

DRUG:	DOBUTAMINE
PRESENTATION:	Vial: 250mg/20mL (Sandoz) 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
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 discolouration without loss of potency.
REFERENCES:	BNF for Children 2009 Neofax 2008
DATE:	January 2011