



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

HEPARIN

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

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Medication Class

Heparins (unfractionated)

Presentation

Ampoule:

- 1000units in 1mL
- 5000units in 1mL
- 5000units in 0.2mL
- 5000units in 5mL
- 25000units in 5mL

Heparinised Saline:

Ampoule: 50units in 5mL Sodium Chloride 0.9%

Bag: 1000units in 500mL Sodium Chloride 0.9%

Storage

Store below 25°C

Dose

Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis

Subcut:

5000 units every 8 to 12 hours

See [Anticoagulation Medication Chart MR 810.11](#)

VTE Treatment

See [Anticoagulation Medication Chart MR 810.11](#)

VTE Treatment & Prophylaxis for Obstetric Women:

See [Venous Thromboembolism \(VTE\): Prevention and Management](#)

Administration

Refer to the [Anticoagulation Medication Chart MR 810.11](#) and [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#)

Bolus Dosing when IV Heparin Infusion Running

Step 1: Withdraw required dose from a 1000units/mL concentration ampoule.

Step 2: Inject undiluted over 3 to 5 minutes via Y site or through a separate cannula

Monitoring

Unfractionated Heparin can cause Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia (HIT) - Baseline FBC, then platelet count every 2 to 3 days.

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Considered safe to use

2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use

3rd Trimester: Considered safe to use

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

Comments

Mix bag thoroughly when preparing solution (invert at least 6 times to prevent pooling of heparin)

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

HDWA Mandatory Policies:

[High Risk Medication Policy](#)

WNHS Policies:

[High Risk Medicines](#)

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

KEMH Pharmaceutical & Medicines Management Guideline: [Medication Administration](#)









References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Heparin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2021 [cited 2021 Jul 15]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

Therapeutic Guidelines. Anticoagulant Therapy. In: eTG complete [Internet]. West Melbourne (Victoria): Therapeutic Guidelines; 2021 [cited 2021 Jul 15]. Available from: <https://tgldcdp-tg-org-au.kelibresources.health.wa.gov.au/etgAccess>

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Heparin. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2021 [cited 2021 Jul 15]. Available from: <http://aidh.hcn.com.au>

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