

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: 0.5mL / hr = 5 microgram / kg / minute 1mL / hr = 10 microgram / kg / minute 1.5mL / hr = 15 microgram / kg / minute 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 2008 BNF for Children 2009
DATE:	January 2011