

How to Mix Your Own Lido/Epi Injectables From Lidocaine and Epinephrine

NOTE: Vial transfers increase risk of contamination. Use this guide at your own risk, and follow precautions carefully.

Starting with:

1. Lidocaine 1% OR Lidocaine 2% in any size. Note whether or not Lidocaine is preservative free (PF).
2. Epinephrine 1mg/mL
3. Sterile 1mL syringe, or 0.5mL syringe if you have them.
4. 2x sterile needles. Gauge doesn't really matter, but too small of a gauge (too large of a needle), can dice up your stopper.
5. Clean gloves and preferably a mask, and a clean, controlled environment.

For Epinephrine, 1:100,000 is the same as 0.001 % solution = 0.01 mg/mL

10 mL Vial Lidocaine

1:100,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.1 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 10 mL of Lidocaine

1:200,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.05 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 10 mL of Lidocaine

20 mL Vial Lidocaine

1:100,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.2 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 20 mL of Lidocaine

1:200,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.1 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 20 mL of Lidocaine

30 mL Vial Lidocaine

1:100,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.3 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 30 mL of Lidocaine

1:200,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.15 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 30 mL of Lidocaine

50 mL Vial Lidocaine

1:100,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.5 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 50 mL of Lidocaine

1:200,000 Epinephrine Admixture: Add 0.25 mL epinephrine (1:1,000) to 50 mL of Lidocaine

How to Mix:

1. Don PPE and clean your space with 70% isopropyl alcohol.
2. Pop the top on both vials and wipe well with alcohol 70% pads. Allow to dry fully, 30 seconds to 1 minute.
3. Use a sterile syringe to draw up the appropriate amount of Epinephrine (see above).
4. Change the needle and recheck amounts.
5. Inject Epinephrine into a clean/dry lidocaine vial.
6. Swirl.
7. Notate when vials were accessed. Prescribing documentation should tell you when to discard preserved (MDV, not PF) vials.

Notes:

If the lidocaine is PF, don't keep it around after your procedure like it's an MDV. Stuff can grow in it.

MDV "discard after" date is usually 28 - 30 days, but it can be longer, depending on manufacturer's documentation.

Sometimes it helps to inject the equivalent amount of air into the vial before trying to draw out, but these are low volume so it's optional.

Measure twice, inject once. If you've put too much Epinephrine into a Lidocaine vial, your options are limited and increase risk.

