

LABETALOL

PRESENTATION:	Ampoules containing 100mg/20ml (5mg/ml)
INDICATION:	Hypertension. Labetalol has alpha and beta receptor blocking activity.
DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:	<p>ICU STANDARD INFUSION</p> <p>For central administration, labetalol is administered undiluted e.g. 200mg in 40ml.</p> <p>For peripheral administration, dilute to 1mg/ml in glucose 5% or sodium chloride 0.9% e.g. 500mg in 500ml.</p> <p>Initially 15mg/hr, titrated to the required level. Usual maximum rate is 120mg/hour, but higher doses of up to 160mg/hr can be used if necessary.</p> <p>Common practice is to increase the rate of administration every 30 minutes until target blood pressure is achieved. Reduce dose gradually when withdrawing therapy.</p> <p>Glucose 5% is the preferred diluent. (*Sodium chloride 0.9% may be used but is not licensed for all available preparations.)</p>
CONCENTRATION:	<p>Central administration: 5mg/ml (unlicensed)</p> <p>Peripheral administration: 1mg/ml</p>
STABILITY:	Physically and chemically stable for 24hours at room temperature.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	<p>Labetalol has a low pH and may cause venous irritation and tissue damage in cases of extravasation. If a central venous access device is unavailable, administer via a large peripheral vein monitoring insertion site closely. Resite cannula at first signs of inflammation.</p> <p>Use a separate lumen to avoid other infusions affecting the infusion rate.</p>

References:

1. [Labetalol 5mg/ml solution for injection - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#). Last updated on 17/04/2019. Accessed 11/01/2023.
2. [Labetalol 5 mg/ml solution for injection/ infusion - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#). Last updated on 25/05/22. Accessed 11/01/2023.
3. [Labetalol Hydrochloride 5mg/ml Solution for Injection - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#). Last updated on 27/02/2021. Accessed 11/01/2023.
4. Labetalol hydrochloride, The UK Injectable Medicines Guide, Medusa. Accessed 11/01/2023. <https://medusa.wales.nhs.uk/IVGuideDisplayNewFormat.asp>

Critical Care Guidelines: LABETALOL	
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Document Version: 6	Authoriser: Lothian Critical Care Directorate QIT Editorial Board
Authorisation Date: February 2023	Review Date: February 2025

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