

## 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:

TOXICITY Before prescribing each dose check renal function	Gentamicin Prescription Record				Administration Record			Monitoring Record <small>...(samples 6-14 hours after start of infusion)</small>			
	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 = <u>micromol/L</u>											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Details/other :</a>
Cr = <u>micromol/L</u>											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Details/other :</a>
Cr = <u>micromol/L</u>											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Details/other :</a>
Cr = <u>micromol/L</u>											24 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 36 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hourly <input type="checkbox"/> Stop <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Details/other :</a>

IV antibiotics should be reviewed daily & IVOST at earliest opportunity. Review microbiology results and sensitivities and prescribe targeted therapy where possible  
If IV therapy is still indicated discuss with pharmacy, ID or Microbiology

- 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.
- If the level falls in the 24 hour dosing section of the nomogram then up to a total of 4 doses can be given  
  
If the level falls in the 36 hour dosing section of the nomogram then up to a total of 2 doses can be given  
  
If the level falls in the 48 hour dosing section of the nomogram then up to a total of 2 doses can be given
- Gentamicin must also be prescribed on HEPMA. The time and dose of gentamicin will not be documented. Instead, the prescriber will prescribe the dose "as per paper chart" and not document a time for administration.

Drug Notes

Formulary

Drug Conflicts

Order Entry

Confirmation

Legend

The following orders will be added

[View Opening](#)

Pharmacy Open

PRN NON STOCK

GENTAMICIN (ADULTS) Infusion - AS PER PAPER CHART

PRN order with no defined frequency

Dose	1 Dose	Route	Intravenous Intermittent Inf...
Frequency			
Rx on	15-Jan-2024 12:35	Stop on	
BNF	Aminoglycosides	Prescriber	TAYPHA2

**Nursing Staff:**

Sign for time of administration on **both** the gentamicin prescribing chart **and** HEPMA

**Prescribed "As per paper chart" -**  
The dose and time are not specified by the prescriber on HEPMA – this is documented on the prescribing chart

- The date and time of administration of gentamicin must be signed on HEPMA 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 96 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 of Chart

The gentamicin prescription, monitoring and administration chart is a stand alone document. Please ensure that this is kept with other paper documentation relating to the patient which is easily accessible to minimise the risk of missed doses.

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