

Naloxone

Form:	400 microgram per 1ml ampoule
Reconstitution:	Already in solution
Administration Method:	<p><u>IV Injection</u> Preferred in emergencies due to rapid onset of action. Administer undiluted. May be diluted to a convenient volume with compatible fluid.</p> <p><u>IV Continuous Infusion</u> Add 2mg (5ml) of Naloxone to 495ml of infusion fluid to give a 4 microgram per ml solution. Rate of infusion should be titrated in accordance with the patient's response. Must be infused using a volumetric infusion pump.</p> <p><u>IV Infusion –In fluid restricted patients or if higher dose required</u> Dilute 10mg (25mls) to 50ml of compatible infusion fluid and infuse using a syringe pump. Rate of infusion should be titrated in accordance with the patient's response.</p>
Extravasation:	Naloxone has a low pH and may cause venous irritation and tissue damage in cases of extravasation.
Compatibility & Stability:	Sodium Chloride 0.9% Glucose 5%
Special Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration of action of many opioids exceeds that of naloxone, therefore patients must be monitored in case of relapse. A continuous infusion may be indicated. • Naloxone may precipitate acute withdrawal syndrome in opioid-dependent patients. • Naloxone should be kept in all areas where opioids are administered.

Information provided relates to Naloxone manufactured by Mercury Pharmaceuticals.

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