

INTRAVENOUS UNFRACTIONATED HEPARIN INFUSION PROTOCOL

**Previously
concentration
was 500 units/ml**

- Use a heparin infusion of **1,000 units/ml**. No need to dilute – use heparin 20,000 units in 20ml ampoules.

- Unless contraindicated give loading dose of 5,000 units (5ml)
- Start infusion at rate of 1200 units (1.2ml) /hour
- Check APTT 6 hourly until stable in therapeutic range and adjust rates to achieve a target range of 1.5-2.5

**Heparin induced
thrombocytopenia
is a risk of
heparin treatment**

- Monitor **platelet count** on alternate days
- Adjust heparin infusion as follows.

**Infusion adjustments
described in both
units/hour and ml/hr**

APTT ratio	Infusion adjustment	Recheck APTT
> 5.0	Stop for 1 hour and decrease rate by 500 units/ hour (0.5ml/ hr)	2 hours
4.1 –5.0	Decrease infusion rate by 300 units/ hour (0.3 ml/hr)	6 hours
3.1 – 4.0	Decrease infusion rate by 200 units/ hour (0.2 ml/hr)	6 hours
2.6 – 3.0	Decrease infusion rate by 100 units/ hour (0.1 ml/hr)	6 hours
1.5 – 2.5	No change in infusion rate	Within 12 hours
1.2 – 1.4	Increase infusion rate by 200 units /hour (0.2ml/hr)	6 hours
<1.2	Increase infusion rate by 400 units/hour (0.4 ml/ hr)	6 hours