



NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

POTASSIUM CHLORIDE
Created by: NCCU
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NCCU Clinical Guidelines
KEMH/PMH
Perth, Western Australia

DRUG:	POTASSIUM CHLORIDE
PRESENTATION:	Ampoule: Potassium chloride 0.75 g/10mL Contains: 1mmol of Potassium per 1mL Oral Solution: 20mmol/15mL (1mmol/0.75mL)
ACTION & INDICATION:	Electrolyte supplement for treatment of hypokalaemia (<3.5mmol/mL)
DOSE:	IV: 2-4mmol/kg/24 hours Oral: 2-4mmol/kg/24 hours in 3 divided doses
PREPARATION:	IV: Infusion: Withdraw 2mL/kg (2mmol/kg) of potassium chloride Dilute to 25mL with appropriate diluent Compatible fluids: 5% glucose, 10% glucose, sodium chloride 0.9%
ADMINISTRATION:	IV: Infusion Run the infusion at the rate of 1mL per hour (0.08mmol/kg/hour) Maximum infusion rate: 0.2mmol/kg/hour Oral: Give after feeds. Dilute before administration with milk or water.
ADVERSE EFFECTS:	Rapid infusion may cause sudden cardiac arrest. Always give as diluted infusion Hyperkalaemia - monitor serum potassium levels 6 hourly during infusion. Hypotension Cardiac dysrhythmias - monitor ECG Oral dosage - GI disturbances and vomiting
COMMENTS:	Correct slowly over 24-48 hours. Avoid bolus infusions and extravasation. Give via central line if available. If giving through UVC make sure the tip of the UVC is not in the heart or the liver.
REFERENCES:	Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13 th Ed Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
DATE:	October 2013