sudden weight gain, and/or shortness of breath (which may suggest kidney damage) to their physician.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Minor reactions such as flushing, chills, muscle cramps, back pain, fever, nausea, vomiting, arthralgia, and wheezing were the most frequent adverse reactions observed during the clinical trials of CytoGam®, Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human). The incidence of these reactions during the clinical trials was less than 6.0% of all infusions and such reactions were most often related to infusion rates. A decrease in blood pressure was observed in 1 of 1039 infusions in clinical trials of CytoGam®. If a patient develops a minor side effect, *slow the rate* immediately or temporarily interrupt the infusion.

Increases in serum creatinine and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) have been observed as soon as one to two days following IGIV infusion. Progression to oliguria or anuria requiring dialysis has been observed. Types of severe renal adverse events that have been seen following IGIV therapy include acute renal failure, acute tubular necrosis, proximal tubular nephropathy and osmotic nephrosis (18-25).

Severe reactions such as angioneurotic edema and anaphylactic shock, although not observed during clinical trials, are a possibility. Clinical anaphylaxis may occur even when the patient is not known to be sensitized to immune globulin products. A reaction may be related to the rate of infusion; therefore, carefully adhere to the infusion rates as outlined under “*DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION*.” If anaphylaxis or drop in blood pressure occurs, *discontinue infusion* and use antidote such as diphenhydramine and adrenalin.

**Postmarketing:**

The following adverse reactions have been identified and reported during the post-approval use of IGIV products (38):

**Respiratory:** Apnea, Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), Transfusion Associated Lung Injury (TRALI), cyanosis, hypoxemia, pulmonary edema, dyspnea, bronchospasm

**Cardiovascular:** Cardiac arrest, thromboembolism, vascular collapse, hypotension

**Neurological:** Coma, loss of consciousness, seizures, tremor

**Integumentary:** Stevens-Johnson syndrome, epidermolysis, erythema multiforme, bullous dermatitis

**Hematologic:** Pancytopenia, leukopenia, hemolysis, positive direct antiglobulin (Coombs) test

**General/Body as a Whole:** Pyrexia, Rigors

**Musculoskeletal:** Back pain

**Gastrointestinal:** Hepatic dysfunction, abdominal pain

Because postmarketing reporting of these reactions is voluntary and the at-risk populations are of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate the frequency of the reaction or establish a causal relationship to exposure to the product. Such is also the case with literature reports authored independently.

**OVERDOSAGE**

Although few data are available, clinical experience with other immunoglobulin preparations suggests that the major manifestations would be those related to volume overload.

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The maximum recommended total dosage per infusion is 150 mg Ig/kg, administered according to the following schedule:

	<u>Type of Transplant</u>	
	Kidney	Liver, Pancreas, Lung, Heart
Within 72 hours of transplant:	150 mg/kg	150 mg/kg
2 weeks post transplant:	100 mg/kg	150 mg/kg
4 weeks post transplant:	100 mg/kg	150 mg/kg
6 weeks post transplant:	100 mg/kg	150 mg/kg
8 weeks post transplant:	100 mg/kg	150 mg/kg
12 weeks post transplant:	50 mg/kg	100 mg/kg
16 weeks post transplant:	50 mg/kg	100 mg/kg

*Preparation for Administration.* Remove the tab portion of the vial cap and clean the rubber stopper with 70% alcohol or equivalent. DO NOT SHAKE VIAL; AVOID FOAMING.

Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration whenever solution and container permit. Infuse the solution only if it is colorless, free of particulate matter and not turbid.

*Infusion.* Infusion should begin within 6 hours after entering the vial and should be complete within 12 hours of entering the vial. Vital signs should be taken preinfusion, mid-way and post- infusion as well as before any rate increase. CytoGam® should be administered through an intravenous line using an administration set that contains an in-line filter (pore size 15 $\mu$ ) and a constant infusion pump (i.e., IVAC pump or equivalent). A smaller in-line filter (0.2 $\mu$ ) is also acceptable. Pre-dilution of CytoGam® before infusion is not recommended. CytoGam® should be administered through a separate intravenous line. If this is not possible, CytoGam® may be “piggybacked” into a pre-existing line if that line contains either Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, or one of the following dextrose solutions (with or without NaCl added): 2.5% dextrose in water, 5% dextrose in water, 10% dextrose in water, 20% dextrose in water. If a pre-existing line must be used, the CytoGam® should not be diluted more than 1:2 with any of the above- named solutions. Admixtures of CytoGam® with any other solutions have not been evaluated.

*Initial Dose.* Administer intravenously at 15 mg Ig per kg body weight per hour. If no adverse reactions occur after 30 minutes, the rate may be increased to 30 mg Ig/kg/hr; if no adverse reactions occur after a subsequent 30 minutes, then the infusion may be increased to 60 mg Ig/kg/hr (volume not to exceed 75 mL/hour). DO NOT EXCEED THIS RATE OF ADMINISTRATION. The patient should be monitored closely during and after each rate change.

*Subsequent Doses.* Administer at 15 mg Ig/kg/hr for 15 minutes. If no adverse reactions occur, increase to 30 mg Ig/kg/hr for 15 minutes and then increase to a maximum rate of 60 mg Ig/kg/hr (volume not to exceed 75 mL/hour). DO NOT EXCEED THIS RATE OF ADMINISTRATION.

The patient should be monitored closely during each rate change.

CytoGam® should be used with caution in patients with pre-existing renal insufficiency and in patients judged to be at increased risk of developing renal insufficiency (including, but not limited to those with diabetes mellitus, age greater than 65, volume depletion, paraproteinemia, sepsis and patients receiving known nephrotoxic drugs). In these cases especially, it is important to assure that patients are not volume depleted prior to CytoGam® infusion. While most cases of renal insufficiency have occurred in patients receiving total doses of 350 mg Ig/kg or greater, no prospective data are presently available to identify a maximum safe dose, concentration or rate of infusion in patients determined to be at increased risk of acute renal failure. In the absence of prospective data, recommended doses should not be exceeded and the concentration and infusion rate selected should be the minimum practicable.

Potential adverse reactions are: flushing, chills, muscle cramps, back pain, fever, nausea, vomiting, wheezing, drop in blood pressure. Minor adverse reactions have been infusion rate related – if the patient develops a minor side effect (i.e., nausea, back pain, flushing), slow the rate or temporarily interrupt the infusion. If anaphylaxis or drop in blood pressure occurs, discontinue infusion and use antidote such as diphenhydramine and adrenalin.

To prevent the transmission of hepatitis viruses or other infectious agents from one person to another, sterile disposable syringes and needles should be used. The syringes and needles should not be reused.

## HOW SUPPLIED

CytoGam®, Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human), is supplied in one single-dose vial (50 mg/mL). The product presentation includes a carton with a package insert and the following component:

<b>NDC</b>	<b>Component</b>
49591-532-51	CYTOGAM in a single-dose vial [NDC 49591-532-50]

## STORAGE

CytoGam® should be stored between 2-8°C (36-46°F) and used within 6 hours after entering the vial.

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To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Kamada at 1(866)916-0077 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

If you are having a medical emergency, please contact your healthcare provider or seek medical attention immediately.

For additional information concerning Cytomegalovirus Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human) contact:

Kamada Ltd.  
1(866)916-0077

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Revised 09/2022