

<b>DRUG:</b>	<b>MILRINONE</b>
<b>PRESENTATION:</b>	Ampoules: 1mg/mL (10mL ampoules)
<b>ACTION &amp; INDICATION:</b>	<p>Milrinone is a selective phosphodiesterase inhibitor which has positive inotropic and vasodilatory activity.</p> <p>Used in patients with refractory pulmonary hypertension, low cardiac output (especially after cardiac surgery) and in septic shock. There is some evidence for its use in <i>preventing</i> low cardiac output in patients undergoing cardiac surgery.</p> <p>It is for short term treatment only and should generally not be used for longer than 72 hours.</p>
<b>DOSE :</b>	<p><b>Any fluid imbalance should be corrected before commencing milrinone.</b></p> <p><b><i>The specified infusion rates are dependant upon preparing the infusion solution exactly as described below.</i></b></p> <p><b>&lt; 30 weeks</b></p> <p><b>Loading dose:</b> 135 microgram/kg given over <b>3 hours</b> (ie 1.5mL/hr for 3 hours) <b>then</b></p> <p><b>Maintenance dose:</b> 0.2 microgram/kg/min (ie 0.4mL/hr)</p> <p><b>≥ 30 weeks</b></p> <p><b>Loading dose:</b> 75 microgram/kg given over <b>60 minutes</b> (ie 2.5mL/hr for 1 hour) <b>then</b></p> <p><b>Maintenance dose:</b> 0.5 – 0.75 microgram/kg/min (ie 1 – 1.5mL/hr)</p> <p>NB - In both regimens, consider reducing or omitting the loading dose if the patient is at risk of hypotension.</p>
<b>PREPARATION:</b>	<p><b>Use solution prepared in Pharmacy if available.</b></p> <p>Withdraw 1.5mg of milrinone per kg of baby's weight (1.5mL/kg) and dilute to 50mL with appropriate infusion fluid.</p> <p>Diluent: Sodium chloride 0.9%, Glucose 5%</p>
<b>ADMINISTRATION:</b>	Intravenous infusion
<b>ADVERSE EFFECTS :</b>	Hypotension, supraventricular and ventricular arrhythmias, hypokalaemia. Thrombocytopenia.
<b>COMMENTS:</b>	Use with caution in patients who have severe obstructive aortic or pulmonary valvular disease or a history of arrhythmia. Dosage adjustment may be required in patients with impaired renal function. Incompatible with frusemide.
<b>REFERENCES:</b>	Paediatric Pharmacopoeia, 13 <sup>th</sup> ed. BNF for Children 2009 Neofax 2008 Paediatric Dosage Handbook, 15 <sup>th</sup> ed.
<b>REVIEWED:</b>	January 2011