

## Naloxone IV Continuous Infusion

**Dose:** An infusion of 60% of the total dose administered over 1 hour is a useful starting point.

**Preparation:** Make up a solution of naloxone 100micrograms/1ml as follows:

- Draw up 4mg of naloxone from 10 ampoules, each containing 400micrograms/ml (total volume: 10ml).
- Dilute the 4mg concentrate with 30ml of sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5% to give a final volume of 40ml and a concentration of 100micrograms/ml.
- Infuse solution using an IV pump, **adjust dose to clinical response**. Infusions are *not* a substitute for frequent review of the patient's clinical state.

**Administration:** Table 1 below gives indicative starting naloxone infusion rates in micrograms/hour and ml/hour of prepared solution.

Total initial bolus dose required for response (micrograms)	Starting infusion rate (micrograms/hour)	Starting infusion rate (ml/hour)
200micrograms	120micrograms/hour	1.2ml/hour
400micrograms	240micrograms/hour	2.4ml/hour
600micrograms	360micrograms/hour	3.6ml/hour
800micrograms	480micrograms/hour	4.8ml/hour
1000micrograms	600micrograms/hour	6.0ml/hour
1200micrograms	720micrograms/hour	7.2ml/hour
1400micrograms	840micrograms/hour	8.4ml/hour
1600micrograms	960micrograms/hour	9.6ml/hour
1800micrograms	1080micrograms/hour	10.8ml/hour
2000micrograms	1200micrograms/hour	12.0ml/hour

**Table 1. Recommended starting infusion rates for naloxone infusions.**