### NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

**CASPOFUNGIN**  
Created by: NCCU  
Date for review: Aug 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRUG:</th>
<th>CASPOFUNGIN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESENTATION:</td>
<td>Vial: 50 mg</td>
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<td>ACTION &amp; INDICATION:</td>
<td>Caspofungin is an antifungal agent used in the treatment of susceptible organisms (including <em>Aspergillus</em> and <em>Candida</em>) in patients who are either refractory to or intolerant of other agents.</td>
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</table>
| DOSE: | IV: 25 mg/m² once daily  
If the calculation of the patient’s body surface area is either not possible or unsuitable, the following dosage regimen has been published  
1 – 2 mg/kg once daily  
Higher doses have been reported but should only be used after consultation with a Clinical Microbiologist or Infectious Diseases Physician. |
| PREPARATION: | IV: Use solution prepared by Pharmacy if available.  
Diluent: Water for Injections, or Sodium chloride 0.9%  
Intravenous: Add 10.5mL of diluent to a 50mg vial = 5.2mg/mL (must be further diluted)  
Further dilute this concentrated solution to 0.5mg/mL or weaker with sodium chloride 0.9%. |
| ADMINISTRATION: | For intravenous infusion.  
Infuse over 60 minutes.  
Caspofungin is **incompatible** with glucose. |
| ADVERSE EFFECTS: | Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea.  
Tachycardia, hypotension, flushing.  
Hypokalaemia, hypomagnesaemia, elevated liver enzymes (AST, ALT and alkaline phosphatase).  
Rash, sweating, pruritis. |
| COMMENTS: | Monitor for histamine-related reactions during administration.  
The dose does **not** need adjustment in patients with renal impairment.  
Discard reconstituted vial immediately after use |
| REFERENCES: | BNF for Children 2013  
Pediatric Dosage Handbook (17th ed.)  
Neofax 2012  
Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook 5th Ed 2011  
| DATE: | August 2013 |