

College of Veterinary Medicine

## How to Reconstitute Injectable Medication to the Appropriate Strength

# **Medication Dispensary**





Check out this helpful video!



### Step-by-step:

- Ensure you have all the materials necessary to reconstitute the medication
  - Meropenem vial, 50 mL normal saline vial, 50 mL sterile glass vial, alcohol swab, syringe, needle
  - If your needle is not already connected to the syringe, twist the needle onto your syringe with the needle cap still attached
- Remove any vial coverings and wipe all vial tops with an alcohol swab
- Reconstitute the meropenem vial with 20 mL of normal saline
  - To complete this step, with the needle cap still on, pull up air in your syringe to the 20 mL line
  - Inject this into the normal saline vial by inserting the needle into the rubber top with the bevel facing up towards you
  - Once the needle is inserted and the air has been injected, tilt the vial upside down and withdraw 20 mL worth of normal saline
  - Withdraw your needle from the vial of saline
  - With your 20 mL of normal saline, insert the needle into the meropenem vial and inject the entire contents of the syringe
  - You may receive pressure pushback from additional air, allow the air to push back into the syringe after injecting the normal saline and withdraw the syringe
- Shake to dissolve the powder and let stand until the solution is clear
- Remove all the contents from the meropenem vial and transfer to the empty 50 mL sterile glass vial
  - Utilize the same technique as with the normal saline
  - There should be ~20 mL of liquid to remove
  - If you receive pushback while injecting this into the 50 mL sterile vial, allow the air to push back into the syringe after injecting the contents and withdraw the needle
- Draw up the remaining 30 mL of normal saline and inject into the 50 mL sterile glass vial to reach a final concentration of 20 mg/mL of medication
  - Utilize the same technique as before to remove the 30 mL of normal saline
  - If you receive pushback while injecting this into the 50 mL sterile vial, allow the air to
    push back into the syringe after injecting the contents and withdraw the needle

The reconstituted injectable meropenem should be stored in the **refrigerator for a maximum of 5 days** 

### **VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL**

#### Large Animal Clinic

Emergency, specialty, and primary care for horses and farm animals 1102 W. Hazelwood Drive, Urbana (217) 333-2000

#### Small Animal Clinic

Emergency and specialty services for small companion animals 1008 W. Hazelwood Drive, Urbana (217) 333-5300

#### South Clinic

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#### **Midwest Equine**

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