

Metaraminol

Indication	Short term management of hypotension whilst awaiting a central line or epidural related hypotension																				
Dose	0 – 10mg per hour adjusted to keep MAP OVER 60 and SBP OVER 100. Starting rate 0.5mg per hour and titrated every 10minutes Metaraminol dose is not dependent on body weight.																				
Preparation	Metaraminol ampoules contain 10mg per ml <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Withdraw 5ml from a 250ml bag of sodium chloride 0.9% 2. Draw up 5ml (50mg) of metaraminol using a filter needle 3. Add metaraminol to the infusion bag 																				
Administration	Continuous infusion via a peripheral or central line. Peripheral line should be placed in the antecubital fossa. Use the “Emergency Drug” Program on a VP7000 or Baxter Colleague infusion pump																				
Shelf-life	24 hours																				
Common Compatibility Issues	Glucose 5% can also be used as a diluent. Metaraminol should ideally have a dedicated lumen for the duration of infusion.																				
Additional information	Abrupt withdrawal of metaraminol must be avoided and the infusion should be titrated off slowly. Metaraminol should be avoided in patients who are taking or have taken Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOI) within the last fourteen days. Metaraminol should be used with caution in asthmatics due to hypersensitivity to the preservatives.																				
Sample Label	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;">DRUGS ADDED TO THIS INFUSION</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">PATIENT <i>A. Patient (A. Number)</i></td> <td>WARD <i>ICU</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRUG <i>Metaraminol in 250ml sodium chloride 0.9%</i></td> <td>AMOUNT <i>50mg (0.2mg/ml)</i></td> <td>ADD BY</td> <td>CHECKED BY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DATE ADDED TIME ADDED</td> <td>EXP. DATE EXP. TIME</td> <td colspan="2">BATCH No.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;">DISCONTINUE IF CLOUDINESS OR PRECIPITATE DEVELOPS</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	DRUGS ADDED TO THIS INFUSION				PATIENT <i>A. Patient (A. Number)</i>			WARD <i>ICU</i>	DRUG <i>Metaraminol in 250ml sodium chloride 0.9%</i>	AMOUNT <i>50mg (0.2mg/ml)</i>	ADD BY	CHECKED BY	DATE ADDED TIME ADDED	EXP. DATE EXP. TIME	BATCH No.		DISCONTINUE IF CLOUDINESS OR PRECIPITATE DEVELOPS			
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For review August 2026

Documentation Controls

Development of Guideline:	Pharmacist – Critical Care & Theatres
Consultation with:	Pharmacy Department
Approved By:	ICU Sister's Meeting: June 2023 ICU Risk & Quality Meeting: August 2023 Surgical Division
Review Date:	August 2026
Key contact:	Pharmacist – Critical Care & Theatres

References

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Brayfield A (ed), Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference. [online] London: Pharmaceutical Press <<http://www.medicinescomplete.com/>> (accessed June 2017).

Guidelines for the Use of Peripheral Metaraminol. Nottingham University Hospitals

***** End of Monograph *****