

UNIT BASED CALCULATION

Drugs like insulin, heparin are available in form of units to administer such medication nurse must be aware of how to calculate unit based drug calculation. The following are the steps involved in unit dose calculation.

Steps:

Determine the amount of medication per ml

Determine the infusion rate or ml/hour

Unit based calculation

- 1) The consultant has ordered continuous heparin sodium by IV at 1000 units per hour. IV D5W 500ml with 20,000 units of heparin. How many ml/hr?

$$\text{Sol: } \frac{20,000 \text{ units}}{500\text{ml}} = 40 \text{ units/ ml} = \frac{1000 \text{ ml}}{40 \text{ units}} \quad \text{Ans} = \mathbf{25 \text{ ml/hr}}$$