

5% DEXTROSE IN WATER
D₅W

PHARMACOLOGIC CLASSIFICATION:

-hypotonic sugar solution

MECHANISM OF ACTION:

-provides water and dextrose without risk of circulatory overload in patients with CHF/pulmonary edema

INDICATIONS:

-primarily used to establish a medication line
-used as a diluent for certain medications to be administered by IV infusion

DOSAGE:

-generally administered TKO

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

-avoid use when rapid fluid replacement is indicated

SIDE EFFECTS:

-none of significance in the field

COMMENTS:

-check patency of IV line because extravasation can result in localized tissue necrosis
-consider drawing a blood sample before infusion of D₅W