Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service
Women and Newborn Health Service

ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE	
TRIMETHOPRIM	
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: Unrestricted

Medication Class

Antibacterial

Presentation

Tablet: 300 mg

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 30°C, protect medication from light

Dose

Uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infection

Oral:

300 mg at night for 3 days

(If susceptibility is confirmed, trimethoprim can be considered in the second and third trimesters)

Continuous prophylaxis for recurrent UTI in NONpregnant females

Oral:

150 mg at night (typically for 6 months and then stopped)

Administration

Oral

Give at night to maximise urinary concentration for UTI. Swallow the tablets whole with a glass of water.

Monitoring

Monitor complete blood count and folate status during prolonged or high-dose treatment.
Monitor serum potassium, beginning on day 3, if the patient has renal impairment, is taking drugs that can cause hyperkalaemia, or is taking a high dose, e.g. .to treat PCP

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Consider alternative

2nd Trimester: Consider alternative

3rd Trimester: Consider alternative

If trimethoprim is the medicine of choice, consider maternal supplementation with daily folate (folic acid 5 mg daily)

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use

Comments

Renal: Contraindicated if CrCl <10 mL/minute; reduce dose if CrCl 10–30 mL/minute (manufacturer does not recommend its use if CrCl <15 mL/minute).

Impairment increases risk of hyperkalaemia.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

HDWA Mandatory Policies:

WA Statewide Medicines Formulary

WNHS Policy:

Antimicrobial Stewardship

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

Infections: Urinary tract infection in pregnant women

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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