Guideline for Prescribing of Pivmecillinam

1. BACKGROUND

Pivmecillinam is an antibiotic belonging to the penicillins class of antibacterials. It has significant activity against many Gram-negative bacteria including *E coli*, klebsiella, enterobacter, and salmonellae. It is not active against *Ps aeruginosa* or enterococci.

2. INDICATION

Pivmecillinam is licensed in adults and children for the treatment of mecillinam sensitive organisms, including urinary tract infections and salmonellosis.

In Hull and East Yorkshire area pivmecillinam is a restricted antibiotic. Use should be reserved for:
- the treatment of recurrent UTI in adults and children > 40kg with a limited number of treatment options AND
- prescribed by or recommended by a Consultant Microbiologist or Consultant in Infectious Disease

3. DOSE / DURATION

Dose is 400 mg (TWO tablets) three times daily.

Duration as advised by specialist – likely to be long term

4. CONTRAINDICATIONS / CAUTIONS

Avoid use in patients with hypersensitivity to the drug substance or any of the other ingredients; hypersensitivity to penicillins and/or cephalosporins; oesophageal strictures and/or obstructive changes in the gastrointestinal tract; a predisposition to carnitine deficiency; acute porphyria; pregnancy.

May be used during breast-feeding and no effects on the infant are anticipated. However, as for other penicillins, trace quantities of mecillinam is excreted into breast milk with the possible risk of sensitisation and subsequent allergic reactions in a sensitised infant.
Drug interactions

Avoid use with
- Sodium valproate and valproic acid – increased risk of carnitine depletion

Use with caution with
- Methotrexate – possible rise in methotrexate levels
- Probenecid – possible rise in pivmecillinam level
- Other antibacterials – bactericidal effect may be hindered by concurrent administration of other medicines with bacteriostatic effect

5. ADVERSE EFFECTS
Common side effects (≥1/100 to <1/10) – diarrhoea, nausea, vulvovaginal mycotic infection

Details of contraindications, cautions, drug interactions and adverse effects listed above are not exhaustive. For further information always check with BNF www.bnf.org.uk or SPC (www.medicines.org.uk).

6. MONITORING
If long term use, the following monitoring is recommended prior to initiation, then every month initially, reduced to 2-3 monthly on specialist advice

- Biochemical Profile (U&Es) – monitor Creatinine and Liver Function Tests

7. INFORMATION TO PATIENT
- Patients should be informed of risks and benefits of treatment.
- The tablets must be taken with at least half a glass of water, and preferably taken with or immediately after a meal

Contacts:

HEY NHS Hospitals Trust. 01482 875875. Ask for Microbiologist or ID consultant on call

York Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust. 01904 725856. Ask for Microbiologist on call

NLAG Foundation Trust. 03033 306999. For results, extension 306610. For advice extension 306999

HEY NHS Hospitals Trust. 01482 875875. Ask for Microbiologist or ID consultant on call
York Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust. 01904 725856. Ask for Microbiologist on call

NLAG Foundation Trust. 03033 306999. For results, extension 306610. For advice extension 306999

**APPROVAL PROCESS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written by:</th>
<th>Marie Miller, Interface Pharmacist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultation process:</td>
<td>Specialist team – Microbiology, Infectious Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved by:</td>
<td>Medicines Management Interface Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified by:</td>
<td>Hull and East Riding Prescribing Committee, Nov 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review date:</td>
<td>Nov 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>