



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Valaciclovir

Scope (Staff):	All WNHS Staff
Scope (Area):	Obstetrics and Gynaecology

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

Quick Links

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[Administration](#)

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Restrictions

[Formulary: Restricted](#)

Medication Class

Guanine Analogue

Presentation

Tablet: 500mg

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Varicella/Herpes Zoster (Chicken Pox/Shingles) Treatment

Oral:

1g orally, 8-hourly for 7 days

Herpes Simplex Virus in Pregnancy:

Recurrent HSV – episodic treatment

Oral:

500mg orally, 12-hourly for 3 days

Recurrent HSV – prophylactic treatment from 36 weeks gestation**Oral:**

500mg orally, 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

Primary Outbreak HSV**Oral:**

500mg orally, 12-hourly for 5 days

Administration**Oral**

Drink plenty of fluids – at least 1.5L daily

Monitoring

Dose reduction required in renal impairment

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Considered safe

2nd Trimester: Considered safe

3rd Trimester: Considered safe

There is more experience with aciclovir in pregnancy. Valaciclovir is a pro-drug of aciclovir and is generally considered safe to use in pregnancy

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

[Herpes Simplex in Pregnancy](#)

[Sexually Transmitted Infections \(STI\)](#)

[Varicella Zoster Virus \(VZV\)](#)









[Antimicrobial Stewardship](#)**References**

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