**Azithromycin**

**Presentation:**
- Vial: 500mg
- Mixture: 40mg/mL

**Action & Indication:**
Azalide antibiotic (macrolide subclass). For treatment of susceptible organisms including Bordetella pertussis, Mycoplasma, Chlamydia, Gram positive and Gram negative cocci.

**Dose:**
- **IV:** 5mg /kg /dose once daily
- **ORAL:**
  - 10mg /kg /dose once daily for 5 days (Pertussis infections)
  - 20mg /kg /dose once daily for 3 days (Chlamydia trachomatis, conjunctivitis, pneumonitis)

**Preparation:**
- Diluent: Water for Injections
  - Intravenous: Add 4.8mL diluent to vial
    - = 100mg/mL
  - Take 0.5mL (50mg) of the above solution and dilute to 50mL with Sodium Chloride 0.9%, Glucose, or Glucose/Saline solutions
    - = 1mg/mL
  - **ORAL:** Add 9mL water to bottle. Shake well

**Administration:**
- **IV:** Infuse over at least 60 minutes
- **ORAL:** Give on empty stomach

**Adverse Effects:**
- Diarrhoea, vomiting, blood in stool
- Irritability
- Rash
- Pyloric stenosis
- Must be diluted to 2mg/mL or less. Higher concentrations may cause local IV site reactions

**Comments:**
- Limited data in neonates
- Use with caution in impaired hepatic function or severe renal disfunction.
- Discard reconstituted vial immediately after use
- Store oral solution below 30°C. Discard after 10 days.

**References:**
Neofax 2012

**Date:**
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