

Basic Anaesthetic Drugs

Doses are for an average adult. They are provided as a guide to the usual range of doses for fit ASA1/2 adult patients only.

You should discuss these doses with your trainers and adjust the document as required according to local practice.

*= Titrate to effect.

Induction Agents	Dose	Presentation
Propofol	2–3 mg/kg	10 mg/ml
Thiopental	3–5 mg/kg	25 mg/ml – Beware of antibiotics in 20 ml syringe

Opioids	Dose	Presentation
Fentanyl*	1 mcg/kg	50 mcg/ml
Alfentanil*	10 mcg/kg	500 mcg/ml
Morphine*	0.1 mg/kg	10 mg/ml

Muscle Relaxants	Dose (Intubation)	Top ups	Presentation
Atracurium	0.5 mg/kg	Approximately half intubating dose	10 mg/ml (stored in fridge)
Vecuronium	0.1 mg/kg		2 mg/ml
Rocuronium	0.6 mg/kg		10 mg/ml (stored in fridge)
Suxamethonium	1–1.5 mg/kg		50 mg/ml (stored in fridge)

Reversal for muscle relaxants	Neostigmine 2.5 mg + Glycopyrronium 500 mcg
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Local Anaesthetics	Toxic Dose	Formulation/Max Dose
Bupivacaine	2 mg/kg	0.25% = 2.5 mg/ml (Max dose 0.8 ml/kg) 0.5% = 5 mg/ml (Max dose 0.4 ml/kg)
Lidocaine	3 mg/kg without adrenaline 6 mg/kg with adrenaline	1% = 10 mg/ml 2% = 20 mg/ml

Common Emergency Drugs	Use	Dose	Presentation
Suxamethonium	Laryngospasm	25–50 mg	50 mg/ml (fridge)
Atropine*	Bradycardia	20 mcg/kg	1 mg/ml
Glycopyrronium*	Bradycardia	200 mcg bolus	200 mcg/ml
Ephedrine*	Hypotension	3 mg bolus	30 mg diluted into 10 ml saline
Metaraminol*	Hypotension	0.5 mg bolus	10 mg diluted into 20 ml saline

Adrenaline*	Suspected anaphylaxis	50–100 mcg boluses titrated to effect 0.5–1 ml of 1:10,000
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Other Emergency Drugs	
Intralipid 20%	Local anaesthetic toxicity – initial dose 1.5 ml/kg IV over 1 min
Dantrolene	Malignant Hyperthermia – initial dose 2.5 mg/kg IV (9 vials for 70 kg Px)