

# Phenylephrine Intravenous for Adults



## Who can administer

Administration RESTRICTED - see [Appendix 1](#)

## Available preparations

Phenylephrine hydrochloride Injection 100micrograms/mL solution for injection/infusion (2mg/20mL)

Phenylephrine hydrochloride *pre-filled syringe* 50microgram/mL (500micrograms in 10mL)

## Reconstitution

Already in solution

## Infusion fluids

Not required- already in solution

## Methods of intravenous administration

**See under 'Dose' for which route of administration to use**

### **Continuous intravenous infusion (administer using an electronically controlled infusion device)**

- Draw up 3 x 2mg/20mL vials using a 50ml syringe (which has graduations marked up to 60ml)
- This solution contains 100micrograms/ml
- Titrate dose to response
- When an intravenous infusion is discontinued, slow the rate gradually - do not stop it abruptly (ref 1)

### **Slow intravenous injection** (ref 1)

- Administer required dose over 3 to 5 minutes

## Dose in adults

<b>Severe hypotension and shock - including drug-related hypotension - by continuous intravenous infusion - ICU, CCU, or other critical care areas only</b>	
<b>Usual loading dose rate</b>	Initially 25 to 50micrograms/minute (0.25 to 0.5mL/ <b>minute</b> using a 100microgram/mL solution)
<b>Usual maintenance dose (once the blood pressure has stabilised at a low normal level for the patient)</b>	25 to 100microgram/minute (0.25 to 1mL/ <b>minute</b> using a 100microgram/mL solution), adjusted according to response. This corresponds to 15 to 60ml/ <b>hour</b>

### **Acute hypotension - by slow intravenous injection**

- Dose range 50 to 100micrograms repeated as necessary after at least 15 minutes
- Intravenous injections are effective for up to about 20 minutes<sup>(ref 2)</sup>

## Monitoring

- Monitor for **extravasation**
- Monitor blood pressure, heart rate, arterial blood gases, central venous pressure

## Further information

- Can cause extravasation

## Storage

Store below 25°C

## References

Phenylephrine (Aguettant) SPC June 2021

1: Injectable Medicines Administration Guide Medusa- downloaded 16th November 2021

2: Martindale, accessed online via medicinescomplete 2nd Feb 2022

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## Therapeutic classification

Sympathomimetic vasoconstrictor