



ADULT




VALACICLOVIR

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

[Antimicrobial Restriction – Unrestricted](#)

Presentation	Tablet: 500mg	
Dose	<p><u>Varicella/Herpes Zoster (Chicken Pox/Shingles) Treatment</u></p> <p>Oral: 1g 8 hourly for 7 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Herpes Simplex Virus in Pregnancy:</u></p> <p><u>Recurrent HSV – episodic treatment</u></p> <p>Oral: 500mg 12 hourly for 3 days</p> <p><u>Recurrent HSV – prophylactic treatment from 36 weeks gestation</u></p> <p>Oral: 500mg 12 hourly until delivery (higher suppressive dose is required due to altered metabolism of antiviral therapy and the altered metabolism of the drug in pregnancy)</p> <p><u>Primary Outbreak HSV</u></p> <p>Oral: 500mg 12 hourly for 5 days</p>	
Administration	<p><u>Oral</u> Drink plenty of fluids – at least 1.5 L daily</p>	
Pregnancy	<p>1st Trimester: Considered safe 2nd Trimester: Considered safe 3rd Trimester: Considered safe</p>	<p>There is more experience with aciclovir in pregnancy. Valaciclovir is a pro-drug of aciclovir and is generally considered safe to use in pregnancy</p>
Breastfeeding	Considered safe to use	
Monitoring	Dose reduction required in renal impairment	

Clinical guidelines and policies	Herpes Simplex in Pregnancy Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Varicella Zoster (Chicken Pox/Shingles) Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) policy
References	<p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Valaciclovir. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2017 [cited 2017 Nov 06]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</p> <p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Valaciclovir. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2017 [cited 2017 Nov 06]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</p>

Keywords:	Valaciclovir, valacyclovir, Valtrex, HSV, herpes, herpes simplex virus, herpes zoster, shingles, chicken pox, varicella, varicella zoster virus, VZV		
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