

## Drips & Drops

An intravenous (IV) drip is a device that enables a fluid to be introduced into a patient's bloodstream.

IV drips come in two sizes:

a macrodrip    15 drops = 1 millilitre

a microdrip    60 drops = 1 millilitre

(a) How many millilitres in (i) one macrodrop?  
(ii) one microdrop?

(b) How many microdrops are in a macrodrop?

(c) Suppose you have to set up a microdrip that will empty a 500 millilitre container of saline solution in 8 hours.

What drip rate (in drops per minute) will you need?

(d) Develop some more questions to ask the students.

(Adapted from Maths & Community Services, 1984, Institute of Engineers, Aust. p.52)

