REGIONAL ADULT PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH

GENERIC NAME
digoxin

Effective Date: Dec 2012 **Revised Date:** Mar 14 2018	CLASSIFICATION **Antiarrhythmic**	OTHER NAMES **Lanoxin**	PAGE 1 of 1

ADMINISTRATION POLICY:

IV Bolus - May be administered by a nurse
IV Infusion - May be administered by a nurse
IM Injection - *Not recommended*

RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:

Available as: 0.25 mg/mL - 2 mL ampoule
0.5 mg = 2 mL
0.25 mg = 1 mL
0.125 mg = 0.5 mL
0.0625 mg = 0.25 mL

IV Bolus: Administer dose over 5 minutes or longer
May give undiluted, or dilute to 5 to 10 mL

IV Intermittent: Dilute further in 50 mL normal saline; administer over 10 to 30 minutes

Maximum rate: over at least 1 minute
Maximum concentration: 0.25 mg/mL

DOSAGE:

Usual: **Loading dose:** 0.5 to 1 mg IV total dose, administered by divided doses at 4 to 6 hour intervals over a 12 to 24 hour period
Maintenance: 0.0625 to 0.25 mg IV daily

Maximum single dose: 0.5 mg (loading doses only)
Maximum daily dose: 1 mg (loading doses only-usual maximum maintenance dose in 0.25 mg daily)

STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:

Stability of Final Admixture: 24 hours at room temperature

Compatibility: Compatible with normal saline, D5W, dextrose-saline combinations, and Lactated Ringer

PRECAUTIONS, POTENTIAL ADVERSE REACTIONS:

- Clinical signs of digoxin toxicity may include: nausea, vomiting, anorexia, abdominal pain, visual disturbances, confusion, weakness, headache, fatigue, and bradycardia.
- Arrhythmias; peripheral vasoconstriction with rapid injections.
- Extravasation can cause local irritation and sloughing.

ADDITIONAL NOTES AND NURSING CONSIDERATIONS:

- Hypokalemia, hypercalcemia, hypomagnesemia, and hypothyroidism predispose patient to toxicity.
- For digoxin levels, draw blood sample just prior to a dose, or at least 6 to 8 hours after the last dose.
- Following a single IV dose, effects are noticeable in 5 to 30 minutes and develop fully in 1 to 5 hours.
- IM injection is not recommended due to erratic absorption and local irritation and pain.
- Elderly patients: May require smaller doses of digoxin due to smaller lean body mass and reduced renal function.