

Yorkshire and Humber Neonatal Operational Delivery Network

Drug Administration Guide

Paracetamol

Indication	Pain
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Dose

Oral / rectal

Corrected gestational age	Loading dose	Subsequent doses	Dosing interval	Maximum cumulative daily dose
<32 weeks	20mg/kg	7.5mg/kg	4-6 hours	30mg/kg/day
32 weeks - <37 weeks	20mg/kg	10-15mg/kg	4-6 hours	60mg/kg/day
37 - <44 weeks	20mg/kg	10-15mg/kg	4-6 hours	60mg/kg/day
≥44 weeks	30mg/kg	20mg/kg	6 hours	80mg/kg/day

Intravenous

Corrected gestational age	Dose	Dosing interval	Maximum cumulative daily dose
<32 weeks	7.5mg/kg	8 hours	25mg/kg/day
32 - <37 weeks	7.5mg/kg	4-6 hours	30mg/kg/day
37 - <44 weeks	7.5-10mg/kg	6-8 hours	30mg/kg/day
≥44 weeks	15mg/kg	6 hours	60mg/kg/day

Route of administration	Intravenous infusion over 15 minutes Oral Rectal
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To prepare	<p><u>Intravenous:</u> 1 gram in 100mL (10mg/mL) vials or 500mg in 50mL (10mg/mL) vials Withdraw required dose and administer. If required dilute with 0.9% sodium chloride or 5% glucose to a concentration of 1mg/mL.</p> <p><u>Oral:</u> 120mg/5mL oral suspension or 250mg/5mL oral suspension Withdraw required dose and administer</p>
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Compatibilities	None.
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Known incompatibilities	Paracetamol should not be infused with any other medicines.
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Notes	<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.</p>
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References	BNFc, Neonatal Formulary 7 th Edition, Leeds Teaching Hospitals neonatal prescribing and administration monograph.
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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.