

Yorkshire and Humber Neonatal Operational Delivery Network

Drug Administration Guide

Caffeine citrate

Indication	Apnoea of prematurity
Dose	Loading dose: 20mg/kg Maintenance: 5mg/kg once daily starting 24 hours after the first loading dose Dose may be increased up to 10mg/kg daily if necessary
Route of administration	Intravenous or oral Ideally give centrally due to low pH but can be given peripherally if required <u>Intravenous:</u> Loading dose: Infusion over 30 minutes Maintenance dose: Bolus over 10 minutes
To prepare	<u>Intravenous:</u> 10 mg/mL caffeine citrate can be administered undiluted or can be diluted with the preferred diluent. To do this withdraw the required dose and dilute as needed. 20mg/mL caffeine citrate should be diluted to a strength of 10mg/mL or less. To do this withdraw the desired dose and add the same volume of diluent. It can be further diluted if required. Preferred diluent: glucose 5% or sodium chloride 0.9% <u>Oral:</u> 10 mg/mL oral solution
Compatibilities	Glucose 5%, sodium chloride 0.9%, adrenaline, alprostadil, calcium containing intravenous fluids, calcium gluconate, cefotaxime, dexamethasone, dobutamine, dopamine, fentanyl, gentamicin, heparin, morphine, pancuronium, phenobarbital, sodium bicarbonate, vancomycin
Known incompatibilities	Aciclovir, furosemide, lorazepam
Notes	Caffeine should be stopped as soon as symptoms have largely resolved and wherever possible by a corrected gestational age of 34 weeks. If there is no compatibility information for specific drugs, do not assume compatibility. For incompatible drugs or those with no compatibility information use a separate line or, for short infusions, flush well between drugs. For side-effects see the BNFC - Caffeine citrate BNFC
References	Leeds Teaching Hospitals neonatal prescribing and administration monograph, Handbook of Injectable Drugs Trissel et al, BNFC.

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Produced by Yorkshire and Humber Neonatal Operational Delivery Network.
Clinicians must accept individual responsibility for using this information and prescribing safely.