

ibuprofen

5mg/mL injection, 20mg/mL oral mixture

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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.

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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 of significant patent ductus arteriosus (PDA)

Intravenous, Oral

Three day course of therapy, doses to be given 24 hours apart

Day 1: 10 mg/kg

Day 2 and 3: 5 mg/kg

If the ductus arteriosus does not close 48 hours after the last dose or if it re-opens, a second course of 3 doses, as above may be given.

A higher dose regimen 20mg/kg on Day 1; and 10mg/kg on Day 2 and 3 has been used if the standard regimen has proven ineffective.

Oral mixture can be used if the neonate is tolerating enteral feeds

ISBN number:
Endorsed by:
Last Revised:
Contact:

978-1-74243-404-9
South Australian Maternal & Neonatal Clinical Network
08/11/2012
South Australian Neonatal Medication Guidelines Workgroup at:
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Preparation and Administration**Intravenous**

The intravenous injection contains 5mg/mL ibuprofen

Dose	2.5mg	5mg	7.5mg	10mg	12.5mg
Volume	0.5mL	1mL	1.5mL	2mL	2.5mL

Administer as an intravenous infusion over at least 15 minutes.

May be given undiluted, or diluted with compatible fluid for ease of administration.

Oral

The oral mixture contains 20mg/mL ibuprofen.

Dose	3mg	6mg	9mg	12mg	15mg
Volume	0.15mL	0.3mL	0.45mL	0.6mL	0.75mL

Give with feeds to minimise gastrointestinal irritation.

Compatible Fluids

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

Adverse Effects**Common**

Gastrointestinal perforation (particularly if used concurrently or in close proximity to corticosteroids), bleeding, salt and fluid retention, hypertension

Infrequent

Hyperkalaemia, renal impairment, rash

Rare

Blood dyscrasias, interstitial nephritis, acute renal failure, hepatitis

Monitoring

- > Assess for ductal closure
- > Renal function and urine output
- > Assess for signs of bleeding

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Practice Points

- > If anuria or oliguria occurs after any dose, further dosing should be reviewed.
- > Ibuprofen is contraindicated in babies with active bleeding, severe thrombocytopenia and bleeding disorders, known or suspected NEC, congenital heart disease with ductal-dependant systemic blood flow or renal failure. Used with caution in known infection.
- > Ibuprofen has been shown to displace bilirubin from its binding site to albumin; hence it may cause a significant increase in unbound bilirubin in those infants with a high unconjugated bilirubin.
- > Ibuprofen may decrease clearance of aminoglycosides. Hence strict surveillance of aminoglycoside serum levels is recommended in those babies who have both ibuprofen and aminoglycosides prescribed.
- > Ibuprofen is a better tolerated medication than indomethacin. There is less effect on renal function and gastrointestinal problems are uncommon.
- > Before administration of ibuprofen an echocardiographic examination should generally be performed in order to detect a haemodynamically significant patent ductus arteriosus and to exclude pulmonary hypertension and duct-dependent congenital heart disease.

References

1. Dani C, Vangi V, Bertini G, Pratesi S, Lori I, Favelli F et al. High-Dose Ibuprofen for Patent Ductus Arteriosus in Extremely Preterm Infants: A Randomized Controlled Study. *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 2012; 91(4) 590-596
2. Erdevi O, Yurtutan S, Altug N, Uras N et al. Oral versus intravenous ibuprofen for patent ductus arteriosus closure: a randomised controlled trial in extremely low birth weight infants. *Arch Dis Child Fetal Neonatal Ed* 2012;97; F279–F283

Version control and change history**PDS reference:** OCE use only

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

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