

Medication Ordering – Variable Rate Insulin

Purpose

This document provides a concise reference for prescribers on how to order variable rate insulin in Meditech Expanse. It highlights key actions, system behaviours, and clinical considerations to support safe and efficient prescribing.

Audience

Doctors, Nurses, Clinical Pharmacists

Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Changes Made
1.0	23-Oct-2025	Justin Capati Christopher Meddings Medical Services	Initial draft

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This guide outlines the steps for ordering variable rate insulin—in Meditech Expense.

The screenshot shows the Meditech Expense interface. At the top, there are navigation icons for 'Return To', 'Home', 'Chart', 'Document', and 'Orders'. The 'Orders' icon is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation bar, the 'Orders' section is displayed. A search bar contains the text 'ACTRAPID', which is also highlighted with a red box. Below the search bar, a list of search results is shown. The first result is 'insulin soluble human (Actrapid) variable rate intravenous infusion IV INF', which is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the 'Orders' icon to this search result.

Click on **Orders > Enter** in the search bar type in Actrapid. Select on the “**insulin soluble human (Actrapid) variable rate intravenous infusion**”

The screenshot shows the order details for 'insulin soluble human (Actrapid) variable rate intravenous infusion IV INF'. The order is active and has a date of 26/10/25 17:43. The order string is 'insulin soluble human [Actrapid 100 units / mL vial] 50 unit IV INF CONTINUOUS PRN 0.5 unit/hr'. The provider is 'Doctor,Expense3' and the source is 'Independent clinician order'. A red box highlights a down arrow icon at the bottom left of the order details section.

When selecting the order string, many of the infusion details are already pre-defined, however the order requires a titration protocol to be applied.

Click the down chevron to expand the full order detail

* Provider: Template, Consultant

* Source: Resident Doctor

Pending: Yes No

* PRN Reason: Continuous infusion

Label Comments: Dose range: 0.5 - 20 unit/hr

Special Instructions:

* Titration Protocol

Problem:

Diagnosis Code:

Generic Titration Protocol
 Insulin (VRIII): Alternative Regimen
 Insulin (VRIII): Standard Regimen
 Search All Protocols

Scroll down towards the bottom of the order. The **Titration Protocol** is a mandatory field.

Select one of the protocol options from the drop-down list.

* Titration Protocol: Insulin (VRIII): Alternative Regimen

* Condition	* Dose/Route	* Instruction
Blood Glucose Level (mmol/L)	Alternative Regimen (units/hr)	Additional Information (see text for further guidance)
-	Please Edit this column to desired insulin infusion rate	
< 6.0 units / hr*	*Treat any hypoglycaemia & restart IV insulin within 20 mins
6.1 - 8.0 units / hr	
8.1 - 11.0 units / hr	
11.1 - 15.0 units / hr	
15.1 - 20.0 units / hr	
20.1 - 28.0 units / hr	
> 28.1 units / hr	

* Protocol Text: Variable Rate Intravenous Insulin Infusion (VRIII)

Problem:

Diagnosis Code:

If the **Insulin (VRIII): Alternative Regimen** is selected, edit the **Dose/Route** column and fill out the **Instructions** column with additional information.

* Titration Protocol: Generic Titration Protocol

Condition	Dose/Route	Instruction
***	See Text for further information	***

Protocol Text: Refer to 'Medusa' available via IHCA for administration guidelines.

Problem:

Diagnosis Code:

Alternatively, the "Generic Titration Protocol" can be applied.

However, the prescriber will need to document clearly how the infusions is to be titrated

