

		Type: Drug Guideline	Document reference: 6356	Manual Classification: Waikato DHB Drug Guidelines
Title: Atropine for Neonates			Effective date: 16 December 2020	
Facilitator <small>sign/date</small> <i>Carrie Knox Pharmacist</i>	Authorised <small>sign/date</small> <i>Jutta van den Boom Clinical Director NICU</i>	Authorised <small>sign/date</small> <i>John Barnard Chair Medicines & Therapeutics</i>	Version: 1	Page: 1 of 1
			Document expiry date: 16 December 2023	

© Waikato DHB, December 2020

BRIEF ADMINISTRATION GUIDE

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



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

Indications:

- **Cardiac resuscitation**
- Prevention of reflex bradycardia during elective endotracheal intubation
- Premedication to prevent perioperative adverse events

Route:

- IV, IM, subcutaneous or endotracheal tube
- Supplied as atropine sulphate 600 microgram per 1 mL ampoule

Dose:

20 microgram/kg (range 10-20 microgram/kg)

Preparation and administration

Intravenous

- Dilute 1mL ampoule with 5mL of sterile water to produce a 100 microgram/mL solution (600microgram/6mL)
Note: can be administered undiluted (if accurate dose measurement possible)
- Draw up prescribed dose and administer as a slow push
- Dose may be repeated every **10-15** minutes to achieve desired effect, with a maximum total dose of 40 microgram/kg

IM/Subcut or ETT:

Draw up prescribed dose and give IM, subcut or ETT (ETT route to be used only if IV route not possible).

Monitoring

Monitor heart rate continuously

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. For CVAD administration Neonatal specific competency NCV/NAC is also required.

References

- Australian Neonatal Medicines Formulary. Atropine Drug Guideline. Accessed June 2020. Available from: <https://www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/rpa/neonatal/NeoMedPaperCopy.html>
- New Zealand Formulary for Children (NZFC). Atropine. Accessed June 2020. Available from: https://nzfchildren.org.nz/nzf_6931
- Truven Health Analytics Inc. Pediatrics and Neofax®. Atropine monograph. Accessed June 2020. Available from: <http://www.micromedexsolutions.com>
- Phelps SJ, Hagemann TM, Lee KR, Thompson AJ. The Teddy Bear Book: Pediatric Injectable Drugs. 11th edition. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2018.
- The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. Paediatric Injectable Guidelines. Accessed June 2020. Available from: <https://pig.rch.org.au/monographs/atropine/>
- Auckland DHB Newborn Services. Atropine Sulphate Drug Protocol. Accessed June 2020. Available from <http://www.adhb.govt.nz/newborn/DrugProtocols/AtropinePharmacology.htm>
- Canterbury DHB Neonatal Services. Atropine sulphate Drug Information Sheet. Accessed June 2020. Available from <https://cdhb.health.nz/wp-content/uploads/1a792528-atropine.pdf>

Note: Printed copies are only valid on the day of printing – they are not controlled and may not be the current version in use. Please refer to the online version.

Disclaimer: This document has been developed by Waikato District Health Board specifically for its own use. Use of this document and any reliance on the information contained therein by any third part is at their own risk and Waikato District Health Board assumes no responsibility whatsoever.