

Morphine Sulphate

Indication	Pain, sedation
Dose	<p><u>Intravenous:</u> 50-100 micrograms/kg loading dose if appropriate over 5 minutes Infusion of 5 to 20 micrograms/kg/hr</p> <p><u>Subcutaneous:</u> 100 micrograms/kg every 6 hours adjusted according to response</p> <p><u>Oral:</u> 50 micrograms/kg as required for symptom relief Dose may be adjusted according to response</p> <p><u>Converting from intravenous to oral:</u> Parenteral to oral conversion ratios of between 1:2 and 1:3 have been quoted. Calculate the total daily dose, multiply by 2 in the first instance and divide into 6 equal 4 hourly oral doses. Thereafter adjust dose on the basis of clinical efficacy.</p>
Route of administration	IV bolus, IV infusion, IO, SC, oral
To prepare an infusion	<p>10mg/mL vials</p> <p>Preferred diluent: glucose 5%, glucose 10%, sodium chloride 0.9%</p> <p>Standard: 2.5mg in 50mL total Draw up 0.25mL of 10mg/mL morphine (2.5mg) and add to 49.75mL of diluent.</p> <p>Some units have syringes pre-prepared by pharmacy.</p>
Compatibilities	Glucose 5%, glucose 10%, sodium chloride 0.9%, adrenaline, aminophylline, amiodarone, atracurium, atropine, benzylpenicillin, caffeine citrate, calcium chloride, cefotaxime, cefuroxime, ceftazidime, ceftriaxone, dexamethasone, digoxin, dobutamine, dopamine, fentanyl, fluconazole, gentamicin, hydrocortisone, insulin, ketamine, magnesium sulphate, meropenem, metronidazole, midazolam, milrinone, noradrenaline, pancuronium, parenteral nutrition, phenobarbital, potassium chloride, ranitidine, remifentanyl, vancomycin, vecuronium, zidovudine
Known incompatibilities	Aciclovir, amphotericin B, cotrimoxazole, flucloxacillin, furosemide, heparin, phenytoin, sodium bicarbonate.
Notes	<p>Morphine infusions can be stopped for short periods to infuse other drugs.</p> <p><u>Double strength:</u> 5mg in 50mL total Draw up 0.5mL of 10mg/mL morphine (5mg) and add to 49.5mL of diluent.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For side-effects see the BNFC - Morphine sulphate BNFC</p>
References	Leeds Teaching Hospitals neonatal prescribing and administration monograph, BNFC, Neonatal Formulary 7 th edition.

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