

Title	Heparin – IV Drug Monograph – BGH Guidance	
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Developed by	BGH Clinical Pharmacists – Sept 2018; reviewed Allison Carruthers Sept 2020	
Reviewed by	Liz Leitch – Sept 2022	
Significant resource implications (financial/workload)	N/A	
Approved by	NHS Borders Anticoagulation Committee	
Health Inequality Impact Assessment (HIIA)	N/A	
(only statutory for policies)		

Uncontrolled when printed

Heparin

Form	20ml vial of heparin sodium 1000 units/ml (Total 20,000 units/20ml)	
Diluent	Should be administered without further dilution.	
Method	Ready diluted:- Concentration 1000units/ml	
Administration	 Initiation of therapy Check baseline FBC, INR, APTT, urea, creatinine Prescribe loading dose and infusion on the patients main Medicine Chart "as charted" and also prescribe the infusion on the Heparin Infusion Chart. Loading dose: 5000 units IV bolus. For patients with a high risk of bleeding e.g. elderly >70yrs, creatinine clearance <30ml/min or low body mass index, a loading dose may not be required. Immediately start continuous infusion of heparin (1000 units/ml) set at initial rate of 1,200 units (1.2 ml)/hr. If actual body weight over 120kg seek advice from haematologist. For patients with a high risk of bleeding, a lower starting rate may be required such as 1,000 units (1.0ml)/hr. 	

Check APTT ratio 6 hours after the Heparin bolus then adjust rate to achieve a therapeutic range of 2.0 - 3.0using the dose adjustment table below.

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Dose Adjustment Instructions				
TARGET APTT RATIO: 2.0 - 3.0				
	eeding risk, a revised target ratio may be required: seek advice from Haemato			
APTT ratio	INFUSION ADJUSTMENT	REPEAT APTT ratio:		
>5.0	Stop for 1 hour and decrease rate by 500 units (0.5ml)/hr	2 hours		
4.1-5.0	Decrease infusion rate by 300 units (0.3ml)/hr	6 hours		
3.1-4.0	Decrease infusion rate by 200 units (0.2ml)/hr	6 hours		
2.0-3.0	No change in infusion rate	next day AM		
1.5-1.9	Increase infusion rate by 100 units (0.1ml)/hr	6 hours		
1.2-1.4	Increase infusion rate by 200 units (0.2ml)/hr	6 hours		
<1.2	Increase infusion rate by 400 units (0.4ml)/hr	6 hours		
Storage	IV additives prepared outwith the hospital pharmacy aseptic unit, must be prepared			
	immediately before the dose is given and remain stable for the length of time requir			
	for drug administration.			
DO NOT STORE ON WARD				
Vials containing injectable medicines must be used to prepare the IV injection				
	immediate use and then discarded. They must not be stored for further use.			
Further	Syringes should not be allowed to run any longer than 24 hours and should be changed			
Information	after this time period.			

This is abridged product information. For further details the product data sheet must be referred to or a pharmacist consulted.

Clinical Pharmacy IV Information Sheet

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Prepared by the Pharmacy Department, Borders General Hospital NHS Borders

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