

# NICU: Atropine

Reference No: CH PH N 48

Presentation:	Injection 600 micrograms/ml
Indication:	Bradycardia not responding to bag and mask ventilation during elective intubation (see guideline NIC RC 09)
Dose:	10 micrograms / kg as a single dose
Route of administration:	IV bolus. Atropine has a low pH and may cause venous irritation and tissue damage in cases of extravasation. If central venous access is unavailable, administer via a large peripheral vein monitoring insertion site closely. Resite cannula at first signs of inflammation.
Instructions for preparation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Draw up 0.2ml of the 600 micrograms/ml injection</li> <li>▪ Dilute to a final volume of 6ml with sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5%</li> <li>▪ Shake well to mix thoroughly</li> <li>▪ The resulting solution contains <b>20 micrograms per ml</b></li> <li>▪ Draw out the volume required from the syringe using the smallest syringe possible</li> </ul> <p><b>Amount of this solution required (mls) = 0.5 x weight (kg)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Administer calculated volume as a slow bolus</li> </ul>
<u>Prescribing</u>	Prescribe on paper chart
Known compatibility issues	See separate guideline
Additional Comments:	<p>May cause paradoxical bradycardia if given by slow IV injection. Ventricular fibrillation and tachycardia have occurred rarely. Monitor ECG according to clinical need.</p> <p>Not licensed for use in children &lt; 12 years for intra-operative bradycardia or by IV route for premedication.</p>

Note: The contents of this monograph should be read in conjunction with information available in the BNFC and Medusa regarding cautions, contraindications etc.

## References:

Atropine sulphate injection, Summary of Product Characteristics, Hameln, Martindale accessed via [www.medicines.org.uk](http://www.medicines.org.uk) on 17.10.19

British National Formulary for Children accessed via Medicines Complete at <https://www.medicinescomplete.com/#/search/bnfc/atropine?offset=0> on 17.10.19

Medusa Paediatric Injectable medicines guide, accessed via <https://medusa.wales.nhs.uk/IVGuideDisplay.asp> on 9.10.19

## Document control sheet

<b>GUIDELINE NUMBER</b>	CH PH N 48
<b>AREA IN WHICH THIS MONOGRAPH APPLIES</b>	NICU

<b>DIVISIONAL AUTHORISATION</b>	
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Paediatric monograph review group	22/01/2020
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<b>AUTHORS</b>		
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Written by:	Senior Pharmacist Paediatrics	November 2010

If review:

	<b>Position</b>	<b>Date</b>
Reviewed, updated and transferred to new template by:	Sharon Conroy, Advanced Pharmacist, Paediatrics	October 2019
Checked by: Name	Harriet Hughes, Advanced Pharmacist, Paediatrics	November 2019

Change history:

<b>Changes Reference</b>	<b>Change details</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Dilution recommendation changed to avoid measurement of volumes <0.2ml which is potentially inaccurate	October 2019