

<b>DRUG:</b>	<b>PHENOBARBITONE SODIUM</b>
<b>PRESENTATION:</b>	Ampoule: 200mg/mL Oral Solution: 10mg/mL
<b>ACTION &amp; INDICATION:</b>	Anticonvulsant and sedative. For sedation, the treatment of neonatal seizures and for neonatal abstinence syndrome. Also used to treat hyperbilirubinemia in infants with jaundice.
<b>DOSE:</b>	Neonatal Seizures: Loading dose: 20mg/kg/dose. If no response, a further 10- 20mg/kg may be given  Maintenance dose: 3 – 5 mg/kg/dose once daily commencing 24 hours after loading dose.  Neonatal Jaundice: 5mg/kg/dose daily  Neonatal abstinence syndrome: See NCCU guidelines at the back of this manual.
<b>PREPARATION:</b>	IM : Use undiluted IV : Dilute 200mg ampoule to 10mL, with Water for Injections = 20mg/mL
<b>ADMINISTRATION:</b>	Oral: Mixture is bitter and may be poorly tolerated. Consider administering a loading dose via the IGT if the infant has poor suck.  Intramuscular: As per NCCU protocol.  Intravenous, umbilical arterial / venous: Give over 10 to 15 minutes.
<b>ADVERSE EFFECTS:</b>	Hypotension, respiratory depression > 20mg/kg/dose may require mechanical ventilation. Paradoxical hyperactivity and irritability may occur. Injection is alkaline. Use small volumes to avoid tissue damage with IM use.
<b>DRUG LEVELS:</b>	Sampling time: just before next dose. Therapeutic range: 15 - 40mg/L Time to reach steady state: 2 weeks
<b>REFERENCES:</b>	Neofax 2008 Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13 <sup>th</sup> Ed Royal Women's Hospital Melbourne BNF for Children 2009
<b>DATE:</b>	January 2011