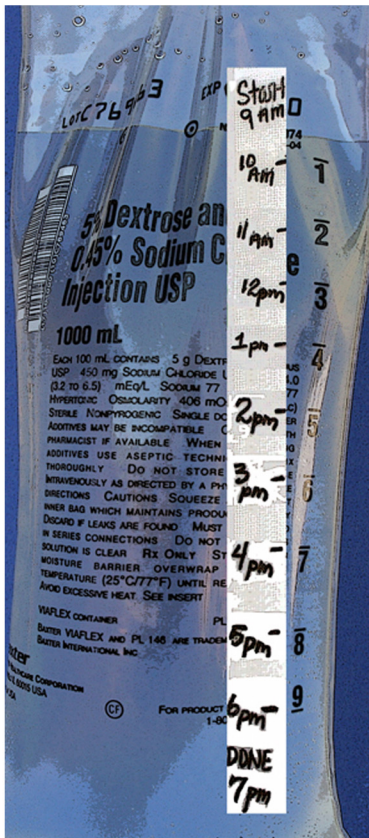


HOW TO TIME TAPE AN I.V.

The use of time taping an IV helps ensure that an IV solution is being infused at the prescribed rate and also facilitates calculation of fluid intake. The practice of IV taping has declined with the use of infusion pumps but the practice of gravity IV infusion and infusions by a gravity regulator such as a "dial-a-flow" still exist, making time taping a continued useful practice.



To time tape an IV you may make your own time tape with adhesive tape or use pre-made labels:

- Place a strip of adhesive tape beside the fluid level marking lines.
- At the top of the strip - label the time the bag of fluid was started.
- Knowing the hourly infusion rate - mark each hour on the tape that corresponds with the level of fluid marks on the IV bag that should be infused.
- At the bottom of the strip - mark the time at which the solution will be completely infused.

INK ALERT

Never write directly on an IV solution container with a felt tip type marker; the ink may leach into the solution.

This illustration demonstrates a bag to be initiated at 9am. The infusion rate is 100mls per hour. The liter of fluid to infuse at 100mls per hour should be complete in 10 hours, or 7pm. For each hour of infusion mark how much solution should have infused according to the prescribed rate of flow.