



NEONATAL

AZITHROMYCIN




This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

Restricted: Requires Microbiologist review within 24 hours of initiation

Presentation	Vial: 500mg powder for reconstitution Suspension: 40mg/mL
Classification	Macrolide Antibiotic Azithromycin has a broad spectrum of activity. It is effective against Gram-positive cocci, Legionella, Mycoplasma, Chlamydia, Gram-negative cocci, Salmonella and both Gram-positive and Gram-negative anaerobes. Azithromycin obtains high intracellular concentrations that may be beneficial in the treatment of intracellular pathogens
Indications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pertussis (post exposure prophylaxis or treatment)• Chlamydial conjunctivitis
Precautions	Use with caution in impaired hepatic and renal function
Dose	<u>Pertussis (post exposure prophylaxis or treatment)</u> IV Infusion/Oral: 10mg/kg/dose once daily for 5 days <u>Chlamydial conjunctivitis</u> Oral: 20mg/kg/dose for 3 days
Monitoring	Liver function tests Heart rate and blood pressure during IV infusion
Compatible Fluids	Sodium chloride 0.9%, Glucose 5%,

Preparation	<p><u>IV Infusion :</u></p> <p><i>Step 1- Reconstitution</i> Add 4.8mL of water for injections to a 500mg vial. Concentration is 500mg/5mL = <u>100mg/mL</u></p> <p><i>Step 2- Dilution</i> Take 1mL (100mg) of the above solution and dilute to 50mL with a compatible fluid. Concentration is 100mg/50mL = <u>2mg/mL</u></p> <p><u>Oral:</u> Add 9mL of Water for Irrigation to the 600mg powder for reconstitution. Shake well. Final volume is ≈15mL Concentration is 600mg/15mL = <u>40mg/mL</u></p>
Administration	<p><u>IV Infusion:</u> Infuse over 1 to 3 hours.</p> <p><u>Oral:</u> Shake well before use May be given at any time with regards to feeds</p>
Adverse Reactions	<p>Common: Diarrhoea, vomiting, irritability, rash or other allergic reactions, extravasation</p> <p>Serious: Blood in stools, pyloric stenosis, QT prolongation including torsades de pointes, risk of dysrhythmias is increase if administered in combination with other drugs that prolong the QT interval, hepatotoxicity</p>
Storage	<p><u>IV Infusion:</u> Stable for 24 hours at room temperature</p> <p><u>Oral:</u> After reconstitution, store at room temperature Discard any remaining suspension after 10 days</p>
Interactions	<p>Azithromycin interacts with a number of medications – contact Pharmacy for further advice.</p>

References	<p>MIMS Australia. Azithromycin. In: MIMS Online [Internet]. St Leonards (New South Wales): MIMS Australia; 2019 [cited 2019 Aug 5]. Available from: https://www.mimsonline.com.au</p> <p>Takemoto CK, Hodding JH, Kraus DM. Pediatric & neonatal dosage handbook with international trade names index : a universal resource for clinicians treating pediatric and neonatal patients. 24th ed. Hudson (Ohio): Lexicomp; 2401. 2, p226.</p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Azithromycin. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2019 [cited 2019 Aug 5]. Available from: http://aidh.hcn.com.au</p> <p>Australian Medicines Handbook Children's Dosing Companion. Azithromycin. In: Australian Medicines Handbook Children's Dosing Companion [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook Children's Dosing Companion; 2019 [cited 2019 Aug 5]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</p>
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