ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE	
Meropenem	
Scope (Staff):	All WNHS Staff
Scope (Area):	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
This document should be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer.	

Quick Links

Dose	Administration	Monitoring	Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Restrictions

Formulary: Restricted

Medication Class

Carbapenem antibiotic

Presentation

Vial: 500 mg, 1 g

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Severe mixed aerobic and anaerobic infections

IV:

0.5 – 1 g 8-hourly. Maximum 2 g-8 hourly

For renal impairment:

Creatinine Clearance	Dosage adjustment
26–50 mL/minute	100% 8 to 12-hourly
10–25 mL/minute	50% 8 to 12 hourly
<10 mL/minute	50 to 100% 24 hourly

Administration

Refer to the Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook

IV Injection

Step 1 Reconstitution: Reconstitute the 500 mg vial with 10 mL or the 1 g vial with 20 mL of water for injections. Shake well before use.

***Step 2 Administration*:** Inject over 5 minutes

IV Infusion

Step 1 Reconstitution*:* As above

Step 2 Dilution*:* Dilute the dose with 50 - 200 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5%

Step 3 Administration*:* Infuse over 15 to 30 minutes

Monitoring

Monitor renal function, hepatic function and complete blood count during prolonged treatment

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Considered safe to use

2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use

3rd Trimester: Considered safe to use

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

Comments

High-dose meropenem achieves adequate concentrations in the cerebrospinal fluid and has a lower incidence of seizures than imipenem.

A higher initial dosage of meropenem, is recommended in Therapeutic guidelines for critically ill patients with suspected or confirmed infection with *P. aeruginosa*, *Burkholderia pseudomallei* or *Acinetobacter baumannii.*

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

HDWA Policies:

Formulary ONE

WNHS Policies:

WNHS Policy: Antimicrobial Stewardship

WNHS Clinical Guidelines:

Sepsis and septic shock: Antibiotics for adult patients at KEMH

WNHS Pharmaceutical & Medicines Management Guidelines:

Medication Administration

References

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NSQHS Standards Applicable:	☒ Std 1: Clinical Governance ☐ Std 2: Partnering with Consumers ☒ Std 3: Preventing and Controlling Healthcare Associated Infection ☒ Std 4: Medication Safety			☐ Std 5: Comprehensive Care ☐ Std 6: Communicating for Safety ☐ Std 7: Blood Management ☐ Std 8: Recognising and Responding to Acute Deterioration	
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