

Aciclovir

Indication	Varicella zoster infection (Chickenpox) Herpes infection (Shingles) or Meningitis																				
Dose	<p>Varicella 5mg/kg TDS for 5 days</p> <p>Herpes 10mg/kg TDS for 10-14 days</p> <p>Prophylaxis in immunosuppressed patients 400mg BD</p> <p>All doses are based on ideal body weight Doses are reduced in renal impairment</p>																				
Preparation	Aciclovir vials contain 250mg aciclovir 1. Reconstitute each 250mg vial of aciclovir with 10ml sodium chloride 0.9% 2. Draw up the required amount of aciclovir into a syringe 3. Remove the equivalent amount from a bag of sodium chloride 0.9% 4. Add aciclovir to the sodium chloride 0.9% bag																				
Administration	Aciclovir is infused over 1 hour using a peripheral or central line. Use the aciclovir program on the VP7000 pump.																				
Shelf-life	24hours at room temperature																				
Common Compatibility Issues	Glucose 5% can also be used as the final diluent in cases of hypernatraemia.																				
Additional information	Maximum concentration of the finished infusion for peripheral use is 5mg/ml. Therefore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doses 500mg or UNDER use 100ml bag Doses OVER 500mg use 250ml bag Aciclovir can crystallise in solution. Do not use infusions that are hazy or have visible crystals or particles present.																				
Sample Label	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; background-color: yellow;"> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">DRUGS ADDED TO THIS INFUSION</th> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> PATIENT <i>A. Patient (A. Number)</i> </td> <td> WARD ICU </td> </tr> <tr> <td> DRUG <i>Aciclovir</i> <i>in yml sodium chloride 0.9%</i> </td> <td> AMOUNT <i>x mg</i> <i>(... mg/ml)</i> </td> <td> ADD BY </td> <td> CHECKED BY </td> </tr> <tr> <td> DATE ADDED TIME ADDED </td> <td> EXP. DATE EXP. TIME </td> <td colspan="2"> BATCH No. </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">DISCONTINUE IF CLOUDINESS OR PRECIPITATE DEVELOPS</td> </tr> </table>	DRUGS ADDED TO THIS INFUSION				PATIENT <i>A. Patient (A. Number)</i>			WARD ICU	DRUG <i>Aciclovir</i> <i>in yml sodium chloride 0.9%</i>	AMOUNT <i>x mg</i> <i>(... mg/ml)</i>	ADD BY	CHECKED BY	DATE ADDED TIME ADDED	EXP. DATE EXP. TIME	BATCH No.		DISCONTINUE IF CLOUDINESS OR PRECIPITATE DEVELOPS			
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Documentation Controls

Development of Guideline:	Pharmacist – Critical Care & Theatres
Consultation with:	Pharmacy Department
Approved By:	ICU Sister's Meeting: June 2023 ICU Risk & Quality Meeting: August 2023 Surgical Division
Review Date:	August 2025
Key contact:	Pharmacist – Critical Care & Theatres

References

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***** End of Monograph *****