

Digoxin

Form:	500 micrograms per 2ml ampoule
Reconstitution:	Already in solution
Administration Method:	<p><u>Slow IV Injection</u> May be given undiluted <u>or</u> diluted with at least four times the volume of infusion fluid (e.g. 2ml of digoxin in 8mls of infusion fluid). Give over at least 10 minutes.</p> <p><u>IV Infusion (preferred)</u> Add required dose to 50 - 100ml infusion fluid. (Maximum concentration of 62.5 micrograms/ml).</p> <p>Loading dose As a single dose: Infuse over at least 2 hours.</p> <p>As divided doses: Give half the total dose as the first dose and further fractions (e.g. 25%, 25%) of the total dose at intervals of 4 - 8 hours. Give each dose over a minimum of 10 - 20 minutes.</p> <p>Maintenance dose Infuse over at least 2 hours.</p>
Extravasation	Extravasation is likely to cause tissue damage because the preparations contain alcohol and have high osmolarity.
Compatibility & Stability:	Sodium Chloride 0.9% Glucose 5%
Special Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If diluting digoxin, it <u>must</u> be diluted at least fourfold (e.g. 2mls digoxin in 8mls of infusion fluid) to prevent precipitation. • For digoxin therapeutic drug monitoring, take the sample at least six hours after the dose. • Dose needs to be reduced by 33% when converting from the oral to IV route. • Monitor heart rate, blood pressure and ECG. • Fast IV injection can cause vasoconstriction leading to hypertension and reduced coronary blood flow. • IM and SC routes should not be used as absorption is erratic and can cause severe local irritation.

Information provided relates to Lanoxin® manufactured by Aspen.

This information has been summarised to act as a guide for those administering IV medication. The monograph should be used in conjunction with the drug data sheet and BNF for information on dose, adverse effects, cautions and contra-indications. Further information is available from Pharmacy on 22146 or 22542