

Dobutamine

Indication	Hypotension
Dose	Initially 5 micrograms/kg/minute Adjust dose according to response (2 to 20 micrograms/kg/minute)
Route of administration	IV infusion – via central line if available. Can be given via peripheral line in an emergency.
To prepare an infusion	250mg in 20mL vials (12.5mg/mL) Preferred diluent: glucose 10%, glucose 5% Other diluents: sodium chloride 0.9% Standard: 60mg in 50mL total Draw up 4.8mL of 250mg/20mL dobutamine (60mg) and add to 45.2mL of diluent Double strength: 120mg in 50mL total Draw up 9.6mL of 250mg/20mL dobutamine (120mg) and add to 40.4mL of diluent
Compatibilities	Adrenaline, alprostadil, amiodarone, atracurium, aztreonam, calcium, caffeine citrate, clarithromycin, dopamine, fentanyl, fluconazole, insulin, heparin, hydralazine, lidocaine, linezolid, magnesium sulphate, meropenem, milrinone, midazolam, morphine sulphate, noradrenaline, pancuronium, parenteral nutrition, potassium chloride, ranitidine, vecuronium, zidovudine
Known incompatibilities	Aciclovir, ambisome, alteplase, aminophylline, calcium chloride, calcium gluconate, flucloxacillin, flumazenil, furosemide, indometacin, phenytoin, sodium bicarbonate, tazocin, THAM / trometamol.
Notes	Stimulates cardiac beta-receptors and increases contractility Little peripheral vascular effect. Monitor blood pressure and heart rate. Peripheral vasodilatation may occur and hypotension can result. <u>Quadruple strength:</u> 240mg in 50mL total Draw up 19.2mL of 250mg/20mL dobutamine (240mg) and add to 30.8mL of diluent 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. Solutions may turn pink due to oxidation of dobutamine; the colour may intensify with time. There is no significant loss of potency during the recommended storage period. Solutions that have turned pink may still be used, provided they were made less than 24 hours previously For side-effects see the BNFc - Dobutamine BNFc
References	Leeds Teaching Hospitals neonatal prescribing and administration monograph, Handbook of Injectable Drugs Trissel et al, Medusa, BNFc.

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Clinicians must accept individual responsibility for using this information and prescribing safely.