

## DOBUTAMINE-HDU GUIDELINE

<b>Form:</b>	Ampoules / vials containing 250mg/20ml Dobutamine.
<b>Dose:</b>	Dobutamine is usually prescribed as a “ <b>mcg/kg/minute</b> ” dose. The usual range is 0 - 20 mcg/kg/minute, although this can vary between patients. The usual maximum rate is 40mcg/kg/min.
<b>Reconstitution:</b>	Already in solution. Further dilution is required before administration.
<b>Administration:</b>	IV infusion only
<b>Method:</b>	To be administered by IV infusion only, through a central line or a large vein, using a syringe driver to control the rate of infusion. 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 Dobutamine (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 Dobutamine (16.8ml) and add it to 33.2ml Glucose 5%.

This gives a final volume of **50ml**, containing 210mg Dobutamine, 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**

### **Compatibility & Stability:**

Glucose 5%  
Sodium chloride 0.9%  
Diluted solutions are stable for 24 hours

---

## **DOBUTAMINE-HDU GUIDELINE (Continued)**

**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.