

azithromycin

500mg injection, 40mg/mL oral mixture

© Department of Health, Government of South Australia. All rights reserved

Note

This guideline provides advice of a general nature. This statewide guideline has been prepared to promote and facilitate standardisation and consistency of practice, using a multidisciplinary approach. The guideline is based on a review of published evidence and expert opinion.

Information in this statewide guideline is current at the time of publication.

SA Health does not accept responsibility for the quality or accuracy of material on websites linked from this site and does not sponsor, approve or endorse materials on such links.

Health practitioners in the South Australian public health sector are expected to review specific details of each patient and professionally assess the applicability of the relevant guideline to that clinical situation.

If for good clinical reasons, a decision is made to depart from the guideline, the responsible clinician must document in the patient's medical record, the decision made, by whom, and detailed reasons for the departure from the guideline.

This statewide guideline does not address all the elements of clinical practice and assumes that the individual clinicians are responsible for discussing care with consumers in an environment that is culturally appropriate and which enables respectful confidential discussion. This includes:

- The use of interpreter services where necessary,
- Advising consumers of their choice and ensuring informed consent is obtained,
- Providing care within scope of practice, meeting all legislative requirements and maintaining standards of professional conduct, and
- Documenting all care in accordance with mandatory and local requirements

Dose and Indications

Treatment or prophylaxis of *Bordetella pertussis* infections

Treatment *Chlamydia trachomatis* pneumonia

Intravenous

5mg/kg per dose once daily for 5 days

Intravenous administration should only be considered when oral therapy not suitable

Oral

10mg/kg per dose once daily for 5 days

Treatment of *Chlamydia trachomatis* conjunctivitis

Oral

20mg/kg as a single dose

azithromycin

500mg injection, 40mg/mL oral mixture

Preparation and Administration

Intravenous

There are **TWO STEPS** to this process.

STEP ONE: Add 4.8mL of water for injection to the azithromycin 500mg vial and shake gently to dissolve (total volume of 5mL). The resulting solution contains 100mg/mL azithromycin.

STEP TWO: Further dilute 0.2mL of the 100mg/mL azithromycin solution with 9.8mL of compatible fluid (total volume of 10mL). The resulting solution contains 2mg/mL azithromycin.

| Dose | 2.5mg | 5mg | 7.5mg | 10mg | 12.5mg | 15mg |
|--------|--------|-------|--------|------|--------|-------|
| Volume | 1.25mL | 2.5mL | 3.75mL | 5mL | 6.25mL | 7.5mL |

Infuse over at least 60 minutes

Oral

Refer to product information for reconstitution volume. The resulting solution after reconstitution contains 40mg/mL azITHROMYCIN.

| Dose | 5mg | 10mg | 20mg | 30mg | 40mg |
|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|------|
| Volume | 0.13mL | 0.25mL | 0.5mL | 0.75mL | 1mL |

The reconstituted solution is stable for 10 days stored below 30°C.

Compatible Fluids

Glucose 5%, glucose/sodium chloride solutions, sodium chloride 0.45%, sodium chloride 0.9%

Adverse Effects

Common

Vomiting, diarrhoea, candidal infections, inflammation at the infusion site

Infrequent

Rash

Rare

Hypersensitivity (eg anaphylaxis, fixed drug eruptions, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, interstitial nephritis, ototoxicity), [Clostridium difficile-associated disease](#), cholestatic hepatitis, pancreatitis, prolonged QT interval, blood dyscrasias, eg thrombocytopenia, pyloric stenosis (extremely rare)

ISBN number:
Endorsed by:
Last Revised:
Contact:

978-1-74243-443-8
South Australian Maternal & Neonatal Clinical Network
08/11/12
South Australian Neonatal Medication Guidelines Workgroup at:
NeoMed@health.sa.gov.au

azithromycin

500mg injection, 40mg/mL oral mixture

Monitoring

- > Gastrointestinal tolerance

Practice Points

- > Infusion of azITHROMYCIN with a concentration greater than 2mg/mL will result in a local infusion site reaction and should be avoided
- > There is limited data for use in neonates, however azITHROMYCIN is the recommended treatment for treatment and prophylaxis of pertussis
- > Prophylaxis with azITHROMYCIN is not recommended for neonates born to mothers with untreated Chlamydia.

Version control and change history

PDS reference: OCE use only

| Version | Date from | Date to | Amendment |
|---------|---------------|---------|------------------|
| 1.0 | November 2012 | current | Original version |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

ISBN number:
Endorsed by:
Last Revised:
Contact:

978-1-74243-443-8
South Australian Maternal & Neonatal Clinical Network
08/11/12
South Australian Neonatal Medication Guidelines Workgroup at:
NeoMed@health.sa.gov.au