

Intrathecal morphine – summary

We now have intrathecal morphine in stock at RSCH.

SPECIAL CARE:

- PLEASE ENSURE THAT ONLY THE PRESERVATIVE-FREE FORMULATION OF MORPHINE IS USED INTRATHECALLY
- PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PRESERVATIVE FREE-FORMULATION IS PRESENTED AS 1MG/ML

Preservative free intrathecal morphine remains in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for longer when compared to intrathecal diamorphine or fentanyl.

There is a dose dependent increased risk of delayed respiratory depression and a slightly higher incidence of pruritus and nausea/vomiting

Suggested adult intrathecal dosage is **50 – 200 micrograms (mcg)**

Recommended dose for Lower Segment Caesarean Sections (LSCS) is **100 mcg**

The average duration of analgesia is 18 - 24 hours following an intrathecal dose of 200 mcg and side effects are rare at this dose

Naloxone should always be prescribed for the postoperative period

No regular opioids prescribed for the 1st 24 hours post administration of IT morphine: doses should only be given *as required (PRN)*

