### ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

### METRONIDAZOLE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Scope (Staff):</th>
<th>All WNHS Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope (Area):</td>
<td>Obstetrics and Gynaecology</td>
</tr>
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This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

### Quick Links

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### Restrictions

**Formulary:** Unrestricted

### Medication Class

Nitroimidazole antibiotic

### Presentation

- **Tablet:** 200mg, 400mg
- **Injection:** 500mg/100mL
- **Suppositories:** 500mg
- **Oral Suspension:** 200mg/5mL

### Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

**Infusion:**

Do not freeze.

Protect from light during storage; protection from light not required during infusion.

### Dose

**Prophylaxis for gynaecology and urogynaecology surgery**

**IV:**

500mg IV (as a single dose within 60 min (ideally 15-30 min) prior to skin incision
Also refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: Infections: Antibiotic prophylaxis for gynaecology and urogynaecology surgery

**Post-anal sphincter repair**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Perineal care and repair: protection, assessment and management

**Prophylaxis for operative vaginal birth**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Operative vaginal birth

**Bacterial vaginosis, trichomoniasis**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Vaginal Infections: Antibiotic treatment for

**Secondary postpartum haemorrhage**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Postpartum complications

**Adult and maternal sepsis and septic shock**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Sepsis and septic shock: Antibiotics for adult patients at KEMH

**Infections Postpartum**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Infections in obstetrics (intra-amniotic chorioamnionitis and postpartum infection): Diagnosis and management

**Prophylaxis for reinfusion of processed vaginal blood**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Intraoperative cell salvage

**Prophylaxis for hysterosalpingogram for infertility**
Refer to KEMH Clinical Practice Guideline: O&G: Infections: Antibiotic prophylaxis/medication: Hysterosalpingogram for infertility
Administration

**IV infusion**
Refer to the [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#).

**Oral tablet**
To be taken with food

**Oral suspension**
To be taken one hour BEFORE food

Monitoring

Monitor blood count and neurotoxic reactions when treating for >10 days

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Consider alternative*
2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use
3rd Trimester: Considered safe to use

*Maternal use is not associated with increased risk of congenital malformations or adverse pregnancy outcomes. Mutagenic effects in bacteria and carcinogenic effects in animals have not been confirmed in human studies.

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

May cause some bitterness in milk. Use in divided doses after breastfeeding rather than single daily doses.

Comments

Avoid alcohol during treatment and for 24 hours after finishing the course to prevent nausea; vomiting, flushing, headache and palpitations.

There is good oral (70–90%) and rectal (60–80%) bioavailability.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

**HDWA Mandatory Policies:**
[WA Adult Medicines Formulary](#)

**WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:**
[Antimicrobial Stewardship](#)
[Gynaecology (Non-oncological)](#)
**WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:**

**Prescribing by Eligible Private Practicing Midwives with a Scheduled Medicines Endorsement**

KEMH Services Pharmacy: [Medicines and breastfeeding](#)

### References


[Silver book – STI/BBV management guidelines](#)
### Metronidazole

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Metronidazole, flagyl, PID, pelvic inflammatory disease, trichomoniasis, BV, bacterial vaginosis, hysterosalpingogram, HSG, surgical prophylaxis, sepsis, perineal repair, operative vaginal delivery</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Document Owner:</td>
<td>Chief Pharmacist</td>
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<td>Author/ Reviewer</td>
<td>KEMH Pharmacy Department</td>
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| NSQHS Standards Applicable: | Std 1: Clinical Governance  
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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The health impact upon Aboriginal people has been considered, and where relevant incorporated and appropriately addressed in the development of this document (insert ISD Number). (Please refer to the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration for Department of Health and Health Service Provider Guidelines – please delete once you have completed this).

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