

Clinical Alert

Vasopressor Concentration Update

Increased standard concentrations of vasopressors was approved previously by P&T and MEC to prevent fluid overload in critically ill patients. Implementation of these new concentrations was delayed until the Medication Code Trays could be properly equipped to respond to these changes in the setting of an emergency. Please note the new standard concentration of vasopressors will go-live on July 1, 2021.

Current Standard:

Norepinephrine 8 mg/250 mL

Phenylephrine 100 mg/250 mL

Vasopressin 20 units/100 mL

New Standard GO-LIVE JULY 1, 2021:

Norepinephrine 16 mg/250 mL (premix available)

Phenylephrine 200 mg/250 mL

Vasopressin 20 units/50 mL

- Please note epinephrine will still be compounded as the standard concentration (2 mg/250 mL) and the double concentration (4 mg/250 mL), as epinephrine is a very common shortage item.
- **Peripheral administration of vasopressors** at these concentrations is permitted while adhering to the Peripheral IV Vasopressors Protocol on the CPN. While the literature is not robust for peripheral administration of vasopressors in general, there are reports of peripheral administration of vasoactive medications at these concentrations with extravasation events of less than 3%
- **Dual RN verification** will not be required for norepinephrine and phenylephrine. However, dual RN verification will still be required for **double concentration** epinephrine (4 mg/250 mL)
- **Omniceil stock** will be updated on July 1st 2021. Please be aware Omnicell access to norepinephrine 16 mg/250 mL may be delayed until the Omnicell update is complete by end of business day. If immediate assistance is required, please contact pharmacy at x2330.