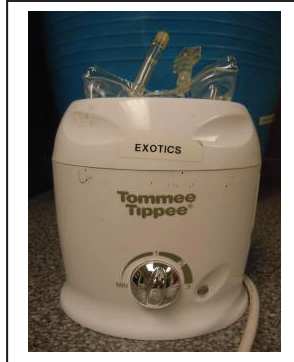


Fluid therapy in rabbit patients

Preferred routes of administration are I/V, I/O, S/C, I/P).

Fluid bolus' should be warmed to normal body temperature before administration.



- **Maintenance:** 4ml/kg/hour or 80-100ml/kg/24 hours (144ml/24 hours) e.g. 2kg rabbit = 12ml/hour or 288ml/24 hours

- **During surgery:** 10ml/kg/hour. If fluid is given in a bolus it could be administered every 15 minutes e.g. 2 kg rabbit = 20ml/hour, or 5ml/15 minutes
→ Colloids; where required e.g. sufficient blood loss or drop in blood pressure, colloids can be administered at the same rate however it may be beneficial having labelled syringes made up with 50:50 solution of colloids and crystalloids, and 100% colloids, in cases likely to require it.

- **Dehydrated status:** 1% dehydrated = added fluid replacement of 10ml/kg
- A suggested fluid admin protocol suggestion to avoid fluid overload;
* Day 1 = Maintenance + 50% of deficit
* Day 2 = Maintenance + 50% of deficit
* Day 3 = Maintenance only

- **Hyaluronidase** (Hyalase® 1500 I.U); used to enhance permeation of subcutaneous infusions and to promote resorption of excess fluids and blood in the tissues. One vial can be dissolved and injected into a 1 litre bag of Compound Sodium Lactate (Hartmans) and used as normal S/C fluids. **MUST ONLY GO S/C NEVER I/V!** Hyaluronidase is an enzyme that has a temporary and reversible depolymerising effect on the polysaccharide hyaluronic acid, which is present in the intercellular matrix of connective tissue. (<http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/7315>)

