National Standard for User-applied Labelling of Injectable Medicines, Fluids and Lines

Preprinted medicine line label guide

The following examples of medicine line labels **for dedicated continuous infusion lines** represent the majority of medicine line labels. Specifications for developing a medicine line label are shown on the reverse.

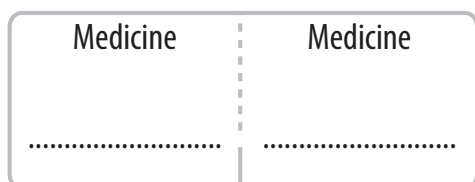| Medicine line	Label
Vasopressor, adrenaline Violet, bold, reverse plate letters in a black bar on upper half of label. Violet on lower half of label	Adrenaline
Miscellaneous B/W, Tall Man lettering	amINOPHYLLIne
Miscellaneous B/W, Tall Man lettering	amIODAROne
Anticholinergic Green label with black font	Atropine
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Clonidine
Benzodiazepine Orange label with black font, Tall Man lettering	DIazepam
Vasopressor Violet label with black font	Dobutamine
Vasopressor Violet label with black font	Dopamine
Opioid Blue label with black font	Fentanyl
Miscellaneous B/W	Frusemide
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Glyceryl Trinitrate
Anticoagulant Teal green label with 1–2 mm solid black border	Heparin
Miscellaneous/high risk White label with red font	Insulin
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Isoprenaline
Induction agent Yellow label with black font	Ketamine
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Levosimendan
Local anaesthetic Grey label with black font	Lignocaine
Miscellaneous B/W	Magnesium
Vasopressor Violet label with black font	Metaraminol
Benzodiazepine Orange label with black font	Midazolam
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Milrinone

Medicine line	Label
Opioid Blue label with black font	Morphine
Opioid antagonist Blue label with white diagonal-stripe border	Naloxone
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border, Tall Man lettering	niMODIPine
Vasopressor Violet label with black font	Noradrenaline
Opioid Blue label with black font	Oxycodone
Muscle relaxant Fluorescent red label with black font	Pancuronium
Miscellaneous/high risk White label with red font	Potassium Chloride
Induction agent Yellow label with black font, Tall Man lettering	propOFol
Anticoagulant antagonist Teal green label with 1–2 mm diagonal-stripe black border	Protamine
Muscle relaxant Fluorescent red label with black font	Rocuronium
Local anaesthetic Grey label with black font	Ropivacaine
Miscellaneous B/W	Salbutamol
Miscellaneous B/W	Sodium Chloride 0.9%
Miscellaneous/high risk White label with red font	Sodium Chloride 20%
Hypotensive Violet label with white diagonal-stripe border	Sodium Nitroprusside
Muscle relaxant, suxamethonium Fluorescent red, bold, reverse plate letters in a black bar on upper half of label. Fluorescent red on lower half of label	Suxamethonium
Induction agent Yellow label with black font	Thiopentone
Anticoagulant Teal green label with black font	Urokinase
Muscle relaxant Fluorescent red with black font	Vecuronium

B/W = black font on white background

Dedicated continuous infusion lines are identified with a route label and a medicine line label.

Preprinted medicine line labels are recommended for commonly used medicines with specifications as follows:

1. Use the active ingredient name of the medicine or fluid (not the brand name).

2. Colour coding should be consistent with the Anaesthetic Labelling Standard (ISO 26825:2008), and colour should be assigned according to primary therapeutic use rather than pharmacological class. Exceptions are high-risk medicines and anticoagulant/antiplatelet agents.

   • High-risk medicines that fall in the Anaesthetic Labelling Standard (ISO 26825: 2008) miscellaneous category should be printed in red on a white background.

   • Anticoagulant/antiplatelet medicines should be printed in black on a teal green background.

   • Other medicines in the Anaesthetic Labelling Standard (ISO 26825:2008) miscellaneous category (such as frusemide) should be printed in black on a white background.

3. Use a generic medicine label for infrequently used medicines where a preprinted label is unavailable.

4. Lines for intermittent infusions may be labelled for medicine content, but the labels must be removed when the infusion is completed.

5. Label size and font size can be determined by the health facility.

6. The medicine name should be visible from both sides when the label is wrapped around the line. This can be achieved by either:

   • printing a single medicine name on a roll of continuous tape and tearing off two labels per line

   • printing the medicine name twice on a single label.

Medicine	Medicine
....	....

For more details, see the *National Standard for User-applied Labelling of Injectable Medicines, Fluids and Lines.*