

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/resistant 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

Uncomplicated Lower Urinary Tract Infection

400mg STAT followed by 200mg 8hrly
(To complete 3 days in WOMEN, 7 days in MEN)

Recurrent Lower Urinary Tract Infections

Usual dose is 400 mg (TWO tablets) three times daily.

Dose and duration as advised by specialist – may be long term

In patients with severe renal impairment accumulation can occur. Dose reduction may be advised for long term use.

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; 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

5. ADVERSE EFFECTS

Common side effects ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$) – diarrhoea, nausea, vulvovaginal mycotic infection

Take with at least half a glass of fluid to reduce risk of gastric ulceration.

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

Carnitine depletion can occur with long term therapy. Monitor patients for symptoms including muscle aches, fatigue and confusion.

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:

Hull University Teaching Hospitals Trust. 01482 875875.

Ask for Infection consultant on call (may be a microbiologist or infectious disease consultant)

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

Written by:	Marie Miller, Interface Pharmacist
Reviewed by:	Lorraine Cullen, Lead Pharmacist – Infection, HUTH (01/20)
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