



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Nifedipine

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

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Restrictions

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[SAS Category A](#) (item requires approval by TGA)

Medication Class

Calcium Channel Blocker

Presentation

Immediate release capsules (SAS): 10mg (SAS)

Slow release tablets: 30mg, 60mg

Please note there is a world-wide shortage of nifedipine – refer to the [TGA](#) for more information.

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Tocolysis

Oral (immediate release capsules):

Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: [Preterm labour](#)

Acute treatment of severe hypertension**Oral (immediate release capsules):**

10mg initially.

Repeat dose after 30-45 minutes if response inadequate, to a maximum dose of 40mg.

Also refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: [Hypertension in pregnancy: Medical management](#)

Ongoing treatment of hypertension**Oral (slow release tablets):**

30mg SR once daily; may increase to a maximum dose of 60mg SR twice daily if required.

Also refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: [Hypertension in pregnancy: Medical management](#)

Nipple vasospasm**Oral (slow release tablets):**

30mg SR once daily; may increase to 60mg SR once daily if required.

Duration: trial for 2 weeks; a longer duration may be required if symptoms persist.

Angina**Oral (slow release tablets):**

30mg SR once daily; may increase to a maximum dose of 90mg SR once daily if required.

Administration**Slow release tablets**

Swallow whole, do not crush or chew

Monitoring

Blood pressure, heart rate, facial flushing, headache

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Considered safe to use

2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use

3rd Trimester: Considered safe to use

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines (in addition to those listed above):

[Hypertension in Pregnancy: Magnesium Anticonvulsant Therapy](#)

[Preterm Labour: Magnesium Sulphate for Neuroprotection of the Fetus](#)

[Syntometrine: Labour and birth suite quick reference guide](#)

[Postpartum complications](#) (*Intranet access only*)

[Hypertension in Pregnancy: Midwifery care](#)

[Rupture of membranes- spontaneous](#)

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Pre-operative Medication Management](#) (*Intranet access only*)

References









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