



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE




DIGOXIN

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

HIGH RISK Medication 

<p>Presentation</p>	<p>Tablet: 62.5 microg (Blue) Tablet: 250 microg (White) Ampoule: 500microg/2mL</p>
<p>Dose</p>	<p><i>These doses are intended as a guide only</i></p> <p><u>Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter, Heart Failure</u></p> <p><u>Loading Dose (If Required):</u></p> <p>Oral/IV:</p> <p><i>Adult:</i> 250 – 500 micrograms every 4 to 6 hours according to response, up to a total of 1.5mg</p> <p><i>Elderly:</i> 125 – 250 micrograms every 4 to 6 hours according to response, up to a total of 500 micrograms.</p> <p><i>CrCl <60 mL/minute:</i> Reduce loading dose by half</p> <p><u>Maintenance Dose:</u></p> <p>Oral:</p> <p><i>Adult:</i> 125 – 250 micrograms once daily (rarely increased up to 500 micrograms daily)</p> <p><i>Elderly:</i> 62.5 – 125 micrograms once daily</p> <p><i>CrCl 30–60 mL/minute:</i> 62.5 – 250 micrograms once daily.</p> <p><i>CrCl 10–30 mL/minute:</i> 62.5 – 125 micrograms once daily.</p> <p><i>CrCl <10 mL/minute:</i> 62.5 micrograms once daily or on alternate days.</p>
<p>Administration</p>	<p><u>IV Injection</u></p> <p><i>Step 1 Dilution:</i> Dilute 2mL ampoule with at least 8mL of sodium chloride 0.9% or Glucose 5%</p> <p><i>Step 2 Administration:</i> Inject over 5 to 10 minutes. May be injected undiluted over 5 to 10 minutes in fluid restricted patients. Do not flush the syringe after administration if given undiluted.</p>

	<p><u>IV Infusion</u></p> <p>Step 1 Dilution: Dilute the dose in 50 to 100 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% or Glucose 5%</p> <p>Step 2 Administration: Infuse over 2 hours. Loading doses can be infused over 10 minutes.</p>
Pregnancy	<p>1st Trimester: Safe to use</p> <p>2nd Trimester: Safe to use</p> <p>3rd Trimester: Safe to use</p>
Breastfeeding	Safe to use
Monitoring	<p>Therapeutic Drug Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steady state is reached in about 7 days in patients with normal renal function Take blood sample at least 6 hours after last dose Therapeutic range: 0.5-2 microgram/L (0.6-2.6 nanomol/L) although toxic effects may occur at lower concentrations <p>Check renal function and electrolyte concentrations (particularly potassium) before starting digoxin.</p> <p>Ongoing heart monitoring</p>
Clinical Guidelines and Policies	<p>KEMH Clinical Guideline: O&G: Cardiac Disease</p> <p>KEMH Clinical Guideline: Perioperative Services - Anaesthetics: Pre-Operative Consultation and Investigation</p>
References	<p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Digoxin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2018 [cited 2018 Aug 18]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</p> <p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Digoxin. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2017 [cited 2018 Aug 18]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Digoxin. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2018 [cited 2018 Aug 18]. Available from: http://aidh.hcn.com.au</p>

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