

benzylpenicillin

600mg injection

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Synonyms

Penicillin G

benzylpenicillin

600mg injection

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Dose and Indications

600mg is equivalent to 1 million units

Infection due to susceptible organisms

Empiric treatment of Group B Streptococcus

Intravenous, Intramuscular

60mg/kg/dose

Corrected Age (weeks)	Postnatal age (days)	Frequency (hours)
[Gestational Age PLUS Postnatal Age]		
All	≤7	every 12 hours
	>7	every 8 hours

Length of treatment should be guided by pathology and clinical picture; however in proven sepsis treatment should continue for a minimum of 7 days. For meningitis, continue treatment for 14 days.

Preparation and Administration

Intravenous

Vial Strength (mg)	Volume of Water for Injection to add (mL)	Final Concentration of benzylpenicillin (mg/mL)
600mg	5.6mL	100mg/mL

Dose	30mg	60mg	90mg	120mg	150mg	180mg
Volume	0.3mL	0.6mL	0.9mL	1.2mL	1.5mL	1.8mL

Benzylpenicillin may be administered undiluted or diluted to a suitable volume with compatible fluid for ease of intravenous administration.

Administer as a push over at least 3 minutes

Discard remaining solution

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Intramuscular

Vial Strength (mg)	Volume of Water for Injection to add (mL)	Final Concentration of benzylpenicillin (mg/mL)
600mg	1.6mL	300mg/mL

Dose	30mg	60mg	90mg	120mg	150mg	180mg
Volume	0.1mL	0.2mL	0.3mL	0.4mL	0.5mL	0.6mL

Discard remaining solution

Compatible Fluids

Glucose 5%, sodium chloride 0.9%

Adverse Effects

Common

Diarrhoea

Infrequent

Vomiting, *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease

Rare

Black tongue, electrolyte disturbances, neurotoxicity, bleeding, blood dyscrasias

Anaphylactic shock is not commonly seen in the neonates.

Practice Points

- > Seizures have occurred in adults where high dose benzylpenicillin is administered rapidly: it is administered by slow infusion (i.e. over 30 minutes) in adults to overcome this. Seizures associated with rapid administration of benzylpenicillin have not been reported in neonates.

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Version control and change history

PDS reference: OCE use only

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