

# HNE AREA Intensive Care

Approved For: JHH ICU and HDU

## Prostaglandin E1 infusion

**Trade Name:** ALPROSTADIL

**Presentation:**

**Indications:** Severe peripheral vascular disease, especially threatening digital ischaemia ( To be prescribed by vascular medicine team)

**Administration:** Administration: Alprostadil is usually administered through a central venous catheter over a period of 72 hours

Preparation of solution for infusion: Add 2 vials of 500 microgram/ml alprostadil to 500ml of 5% dextrose or 0.9% sodium chloride. Resulting concentration of infusion = 2 microgram/ml

Titration: Patients should generally be titrated up by increments of 2 ml/hr ,at hourly intervals, to the maximum dose within 6 hours of drug initiation.

Weight	Starting rate(ml/hour)	Maximum rate (ml/hour)
50	11	30
60	13	36
70	15	42
80	17	42
90	19	42
100	21	42

If heart rate increases by more than 20 beats per minute , or blood pressure drops by more than 20mmHg, shows signs of intolerance(**flushing, headache,nausea,abdominal cramps, fever**) , reduce the dose rate and continue therapy at the tolerated dose rate for the 72hours.

**Dose** Starting Dose:0.007 microgram/kg/minute

Maximum dose: 0.02 microgram/kg/minute

**Precautions**

- Cardiac monitoring is not required
- Check heart rate and blood pressure, before infusion, 15 minutes after each dose change, and every 2 hours during infusion

**Compatibilities:** Normal saline; 5% dextrose

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Created: 01-Apr-04 by Dr M Rowley Reviewed: 01-Apr-06 by Guideline to be reviewed before : 01-Apr-10

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