OFLOXACIN
(OPHTHALMIC)

Read in conjunction with Disclaimer

Formulary: Restricted
Requires neonatologist or relevant specialist review within 24 hours of initiation.

Presentation	**Eye drops:** 0.3% (3 mg/mL)
Classification	Quinolone antibiotic
Indication	Used to treat susceptible infections of the eyes including: • *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* • Severe conjunctivitis
Special Considerations	• Other antimicrobials such as chloramphenicol are preferred for conjunctivitis, to slow emerging resistance. • Use with caution in patients with G6PD deficiency.
Monitoring	Duration of therapy.
Adverse Effects	**Common:** Mild transient ocular irritation (e.g. burning, stinging). **Infrequent or rare:** White corneal precipitates (common with ciprofloxacin), keratitis, allergic reactions (very rare reports of severe hypersensitivity including angioedema, anaphylaxis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome), nausea, dizziness.
Storage & Stability	Store at room temperature, below 25°C. Protect from light and excessive heat. • Discard 28 days after opening.
Comments	Information in this protocol is based on use in pediatric and adult patients. Neonatal data are very limited.

OPHTHALMIC

Presentation	**Eye drops:** 0.3% (3 mg/mL)
Dosage	**Day 1 to 2:** Instil 1 drop into the affected eye(s) every 4 hours; ***Note:*** *Some guidelines advise that ofloxacin may be applied more frequently, every 1 to 2 hours, during the first two days in cases of very severe infections.* **Day 3 onwards:** Reduce frequency to every 6 hours. ***Maximum of 10 days*** *treatment or as per paediatric ID or microbiology.*
Administration	Hold eye lids apart and administer drop directly onto eye. • Single patient use only. • Ensure the tip of the eye drop container does not come into contact with the infected eye(s). Ensure adequate hand hygiene during and after administration to minimise the risk of infection. • Nasolacrimal occlusion or gently closing the eyelid after administration may reduce the systemic absorption and result in a decrease in systemic adverse reactions.

Related Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

CAHS Neonatatology Clinical Practice Guidelines:

Eye Care: Eye Infections and Conjunctivitis

Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

CAHS Neonatology – Medication Administration Guideline

References

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Document history

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