

## **D. ANTIMICROBIAL INFUSION FOR INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT (Paramedic Only)**

### **1. PURPOSE**

During interfacility transports, a paramedic may monitor a patient on a continuous IV antimicrobial medication infusion as long as the following criteria have been met.

### **2. INDICATIONS**

The antibiotics infusion must have been started by the hospital staff prior to an interfacility transfer. IV antimicrobial infusions may NOT be initiated by the prehospital clinician.

### **3. CONTRAINDICATIONS**

- a) Patients who have unstable vital signs or are being transferred to an intensive care environment
- b) Patients with allergic reaction to infusing antibiotic agent or class
- c) Pediatric patients

### **4. PROCEDURE**

- a) Follow the appropriate ALS algorithm and maintain the infusion as directed by the sending physician/practitioner.
- b) The paramedic will review the sending physician's antibiotics order and will review the specific antibiotic agent to ensure appropriate administration, indications, and absence of contraindications.
- c) Unless not indicated per the medication profile, the antimicrobial infusion must be maintained on an infusion pump designed for transport, and the clinician must be trained in the appropriate use of that specific infusion pump. The ambulance must have an inverter to power the pump while in the vehicle.
- d) The administration of the antibiotics infusion will be recorded on the patient care report to include the antibiotic agent's name, dose, rate, and volume infused during transport.
- e) When in doubt, contact the sending physician/practitioner for medical direction.

### **5. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- a) The ALS service or jurisdiction must provide and document training of the ALS clinicians on the operation of infusion pump(s) being used.
- b) The ALS service or jurisdiction must provide and document training of the ALS clinicians on the general administration of antimicrobials. However, due to the vast array of antimicrobials, the paramedic must utilize a practice of evaluating each patient care situation with the use of current medication reference materials to ensure appropriate administration of the infusion.
- c) The ALS service or jurisdiction must also have a quality improvement (QI) program monitoring the appropriateness and quality of care provided. The QI program should be directed or coordinated by, at minimum, an ALS clinician.

**OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL PROTOCOL  
ANTIMICROBIAL INFUSION FOR INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT  
PARAMEDIC ONLY**

**1. Pharmacology**

Antimicrobials are agents that kill microorganisms or suppress their multiplication or growth.

**2. Pharmacokinetics**

Antimicrobial agents are classified functionally according to the manner in which they adversely affect a microorganism.

**3. Indications**

Treatment of known or suspected infectious disease, or as prophylaxis for an infectious process

**4. Contraindications**

- a) Patients who have unstable vital signs or are being transferred to an intensive care environment
- b) Patients with allergic reaction to specific antibiotic agent or class
- c) Pediatric patients

**5. Adverse Effects and Precautions**

Antimicrobials have various adverse effects depending on the specific agent's mechanism of action. Current medication reference materials should be consulted for specific patient situation.

**6. Dosage**

- a) Adult: Administer per practitioner order.
- b) Pediatric: Not indicated.