### DRUG:
DOPAMINE

### PRESENTATION:
Ampoule: 200mg / 5mL

### ACTION & INDICATION:
Inotropic agent that increases cardiac output and renal perfusion

### DOSE:
2 to 20 microgram / kg / minute

Begin at 3 microgram / kg / minute and titrate dose according to response.

### PREPARATION:
Use solution prepared in Pharmacy if available.

- Diluent: 0.9% Sodium chloride, Glucose 5% and 10%, Glucose and Saline Solutions.
- Withdraw 30mg of dopamine per kg of baby’s weight (0.75mL/kg) and dilute to 50mL with appropriate infusion fluid.

This will give the following infusion rates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infusion Rate (mL/hr)</th>
<th>Equivalent Dose (microgram / kg / minute)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.5mL / hr</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1mL / hr</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5mL / hr</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If a different concentration is required, refer to the Calculation of Drug Infusion table.

### ADMINISTRATION:
Intravenous or umbilical venous infusion (umbilical arterial is not the preferred route)

### ADVERSE EFFECTS & COMMENTS:
- Ectopic beats, bradycardia, tachycardia, vasoconstriction, excessive diuresis.
- Hypertension – blood pressure must be continuously monitored during infusion.
- Extravasation can cause tissue necrosis.

### REFERENCES:
- Neofax 2012
- BNF for Children 2013

### DATE:
August 2013