

DOPAMINE-HDU GUIDELINE

Form:	Ampoules containing 200mg/5ml Dopamine.
Dose:	Dopamine is usually prescribed as a “ mcg/kg/minute ” dose. The usual range is 0 - 20 mcg/kg/minute, although this can vary between patients. The usual maximum rate is 30mcg/kg/min.
Reconstitution:	Already in solution. Further dilution is required before administration.
Administration:	IV infusion only
Method:	To be administered by IV infusion only, through a central line or a large vein, using a syringe driver. Dopamine is usually prescribed as a “mcg/kg/minute” dose. Therefore the patient’s weight is used in calculating the amount of drug to be added to the infusion solution. The formula used is:

Patient’s Weight (kg) multiplied by 3 = Amount of Dopamine (mg) to be added to Glucose 5% to make up to 50ml.

This is best illustrated with an example.

Example:

Weight of patient = 70kg

Using the above formula; $70 \times 3 = 210\text{mg}$

Take 210mg Dopamine (5.25ml) and add it to 44.75ml Glucose 5%.

This gives a final volume of **50ml**, containing 210mg Dopamine, which is the same as **4200mcg/ml**. (Remember 1mg = 1000mcg).

Then an infusion rate of $1\text{ml/hr} = 4200\text{mcg/hr} = 70\text{mcg/min} = 1\text{mcg/kg/min}$

That is, **1ml/hr = 1mcg/kg/min**

2ml/hr = 2mcg/kg/min

3ml/hr = 3mcg/kg/min

DOPAMINE-HDU GUIDELINE (Continued)

Compatibility & Stability:

Glucose 5%
Sodium chloride 0.9%
Diluted solutions are stable for 24 hours at room temperature.

Special Notes:

1. Infuse through a central venous catheter or a large vein, using a syringe driver to control the rate of infusion.
2. Arterial line monitoring is strongly recommended