



NEONATAL MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Probiotic Supplement

(Bifidobacterium breve M16 V)

Scope (Staff): Nursing, Medical and Pharmacy Staff

Scope (Area): KEMH NICU, PCH NICU, NETS WA

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Only to be prescribed for inpatients of the special care nursery

Description

Probiotic Oral Supplement

Presentation

Dry powder for reconstitution: 5 billion organisms per 1g sachet

Storage

Store dry powder sachets at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Prevention of necrotising enterocolitis for preterm infants born at < 35 weeks gestation

Restricted to inpatients of special care nursery. Discontinue when infant reaches 37 weeks corrected gestation or upon discharge from the neonatal unit.

Oral:

Minimal enteral feeds (<50mL/kg/day) - 1mL of reconstituted supplement ONCE a day

Nutritive enteral feeds (≥ 50mL/kg/day) - 1mL of reconstituted supplement TWICE a day

Nil by Mouth - Probiotic supplement should be **WITHHELD**

Dose Adjustment

Renal Impairment:

Not required

Hepatic Impairment:

Not required

Preparation

Oral

To prepare a single dose:

Step 1 Reconstitution: Dilute the contents of one sachet with 2mL sterile water to make a final volume of 3mL reconstituted solution.

To prepare several doses:

Step 1 Reconstitution: Empty the contents of 3 sachets in a 10mL syringe with 6mL sterile water to make a final volume of 9mL reconstituted solution. Transfer 1mL of this solution into an oral syringe for each baby's dose.

Reconstituted solution must be discarded after 2 hours.

Administration

Oral

Administer dose immediately after reconstitution.

Can be given at any time with regards to feeds.

Probiotic supplement should be withheld while infant is 'nil by mouth'.

Side Effects

Common: Diarrhoea

Serious: Nil

Comments

Perform adequate hand hygiene protocols prior to reconstitution.

Discard remaining reconstituted solution immediately after use.

Administer dose immediately after reconstitution.

Parent/Guardian consent is to be obtained prior to administration of probiotics

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:









[Probiotic supplement consent form](#)

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

References

Deshpande GC, Rao SC, Keil AD, Patole SK. Evidence-based guidelines for use of probiotics in preterm neonates. BMC Medicine. 2011;9:92. doi:10.1186/1741-7015-9-92.

Satoh Y et al. Bifidobacteria prevents necrotising enterocolitis and infection in preterm infants. International Journal of Probiotics and Prebiotics. 2007,2(2/3):149-54

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