# DRUG: RIFAMPICIN

**PRESENTATION:**
- Vial: 600mg
- Mixture: 20mg/mL

**ACTION & INDICATION:**
Broad-spectrum antibiotic. Inhibits DNA dependent RNA polymerase activity. Effective against Mycobacteria, Neisseria, gram-positive cocci. Used as prophylaxis for meningitis contacts.

**DOSE:**
- 10mg/kg/dose once every 24 hours
- In severe infections: 20mg/kg/24 hours

**PREPARATION:**
Use solution prepared in Pharmacy if available.
Reconstitute each vial using 9.5 mL of the diluent supplied. Shake the vial for 30 seconds
= 600mg in 10mL (60mg in 1mL).
Take 1mL of this solution and further dilute to 10mL with sodium chloride 0.9%, glucose or glucose/saline combinations
= 6mg in 1mL

**ADMINISTRATION:**
Infuse over 30 - 60 minutes via syringe pump.
Oral: Give on empty stomach

**ADVERSE EFFECTS:**
- Gastro-intestinal irritation.
- Hypersensitivity
- Blood dyscrasias
- Drowsiness
- Hepatitis (rare)
- Discolouration of urine, tears, saliva (pink to red)

**COMMENTS:**
Use in combination with other antibiotics to provide synergistic effect.
Induces hepatic metabolism - monitor drug levels of phenytoin, phenobarbitone, caffeine, digoxin
Discard reconstituted solution immediately after use.
Solutions diluted with Glucose 5% solution to 6mg/mL should be discarded after 4 hours.

**REFERENCES:**
- Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13th Ed Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne
- Neofax 2013

**DATE:**
October 2013