

7 ADMINISTRATION OF BLOOD COMPONENTS

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Authorised by: KEMH Transfusion Committee
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7.6 Calculating a Blood Transfusion Rate
Section 7
Transfusion Medicine Protocols
Women's & Newborn Health Services
Perth Western Australia

7.6 CALCULATING A BLOOD TRANSFUSION RATE

GUIDE:

1 drop	=	1 minim
20 minims	=	1 ml
1 ml	=	20 drops

Formula to determine the time required for infusion of blood to be completed

$$\frac{\text{Prescribed volume calculated in millilitres}}{\text{Prescribed drops per minute}} \times \frac{\text{Prescribed minims per millilitre}}{60 \text{ (minutes in 1 hour)}}$$

e.g. 400ml at 40 drops per minute

$$\text{Calculated } \frac{400}{40} \times \frac{20}{60} \text{ simplified } \frac{10}{1} \times \frac{1}{3}$$

$$= \frac{10}{3}$$

$$= (3 \frac{1}{3} \text{rd hours})$$

$$= \underline{3 \text{ hours } 20 \text{ minutes}}$$

DNAMER, KEMH Medication paper for registered nurses and midwives June 2005