

# DOSAGE CALCULATION

## Printable PDF

### DOSAGE CALCULATION

#### CONVERSIONS

1 kg = 1000 lbs  
 1000 g = 1 kg  
 1000 mg = 1 g  
 1000 micrograms = 1 mg  
 1000 ul = 1 ml  
 1 fl oz = 30 ml  
 1 tsp = 5 ml  
 1 cup = 8 fl oz

#### SOLID DOSAGE CALCULATION

##### Steps

1. Determine the quantity available
2. Determine the dose available
3. Determine the desired dose
4. Determine the units you are calculating and convert if required

##### Formula to use for calculation

$$\frac{\text{Quantity Available}}{\text{Dose Available}} \times \frac{\text{Desired Dose}}{1} = \text{X}$$

##### Example

Quantity Available: 1 Tablet  
 Dose Available: 500 mg  
 Desired Dose: 1000 mg  
 Solve:

$$\frac{1 \text{ Tablet}}{500 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ mg}}{1} = 2 \text{ Tablets}$$

#### LIQUID DOSAGE CALCULATION

To administer 500 mg of erythropoietin that is available in a dose of 100mg/ml

##### Solve:

$$\frac{1 \text{ ml}}{100 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{500 \text{ mg}}{1} = 5 \text{ ml}$$

5 ml of erythropoietin will be administered

#### INJECTIBLE DOSAGE CALCULATION

Order: Administer 50mg of Benesol every 4 hrs.  
The available dose of Benesol is 100mg/ml

##### Solve:

$$\frac{1 \text{ ml}}{100 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{50 \text{ mg}}{1} = 0.5 \text{ ml}$$

#### WEIGHT BASED DOSAGE CALCULATION

Order: Administer Amoxicillin 40mg/kg in 2 doses  
 The available dose of Amoxicillin is 400mg/5ml  
 Weight of patient is 30 kg  
 To calculate the dose to be given to a kid weighing 30 kg first calculate the dose to be given in mg

$$\frac{40 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ kg}} \times \frac{30 \text{ kg}}{1} = 1200 \text{ mg}$$

Divide the dose with frequency:  $\frac{1200 \text{ mg}}{2} = 600 \text{ mg}$

#### IV FLOW RATE

##### IV Flow ml/hr

Order: Administer 1,000ml of 0.9% in 10 hours

$$\frac{\text{Volume}}{\text{Time}} \times \frac{60 \text{ min}}{1 \text{ hr}} = \frac{1000 \text{ ml}}{10 \text{ hrs}} \times \frac{60 \text{ min}}{1 \text{ hr}} = 6000 \text{ ml/hr}$$

##### IV Flow gtt/min

Order: Administer 1,000ml of 0.9% in 10 hours (drip chamber)

Drop Factor 15 gtt/ml

$$\frac{\text{Volume}}{\text{Time}} \times \frac{\text{Drop Factor}}{1 \text{ min}} = \frac{1000 \text{ ml}}{10 \text{ hrs}} \times \frac{15 \text{ gtt/ml}}{1 \text{ min}} = 1500 \text{ gtt/min}$$

#### EXAMPLES

Order: Administer 100 mg po of Ibuprofen. The nurse has 200 mg tablets. How much dose she will administer?

$$\frac{1 \text{ Tablet}}{200 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{100 \text{ mg}}{1} = 0.5 \text{ Tablet}$$

Order: Administer 0.5 mg/kg for a client weighing 30 lbs. How much dose will be administered?

Order: Administer 10 mg/kg for the client. The medication is 50 mg/ml. How much dose will be administered by nurse?

#### ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS

stat = Immediately  
 bid = Twice a day  
 tid = Three a day  
 qid = Four times a day  
 q = every  
 q6h = every 6 hrs  
 q8h = every 8 hrs  
 q12h = every 12 hrs  
 prn = as needed  
 ac = before meals  
 pc = after meals  
 po = By Mouth  
 pr = per rectum  
 gr = per rectal  
 tid = TID  
 cap = Capsule  
 susp = Suspension

# Medical Assistant Dosage Calculation And Lables

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