What is Constant Rate Infusion?

CRI refers to the continuous administration of a small quantity of a drug, intravenously, over a period of time with the goal of maintaining the drug’s concentration within the patient at a level adequate to produce for the drug to produce its pharmacological effect.

To used CRI correctly you should know:

* Fluid rate for the species
* Drug dosage
* Dosing interval
* Volume of fluid to be administered

Why is CRI used:

* Allows for greater control of drug administration compared to injection and “topping up”
* Produces a more stable plan of anesthesia resulting in less breakthrough
* Slow administration of drug over prolonged period of time results in less dose related side effects
* Decreased cost (does not need a technician)
* Allows complex procedures to be performed when facilities and general anesthesia not available

Calculations: Amount of drug to be placed in bag

Sheep R49:

Weight: 33.8Kg

Drug dosage:

Xylazine – 0.05mg/kg/hr

Ketamine – 5mg/kg/hr

Lidocaine – 1mg/kg/hr

Volume of Drug to be placed in bag:

Withdraw 20.5ml of Fluids then add the calculated volumes to the bag

Drip rate:

Drip set – 20drop/ml

Fluid rate – 5ml/kg/hr