



Date: February 17, 2021

To: All NW Region Paramedics

Cc: NAOTEMS, NWEMS, RRDPS, SNEMS, Base Hospital Staff

From: NW Region Prehospital Care Program

Re: Dilution of Medication using 10ml pre-filled syringe – change in practice immediately

This is to advise all Paramedics to change their practice for any medications being diluted with a 10ml pre-filled syringe. According to the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) - Safe Practice Guidelines for Adult IV Push Medications, the usage of commercially available, pre-filled syringes are not to be utilized for reconstitution or dilution. Pre-filled syringes of saline are to be used only for the flushing of vascular access devices.

In order to meet the accepted safe practice guidelines for diluting IV push medication, paramedics are expected to use 0.9% normal saline (NaCl) from an appropriate source. Depending on the equipment available to you, this may include a 10ml vial or an IV bag (ex. 50 mL, 250 mL, 500 mL, 1000mL).

Below is an example of diluting medication using accepted safe practice guidelines.

To dilute DimenhyDRINATE for IV delivery:

1. Draw up 50 mg (1 mL) of DimenhyDRINATE in a 10 mL syringe using a filtered blunt tip needle.
2. Add 9 mL of 0.9% Saline (NaCl) from an appropriate source (i.e a bag of 0.9% normal saline or a 10 mL vial if supplied).
3. Reconstitute the medication.
4. Administer the appropriate weight based dosage.
5. Flush with 0.9% Saline (NaCl).
6. Provide documentation on the ACR.

If there are any questions, please call a Clinical Educator or email basehospital@tbh.net.

NW Region Prehospital Care Program