

**Critical Care Guidelines
FOR CRITICAL CARE USE ONLY**



**NORADRENALINE (NOREPINEPHRINE) via PERIPHERAL
ADMINISTRATION**

PRESENTATION:	1mg/ml injection: 4ml or 8ml ampoules of noradrenaline base.
Update April 2020: New Pfizer product	Norepinephrine bitartrate 1mg/ml: 4ml vial equivalent to 4ml noradrenaline base.
INDICATION:	Naturally occurring catecholamine primarily used for vasoconstriction. It has some inotropic effects in many cases. It's effect on blood pressure ceases 1-2 minutes after discontinuing.
DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:	<p>ICU STANDARD INTRAVENOUS INFUSION</p> <p>For peripheral administration: Add 4ml of noradrenaline (1mg/m) lto 246ml bag of 5% glucose</p> <p>Start at 0.05mcg/kg/min. Administer via an infusion pump at a rate of 210microgram/hour (13mL/hour of the standard concentration given above, based on a 70kg patient at a starting dose of 0.05microgram/kg/min*). Titrate to desired effect. MAXIMUM RATE of 25ml/hr.</p> <p>Peripheral noradrenaline infusion should be administered through at least a 20G peripheral venous cannula</p>
CONCENTRATION:	Peripheral strength 16micrograms/ml
STABILITY:	Physically & chemically stable for 24 hours at room temp. Protect from light.
ADDITIONAL NOTES:	<p>After discontinuation, flush the peripheral cannula with sodium chloride 0.9% at the same rate the medicine was infused to avoid adverse haemodynamic effects.</p> <p>The concomitant administration of noradrenaline and other medicines via a Y-site should be avoided to prevent inadvertent bolus administration of noradrenaline.</p> <p>Also stable for 24 hours in 0.9% sodium chloride but more stable in glucose 5%.</p> <p>Norepinephrine Pfizer brand is ONLY stable in glucose 5%.</p> <p>Do not use any infusion if discoloured or has a precipitate.</p>
Allergy Status	Norepinephrine Pfizer brand contains sodium metabisulphite as a preservative. Sulphite sensitivity seen more frequently in asthmatic population.

References

Electronic Medicines Compendium available at <http://www.medicines.org.uk> Medusa Injectable Medicines Guide available at <http://medusa.wales.nhs.uk> Medicines Complete available at <http://www.medicinescomplete.com>

*Starting dose based on CENSER study

Critical Care Guidelines: PERIPHERAL NORADRENALINE	
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Document Version: v1	Authoriser: Lothian Critical Care Directorate QIT Editorial Board
Authorisation Date: June 2023	Review Date: June 2025

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