



Drug Therapy Protocols: Water for injection

Policy code	DTP_WFI_0722
Date	July, 2022
Purpose	To ensure a consistent procedural approach to water for injection administration.
Scope	Applies to all Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
Health care setting	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
Population	Applies to all ages unless specifically mentioned.
Source of funding	Internal – 100%
Author	Clinical Quality & Patient Safety Unit, QAS
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Water for injection

July, 2022

Drug class

Not applicable.

Pharmacology

Water for injection is sterilised water used to dilute or dissolve drugs.

Metabolism

Not applicable.

Presentation

- Ampoule, 20 mL *Water for Injection*

Onset

N/A

Duration

N/A

Half-life

N/A

Indications

- **To dissolve AND/OR dilute drugs** for the purpose of IM, IV or IO administration

Schedule

- **Unscheduled.**

Contraindications

- Nil

Routes of administration

Intravenous injection (IV)

Intramuscular injection (IM)

ACP2
CCP

AT
P
ACP1
ACP2
CCP

Precautions

- Nil

Side effects

- Nil

Special notes

- Ambulance officers must only administer medications for the listed indications and dosing range. Any consideration for treatment outside the listed scope of practice requires mandatory approval via the *QAS Clinical Consultation and Advice Line*.
- Under no circumstances should water for injection be parenterally administered unless it has been used to dissolve or dilute drugs for administration.
- QAS medications approved for dilution with water for Injection include:- ceftriaxone, glucagon, hydrocortisone and ketamine. (*Refer to individual DTPs.*)
- Water for injection may be used to assist with the administration of oral medication (aspirin, clopidogrel paracetamol and ticagrelor) if required.

Adult dosages

To dissolve AND/OR dilute drugs for the purpose of IM, IV or IO administration

AT P ACP1 ACP2 CCP	IM	As authorised on individual DTPs
ACP2 CCP	IV	As authorised on individual DTPs
CCP	IO	As authorised on individual DTPs

Paediatric dosages

To dissolve AND/OR dilute drugs for the purpose of IM, IV or IO administration

AT P ACP1 ACP2 CCP	IM	As authorised on individual DTPs
ACP2 CCP	IV	As authorised on individual DTPs
CCP	IO	As authorised on individual DTPs