

# Inotropic Infusion Therapy

## What is inotropic infusion therapy?

Inotropic medication (dobutamine, dopamine, and milrinone) is used to strengthen the contractions of the heart. The medication is given through a vein using a pump.

## What are some important tips to remember?

- The Intravenous (IV) line that is being used to give your medication should not be flushed with saline. If you do, you will get too much medication- too fast.
- Check your weight daily in the morning wearing similar clothes each time.
- Contact the cardiac nurse: If you have a weight gain of more than 2 pounds in a single day or 5 pounds over one week.
- Check the skin around the IV catheter daily. Watch for any signs of:
  - Redness, warmth, swelling, or a red streak at or around the IV site
  - A "knot" that feels like a cord in your arm
  - Tenderness
  - Pain
  - Fever/chills
  - Bleeding or drainage at the IV insertion site
  - If you notice any of these things call the nurse immediately.
- Alternate pumps when changing pump tubing.
- Change the pump tubing every \_\_\_\_ days.
- Change the medicine bag every \_\_\_\_ hour(s) following the instructions provided by the nurse.
- The IV medication should be connected and running at all times except when changing the pump tubing.
- **Use your current supply of medication before using the newest medication sent to you.**
- **Notify Home Infusion immediately if you have problems with your pumps.**

Monument Health Home+ Home Infusion  
(605) 755-1150.