# NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

**DOBUTAMINE**  
*Created by: NCCU*  
*Date for review: Aug 2016*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRUG:</th>
<th>DOBUTAMINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PRESENTATION: | Vial: 250mg/20mL  
Vial: 250mg powder for reconstitution (Aspen) |
| ACTION & INDICATION: | Inotropic agent used to increase cardiac output. Cardiovascular shock. |
| DOSE: | Maximum dose: 20 microgram / kg / minute  
Initially 5 microgram / kg / minute. Adjust according to response to 2 to 15 microgram / kg / minute  
Maximum dose: 20 microgram/kg/minute |
| PREPARATION: | Use solution prepared in Pharmacy if available.  
Dobutamine is supplied either as solution or powder  
To reconstitute powder.  
Add 18mL Water for Injections to vial. Dissolve powder. Withdraw solution and further dilute to 20mL = 250mg/20mL  
Withdraw 30mg of dobutamine per kg of baby's weight (2.4mL/kg) and dilute to 50 mL with appropriate infusion fluid.  
This will give the following infusion rate  
0.5 mL / hour = 5 microgram / kg / minute  
1 mL / hour = 10 microgram / kg / minute  
1.5 mL / hour = 15 microgram / kg / minute  
If a different concentration is required, refer to the Calculation of Drug Infusion table. |
| ADMINISTRATION: | Intravenous infusion or umbilical arterial or venous infusion via syringe pump. |
| ADVERSE EFFECTS: | Tachycardia  
Dysrhythmias  
**Hypertension – blood pressure must be continuously monitored during infusion.**  
Avoid extravasation |
| COMMENTS: | Discard reconstituted solution immediately after use  
Solution may exhibit pink discoloration without loss of potency. |
| REFERENCES: | BNF for Children 2013  
Neofax 2012 |
| DATE: | August 2013 |