

Weight-Based Dosing

Nursing

Multiplying a per-kilogram dose out, then splitting it across the day safely.

Multiply the per-kilogram dose by an actual measured weight, then check it against the stated range.

$$\text{Dose} = \text{mg/kg} \times \text{weight in kg}$$

5 mg/kg, 68 kg

Then check the range

340 mg

Daily 340 mg, 4 doses

Daily total $\div$ 4

85 mg each

Weight given in pounds

Convert first

lb $\div$ 2.2 = kg

THE COMMON MISTAKE

✗ **Dosing on a remembered or stated weight.**

✓ **Dosing on a weight measured today.**

Per-kilogram dosing multiplies any weight error by the whole coefficient, and children, oedematous patients and amputees all change weight fast.

Educational reference. Hypothetical figures for method only. Maximum doses, ranges and rounding rules come from the local formulary.