

# **EMERGENCY DRUGS DOSAGE SUGGESTIONS**

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. All doses are suggestions only and to be decided finally by prescribing Doctor in light of patient characteristics.**
- 2. Always attempt to treat remediable causes for any symptom.**
- 3. If setting up a syringe driver, remember that loading / stat subcutaneous doses of drugs are often necessary to initiate treatment.**
- 4. Diamorphine doses are  $\frac{1}{3}$  of total oral morphine dose eg 60mg Morphine / 24 hrs = 20mg Diamorphine / 24 hrs.**
- 5. Rescue or loading doses of Diamorphine are  $\frac{1}{6}$  of total 24 hr Diamorphine requirement.**
- 6. Try to limit number of drugs in the driver to minimum to avoid compatibility problems.**
- 7. Always check for previous drug reactions or idiosyncrasies.**
- 8. It is a good practice to reassess the situation after a few hours.**
- 9. Some of the drug indications overleaf whilst currently accepted palliative care practice are “off licence” treatments.**