Nursing Dosage Chart Cheat Sheet

Dosage conversion chart	
Milligrams (mg) and micrograms (mcg)	Grams (g) and milligrams (mg)
1 mg = 1000 mcg	1 g = 1000 mg
1 mcg = 0.001 mg	1 mg = 0.001 g
Milliliters (mL) and drops 1 mL = 20 drops (approximate for medical use) 1 drop = 0.05 mL	Liquid volume: teaspoons, tablespoons, and milliliters 1 teaspoon (tsp) = 5 mL 1 tablespoon (tbsp) = 15 mL
Liters (L) and milliliters (mL)	1 oz = 30 mL
1 L = 1000 mL	1 mL = 0.0338 oz
1 mL = 0.001 L	1 mL \approx 20 drops (medical approximation)

IV drip rate formulas

Drops per minute	IV flow rate
Drops/min = (Total Volume in mL / Time in hours) x Drop Factor	Flow Rate (mL/hr) = Total Volume in mL / Time in hours
Drop Factor: commonly 10, 15, 20, or 60 drops/mL	

Dosage based on drug concentration

Dosage (mg) = Volume (mL) x Concentration (mg/mL)

Infusion rate (for medications in infusion)

Rate (mL/hr) = (Desired Dose / Drug Concentration) x 60

Pediatric dosage calculations

Based on weight:

- Dosage (mg/kg/day) = (Patient's weight in kg) x (Dosage per kg)
- Divide total daily dosage into appropriate frequency: Dosage (mg/kg/day) / Frequency of administration

Body surface area (BSA) for dosage calculations

Mosteller formula:

BSA (m²) = $\sqrt{[(\text{Height in cm x Weight in kg}) / 3600]}$