



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE	
Bupivacaine	
<b>Scope (Staff):</b>	All WNHS Staff
<b>Scope (Area):</b>	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
This document should be read in conjunction with the <a href="#">Disclaimer</a> .	

### Quick Links

<a href="#">Dose</a>	<a href="#">Administration</a>	<a href="#">Monitoring</a>	<a href="#">Pregnancy and Breastfeeding</a>
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### Restrictions

<a href="#">Formulary: Unrestricted</a>
<a href="#">HIGH RISK Medication</a> 

### Medication Class

Anaesthetics
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### Presentation

<b>Ampoule:</b> 0.25% (50mg/20mL)
<b>Ampoule:</b> 0.5% (50mg/10mL)
<b>Ampoule:</b> 0.5% (20mg/4mL) <b>(hyperbaric)</b> Spinal Heavy
<b>Ampoule:</b> 0.125% with Fentanyl 5 microg/mL (20mL)
<b>Bag:</b> 0.0625% with Fentanyl 2.5microg/mL in NaCl 0.9% (100mL)
<b>Vial:</b> 0.5% (100mg/20mL) <b>with Epinephrine</b> 1:200,000

### Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C.
<b>Schedule 8 Medication (for formulations containing fentanyl)</b>
Solutions containing adrenaline (epinephrine): protect from light.

## Dose

**NOT FOR INTRAVENOUS USE**

The dose used varies depending on factors such as the area to be anaesthetised, vascularity of tissues, and number of neuronal segments to be blocked, individual tolerance and technique used.

Refer to relevant [KEMH Clinical Guideline](#) for appropriate dose regime

## Administration

Refer to relevant [KEMH Clinical Guideline](#) and [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#) for appropriate dose administration regimen

## Monitoring

Use only where cardiac monitoring and cardiorespiratory resuscitation equipment are available.

## Pregnancy

**1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:** Safe to use

**2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:** Safe to use

**3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:** Safe to use

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

## Breastfeeding

Safe to use

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

## Comments

Not for intravenous use.

Careful aspiration before and during injection is recommended to avoid intravascular injection.

Avoid prolonged contact between bupivacaine and metal surfaces.

Bupivacaine with adrenaline (epinephrine) also contains sodium metabisulfite which may cause allergic reactions in susceptible people.

## Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

### WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Neuraxial analgesia \(including epidural, intrathecal morphine\)](#)

[Bladder management](#)

### WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Restricted S4R and S8 medications](#)

## References

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Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Bupivacaine. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2022 [cited 2022 May 27]. Available from: <http://aidh.hcn.com.au>

The Royal Women's Hospital. Bupivacaine. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2022 [cited 2022 May 27]. Available from: <https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/>

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