

Guidance notes for the new gentamicin prescribing, administration & monitoring chart & online gentamicin calculator

NURSING STAFF

- Each dose and time for gentamicin to be given must be prescribed on the prescription section of the gentamicin chart:

ALWAYS CHECK IF PREVIOUS DOSES HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED (e.g. in A&E or surgical prophylaxis-once only section) AND DOCUMENT ON CHART TO ENSURE COMPLETE TREATMENT RECORD

TOXICITY Before prescribing each dose check renal function	Gentamicin Prescription Record				Administration Record			Monitoring Record (samples 6-14 hours after start of infusion)				
	Complete each time a dose prescribed 'as per chart' (the TPAR). Prescribe to nearest 40mg.	Date to be given	Time to be given 24 h clock	Gentamicin Dose (mg)	Prescriber's signature, PRINTED name and STATUS	Date given	Time started 24 h clock	Given by	Date of sample	Time of sample 24 h clock	Gent level (mg/L)	Action/ Comments (please initial action to be taken)
Cr = micro mol/L											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> Details/other:	
Cr = micro mol/L											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> Details/other:	
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If antibiotic therapy is to continue beyond 3 days consider oral switch. Review microbiology results and sensitivities and prescribe targeted therapy where possible
If IV therapy is still indicated consider switching to aztreonam to reduce risks of prolonged treatment with gentamicin (Refer to aztreonam guidance on NHST website)
Discuss with an infection specialist if gentamicin required for more than 72hrs

- Date and time of administration must be completed in the administration section of the chart by the staff member administering the dose of gentamicin. It is important to document the time gentamicin is given in order to interpret the levels of gentamicin and to calculate the time of the next dose.
- Gentamicin levels should be taken **6-14 hours** after the start of the infusion. If you know that a patient has not had a level taken then please contact a member of the medical team.
- Gentamicin must also be prescribed on the TPAR. The time and dose of gentamicin will not be documented. Instead, the doctor will prescribe the dose "as charted" and not document a time for administration.

REGULAR THERAPY		Date	Time	MM/YY
Medicine / Form		6		
GENTAMICIN		8		0800 LS/KP
Dose	Route	12		
AS CHARTED	IV	14		
Signature	Start Date	18		
<i>9 Finem</i>	01/01/17	22		
Further Information				
See gentamicin prescribing chart				

Prescribed "As charted" - The dose and time are not specified by the prescriber on the TPAR – this is documented on the prescribing chart

Nursing Staff:
Sign for time of administration on **both** the gentamicin prescribing chart **and** TPAR

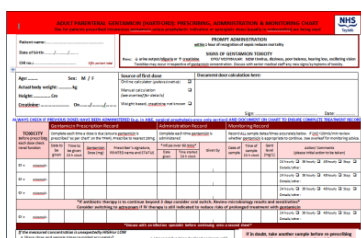
- The date and time of administration of gentamicin must be signed on the TPAR as well as the gentamicin chart.

- If the patient reports any adverse effects which may be considered attributable to gentamicin then please discuss with medical staff. These include:
 - new tinnitus
 - dizziness
 - poor balance
 - hearing loss
 - oscillating vision
 - decrease in urine output / oliguria

- To minimise the risk of toxicity, duration of treatment should be limited to 72 hours. All gentamicin prescriptions that continue beyond this **must** be discussed and agreed with microbiology or an infection specialist.

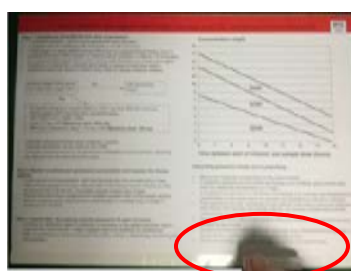
- If you think that a dose is due but it has not been prescribed, contact the prescriber. Ideally this should be identified during normal working hours. Do NOT administer a dose based on what is documented at the top of chart.

Placement in TPAR



The image shows a screenshot of a Gentamicin prescribing chart. It includes fields for patient name, date of birth, sex, and weight. Below this is a table with columns for 'Dose', 'Frequency', and 'Route'. The chart also contains a section for 'Monitoring' and 'Adverse Effects'.

Gentamicin prescribing chart



Remove adhesive cover



Apply to inner aspect of TPAR on "as required" page to prevent occluding prescriptions

For further advice please contact your ward pharmacist or antibiotic pharmacist on bleep 4732.