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Title: <b>Salbutamol for Neonates</b>			Effective date: <b>15 October 2021</b>	
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			Document expiry date: <b>15 October 2024</b>	

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## BRIEF ADMINISTRATION GUIDE

For detailed information refer to [The Australasian Neonatal Medicines Formulary salbutamol guideline](#)



**Critical Note:** there are minor variations between the ANMF and Waikato DHB best practice within this drug guideline – see **yellow** shaded text

**Indications:** Hyperkalaemia (serum potassium concentration greater than 7mmol/L or symptomatic)  
*Note: hyperkalaemia is not a licensed indication for use of salbutamol in NZ*

**Route:** Intravenous or inhaled via nebuliser with face mask or via endotracheal tube

- **Injection** supplied as salbutamol 500 microgram per 1 mL ampoule
  - pH 3.5
- **Inhalation** supplied as salbutamol 2.5 mg per 2.5 mL inhalation solution

**Note: preparations are not interchangeable**

**Dose:** **Intravenous:** 4 microgram/kg/dose

**Inhaled:** 400 microgram/dose

Dose can be repeated if necessary two hourly.

### Preparation and administration:

#### Intravenous

- Take 0.5 mL (250 microgram) of salbutamol **intravenous** solution and dilute with 24.5 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% to make a 10 microgram/mL solution
- Withdraw dose required and **inject over 5 minutes**
- Dilutions of the IV preparation are stable for up to 24 hours at room temperature.

#### Inhalation


- Dilute dose of salbutamol **inhalation** solution up to a final volume of 2 mL with sodium chloride 0.9%.
- Nebulise, running air/oxygen mixture at 6-8 L/min, until the chamber is empty (or maximum 10 mins)

### Monitoring:

- Serum potassium
- Heart rate (consider not administering if HR is greater than 180 beats per minute)
- Oxygen saturation
- Respiratory rate

### Competency for Administration

This procedure is carried out by, or under, the direct supervision of a registered nurse/registered midwife who holds current Waikato DHB Generic Medicine Management and IV certification (if administering IV) as well as Neonatal specific competency NCV/NAC (if administering via CVAD).

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### Guardrails Information

Salbutamol is not currently Guardrail profiled on the CC pump for NICU.

### Associated Documents

- Waikato DHB NICU Medical protocol: [Non-Oliguric Hyperkalaemia in Neonates](#) (Ref. 3121)
- Waikato DHB NICU Nursing procedure: [Administration of Slow or Intermittent Infusion in Newborn Intensive Care Unit](#) (Ref. 4360)
- Waikato DHB NICU Nursing procedure: [Administering Nebuliser for infant on ventilator or CPAP in Newborn Intensive Care Unit \(NICU\)](#) (Ref. 3227)

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