

Dobutamine

Indication	To increase cardiac output in shock states																				
Dose	2.5-20microgram/kg/minute based on ideal body weight. Start at an initial rate of 2.5microgram/kg/min and increase in 2.5microgram/kg/minute increments.																				
Preparation	Each vial contains dobutamine 250mg per 50ml (5mg/ml) Standard Strength (2mg/ml) 1. Remove 100ml from a 250ml bag of sodium chloride 0.9% 2. Draw up 100ml of dobutamine and add to the bag Concentrated for Central Use Only (5mg/ml) 1. Draw up 50ml of Dobutamine into a 50ml syringe																				
Administration	Standard strength solutions may be given via peripheral or central line using the VP7000 pump program. High Strength solutions must only be infused via a central line using the Syramed SP6000 pump program.																				
Shelf-life	24 hours at room temperature																				
Common Compatibility Issues	Dobutamine is considered compatible with adrenaline, calcium, cisatracurium, noradrenaline or fluconazole at concentrations normally used in DHFT. Check unit compatibility chart for more information.																				
Additional information	Guidance on dosage is available in the monograph. Contact the ward or oncall Pharmacist if unsure of the calculations Glucose 5% can be used as a diluent if hypernatraemia is a problem Tachycardia is the most common adverse reaction																				
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>Dobutamine In 250ml sodium chloride 0.9%</i></td> <td>AMOUNT <i>500mg (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>Dobutamine In 250ml sodium chloride 0.9%</i>	AMOUNT <i>500mg (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

Dobutamine Dose Checker
 (Only for use with 2mg per ml Infusions)
 All rates are in ml per hour.

Ideal Body Weight (kg)	Dose of dobutamine in micrograms per kg per minute											
	Increasing inotropic effect →											
	All rates below in ml per hour (Only valid for 2mg/ml solutions)											
	2.5	5.0	7.5	10.0	12.5	15.0	17.5	20.0	22.5	25.0	27.5	30.0
45	3.38	6.75	10.13	13.50	16.88	20.25	23.63	27.00	30.38	33.75	37.13	40.50
50	3.75	7.50	11.25	15.00	18.75	22.50	26.25	30.00	33.75	37.50	41.25	45.00
55	4.13	8.25	12.38	16.50	20.63	24.75	28.88	33.00	37.13	41.25	45.38	49.50
60	4.50	9.00	13.50	18.00	22.50	27.00	31.50	36.00	40.50	45.00	49.50	54.00
65	4.88	9.75	14.63	19.50	24.38	29.25	34.13	39.00	43.88	48.75	53.63	58.50
70	5.25	10.50	15.75	21.00	26.25	31.50	36.75	42.00	47.25	52.50	57.75	63.00
75	5.63	11.25	16.88	22.50	28.13	33.75	39.38	45.00	50.63	56.25	61.88	67.50
80	6.00	12.00	18.00	24.00	30.00	36.00	42.00	48.00	54.00	60.00	66.00	72.00
85	6.38	12.75	19.13	25.50	31.88	38.25	44.63	51.00	57.38	63.75	70.13	76.50
90	6.75	13.50	20.25	27.00	33.75	40.50	47.25	54.00	60.75	67.50	74.25	81.00
95	7.13	14.25	21.38	28.50	35.63	42.75	49.88	57.00	64.13	71.25	78.38	85.50
100	7.50	15.00	22.50	30.00	37.50	45.00	52.50	60.00	67.50	75.00	82.50	90.00
105	7.88	15.75	23.63	31.50	39.38	47.25	55.13	63.00	70.88	78.75	86.63	94.50
110	8.25	16.50	24.75	33.00	41.25	49.50	57.75	66.00	74.25	82.50	90.75	99.00

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