

DRIP RATE PROBLEMS

Upon arriving at the emergency department the physician asks how much fluid you infused into your transport patient. Your total transport time was 40 minutes and you ran NS at 45 gtts/min through a 15 gtts/mL administration set. What would you report?

120 mL

The transferring physician requests that you infuse 750 mL of NS during your transport. Anticipated transport time is 3 hours. At what rate would you set a:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. | 15 gtts/mL administration set | 62.5 gtts/min |
| b. | 20 gtts/mL administration set | 83.33 gtts/min |
| c. | 60 gtts/mL administration set | 250 gtts/min |

You are ordered to start a patient on a lidocaine drip at 2 mg/min. There is 2 grams of lidocaine in 500 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| a. | 15 gtts/mL administration set | 7.5 gtts/min |
| b. | 20 gtts/mL administration set | 10 gtts/min |
| c. | 60 gtts/mL administration set | 30 gtts/min |

You are ordered to start a patient on a dopamine drip at 5 mcg/kg/min. Your patient weighs 185 pounds. You have mixed 400 mg of dopamine in 250 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. | 15 gtts/mL administration set | 3.94 gtts/min |
| b. | 20 gtts/mL administration set | 5.25 gtts/min |
| c. | 60 gtts/mL administration set | 15.75 gtts/min |

You are ordered to start a patient on a nitroglycerine drip at 20 mcg/min. There is 25 mg of nitroglycerine in 250 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| a. | 15 gtts/mL administration set | 3 gtts/min |
| b. | 20 gtts/mL administration set | 4 gtts/min |
| c. | 60 gtts/mL administration set | 12 gtts/min |

You are ordered to start a patient on a dobutamine drip at 7.5 mcg/kg/min. Your patient weighs 154 pounds. You have mixed 500 mg of dobutamine in 250 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. | 15 gtts/mL administration set | 3.94 gtts/min |
| b. | 20 gtts/mL administration set | 5.25 gtts/min |
| c. | 60 gtts/mL administration set | 15.75 gtts/min |

You are ordered to start a patient on a nitroglycerine drip at 50 mcg/min. There is 50 mg of nitroglycerine in 250 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- a. 15 gtts/mL administration set **3.75 gtts/min**
- b. 20 gtts/mL administration set **5 gtts/min**
- c. 60 gtts/mL administration set **15 gtts/min**

The physician orders you to start your patient on a norepinephrine drip at 10 mcg/min. You have mixed 8 mg of norepinephrine in 500 mL of D5W. At what rate would you set a:

- a. 15 gtts/mL administration set **9.38 gtts/min**
- b. 20 gtts/mL administration set **12.5 gtts/min**
- c. 60 gtts/mL administration set **37.5 gtts/min**

You are transporting a patient on dopamine at 5 mcg/kg/min. Your patient weighs 190 pounds. You have mixed 400 mg of dopamine in 250 mL of D5W. You have given report to medical control and the physician has ordered you to increase your drop to 7.5 mcg/kg/min. At what rate would you set a:

- a. 15 gtts/mL administration set **6.04 gtts/min**
- b. 20 gtts/mL administration set **5.38 gtts/min**
- c. 60 gtts/mL administration set **24.18 gtts/min**

You have successfully resuscitated your cardiac arrest patient. She weighs 110 pounds. Since you defibrillated this patient your protocol calls for you to hang a lidocaine infusion at 2 mg/min. The lidocaine is mixed with 1000 mg of lidocaine in 250 mL of D5W. Your patient is also hypotensive with a blood pressure of 80/60 that does not respond to a fluid bolus; per your protocol you are to administer dopamine at 5 mcg/kg/min. Your dopamine is mixed with 800 mg of dopamine in 250 mL of D5W. Using a 60 gtts/mL administration set what would you:

- a. start your lidocaine infusion at **30 gtts/min**
- b. start your dopamine infusion at **4.69 gtts/min**

The above patient continues to have numerous multifocal PVC's and her blood pressure remains 80/60. Per you protocol you are to increase your lidocaine infusion to 3 mg/min and increase your dopamine infusion by 2.5 mcg/kg/min. Using the same 60 gtts/mL administration set what would you increase your:

- a. lidocaine infusion to **45 gtts/min**
- b. dopamine infusion to **7.03 gtts/min**