



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE  
NEWBORN EMERGENCY TRANSPORT SERVICE (NETS WA)

# Fluid Management

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

- Type and volume of fluid depends on infant’s gestational age and disease process.
- Typical glucose requirements for term neonates: 4-6 mg/kg/min and preterm neonates: 6-8 mg/kg/min.
- As a guide, use:
  - Normal saline for fluid expansion.
  - 10% glucose + 0.22% saline (> 34 weeks).
  - 7.5% glucose + 0.22% saline (27-34 weeks).
  - 5% glucose (≤ 27 weeks).
- Maintenance fluids for term neonates are usually approximately 60 mL/kg/day on Day 1.
  - Extreme preterm babies usually require much more (100-120 mL/kg/day) due to increased insensible fluid losses.
  - Asphyxiated infants are often fluid restricted to approximately 40mL/kg/day. In these circumstances, **the percentage concentration of glucose MUST be increased, as avoidance of hypoglycaemia is more important than fluid restriction.**

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