

## DOBUTAMINE

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| <b>PRESENTATION :</b>              | Vials containing 250mg in 50ml (5mg/ml) dobutamine  |
| <b>INDICATION :</b>                | Inotropic support in severe heart failure, cardiogenic shock and septic shock   |
| <b>DOSE &amp; ADMINISTRATION :</b> | <p>ICU STANDARD INTRAVENOUS INFUSION</p> <p>50ml of ready to use (UNDILUTED) dobutamine 250mg in 50ml. Spike vial and administer via volumetric infusion pump.</p> <p>Initially, 2.5microgram/kg/min (2.1ml/hour for a 70kg patient) titrated to required level. Tachycardia may limit therapy.</p> <p>Doses up to 40microgram/kg/min (33.6ml/hr for a 70kg patient) have been used.</p> <p>Infuse through a central venous catheter.</p> |

**Example calculation table using a 250mg in 50ml (5mg in 1ml) dobutamine dilution:** the following table gives examples of the infusion rate (ml per hour) required for different doses and patient weights.

| Dosage<br>(microgram/kg/minute) | Patient's body weight |           |           |         |           |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
|                                 | 40kg                  | 60kg      | 80kg      | 100kg   | 120kg     | 140kg     |
| 2.5                             | 1.2ml/hr              | 1.8ml/hr  | 2.4ml/hr  | 3ml/hr  | 3.6ml/hr  | 4.2ml/hr  |
| 5                               | 2.4ml/hr              | 3.6ml/hr  | 4.8ml/hr  | 6ml/hr  | 7.2ml/hr  | 8.4ml/hr  |
| 7.5                             | 3.6ml/hr              | 5.4ml/hr  | 7.2ml/hr  | 9ml/hr  | 10.8ml/hr | 12.6ml/hr |
| 10                              | 4.8ml/hr              | 7.2ml/hr  | 9.6ml/hr  | 12ml/hr | 14.4ml/hr | 16.8ml/hr |
| 15                              | 7.2ml/hr              | 10.8ml/hr | 14.4ml/hr | 18ml/hr | 21.6ml/hr | 25.2ml/hr |

NB: If the rate includes a 0.05 figure, the rate should be rounded UP to the next decimal place when setting the infusion pump, e.g. 5.25ml/hour should be rounded up to 5.3ml/hour.

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| <b>CONCENTRATION :</b>          | 5mg/ml  |
| <b>STABILITY :</b>              | Physically and chemically stable for 24hours at room temperature                          |
| <b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :</b> | <p>Do NOT dilute</p> <p>Dose should be gradually decreased when discontinuing therapy</p> |

Critical Care Guidelines  
FOR CRITICAL CARE USE ONLY

**References:**

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