



HSGB DIAMS QUICK GUIDE:

# DRUG PROTOCOLS

## Antibiotic Desensitization Protocol

## Amphotericin B Protocol

## Ganciclovir Inj. Protocol

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## Antibiotic Desensitisation Protocol

### Co-trimoxazole (Bactrim) Desensitization Protocol

### Penicillin Desensitization Protocol

### Cephalosporin Desensitization Protocol



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## Co-trimoxazole (Bactrim) Desensitisation Protocol for PCP Prophylaxis

### BACTRIM TOXICITY GRADING SCALE FOR ADULT & ADOLESCENT:

GRADES	CLINICAL DESCRIPTIONS
GRADE 1	Erythema
GRADE 2	Diffuse maculopapular rash, dry desquamation
GRADE 3	Vesiculation, mucosal ulceration
GRADE 4	Exfoliative dermatitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) /erythema multiforme, moist desquamation

Desensitization can be attempted **two weeks** after a **non-severe (grade 3 or less)** reaction that has resulted in a temporary interruption of Bactrim. It should **NOT** be attempted in individuals with a history of grade 4 reactions to previous Bactrim or other sulfa drugs.

It is recommended to commence an **antihistamine of choice one day before starting the regimen** and to continue daily until completing the dose escalation.

PROTOCOL FOR BACTRIM DESENSITIZATION AMONG ADULTS	
STEPS	DOSES
DAY 1	80 mg SMX + 16 mg TMP (2 mL of Bactrim syrup)
DAY 2	160 mg SMX + 32 mg TMP (4 mL of Bactrim syrup)
DAY 3	240 mg SMX + 48 mg TMP (6 mL of Bactrim syrup)
DAY 4	320 mg SMX + 64 mg TMP (8 mL of Bactrim syrup)
DAY 5	1 tablet (400 mg SMX + 80 mg TMP)
DAY 6 ONWARDS <sup>b</sup>	2 tablets (800 mg SMX + 160 mg TMP)
<p><b>Management of Reaction during Desensitization:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If a minor reaction occurs, repeat the same step for an additional day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If the reaction subsides, advance to the next step.</li> <li>▪ If the reaction worsens, the desensitization regimen is terminated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ If a severe reaction occurs, the desensitization regimen is terminated.</li> </ul>	



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## Penicillin Desensitisation Protocol

- **Preferred Route:** Use **Oral Phenoxymethylpenicillin (Penicillin V)** rather than parenteral benzylpenicillin.
- **Potential Reactions:** About 1 in 3 patients may experience mild and transient reaction during desensitization or treatment.
- **Precautions:**
  - Stop all  $\beta$ -blockers before starting.
  - Ensure IV access is available.
  - Keep epinephrine, ECG, and a spirometer on hand.
- **Contraindications:** Do not perform desensitization if the patient has a history of:
  - Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS)
  - Exfoliative dermatitis
  - Erythroderma
- **Preparation & Administration:**
  1. Use Penicillin V oral solution (125 mg/5 mL) to prepare dilutions as per the table below
  2. Give each dose at 15-minutes interval, mixed with **30 mL of water or a flavored beverage.**
  3. After step 14, observe the patient for 30 minutes.
  4. Then, administer the full therapeutic dose via the route of choice

Step	Drug Preparation		Volume (mL) to be administered	Drug Dose Per Step		Cumulative Dose Administered	
	Dilution	(mg/mL)		mg	units	mg	Units
1	1 ml of Syr. Penicillin V 125 mg/5 ml diluted to 50 ml	0.5	0.1	0.05	80	0.05	80
2		0.5	0.2	0.1	160	0.15	240
3		0.5	0.4	0.2	320	0.35	560
4		0.5	0.8	0.4	640	0.75	1200
5		0.5	1.6	0.8	1280	1.55	2480
6		0.5	3.2	1.6	2560	3.15	5040
7		0.5	6.4	3.2	5120	6.35	10,160
8	2 ml Syr. Penicillin V 125 mg/5 ml diluted to 10 ml	5	1.2	6	9600	12.35	19,760
9		5	2.4	12	19,200	24.35	38,960
10		5	4.8	24	38,400	48.35	77,360
11	Syr. Penicillin V 125 mg/5 ml	25	2	50	80,000	98.35	157,360
12		25	4	100	160,000	198.35	317,360
13		25	8	200	320,000	398.35	637,360
14		25	16	400	640,000	798.35	1,277,360

### If allergy /reaction occur during desensitization procedure:

- Stop the procedure immediately.
- If symptoms persist, symptomatic treatment should be given.

Symptoms	Treatment
<b>Mild skin reaction</b> (i.e., erythema, rash, pruritis, urticaria)	<b>PO Cetirizine 20 mg STAT</b>
<b>Systemic reaction</b> (i.e., hypotension, wheezing, bronchospasm, angioedema)	<b>IM Epinephrine 0.3 mg STAT</b> <b>IV Methylprednisolone 125 mg STAT</b> <b>MDI Salbutamol with aerochamber 4 – 8 puffs</b> (if respiratory involvement)

- When the symptoms have resolved, the protocol can be resumed by repeating the dose that caused the reaction or restarting at a lower dose.
- However, the procedure should be discontinued if severe reactions (such as serum sickness, laryngeal edema that does not respond to epinephrine).



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## Cephalosporin Desensitisation Protocol

- This protocol is only recommended for patients who had an allergy towards cephalosporins with a reaction of either immediate HSR or those with non-severe delayed HSR.
- IV cephalosporins that can be used in this protocol included **cefazolin**, **ceftriaxone**, and **cefepime**.
- Administer each dose at **15-minute intervals**.
- Use [Table 1](#) when the dose prescribed is **1 g/dose** and [Table 2](#) when the dose prescribed is **2 g/dose**.

Drug	Brand	Reconstitution (Solution A)	Dilution for (Solution B) Diluent: NS or D5
<b>Ceftriaxone 1 g</b>	Unocéf	9.6 ml WFI	further dilute up to 100 ml to make 10 mg/mL
<b>Cefazolin 1 g</b>	Cefazolin-AFT	3 ml WFI	further dilute up to 100 ml to make 10 mg/mL
<b>Cefepime 1 g</b>	Cefmex Vaxcel Cefepime	10 ml WFI	further dilute up to 100 ml to make 10 mg/mL

**Table 1: Therapeutic dose 1 g Cephalosporin**

Steps	Futher Drug Dilution	Concentration (mg/mL)	Dose (mg)	mL to be administered	Cumulative Dose (mg)
1	Take <b>1 ml</b> of (Solution B) and further dilute in <b>100 mL</b>	0.1	0.1	<b>1</b>	0.1
2		0.1	0.2	<b>2</b>	0.3
3		0.1	1.0	<b>10</b>	1.3
4		0.1	2.0	<b>20</b>	3.3
5	Use (Solution B) (10 mg/mL)	10	10.0	<b>1</b>	13.3
6		10	20.0	<b>2</b>	33.3
7		10	70.0	<b>7</b>	103.3
8	Take a <b>new vial</b> and reconstitute and <b>further dilute up to 25 mL</b>	40	200.0	<b>5</b>	303.3
9		40	700.0	<b>17.5</b>	1003.3

- The interval between doses is 15 minutes, with a total time of 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Observation before the full therapeutic dose is 30 mins.



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**Table 2: Therapeutic dose 2 g Cephalosporin**

Steps	Further Drug Dilution	Concentration (mg/mL)	Dose (mg)	mL to be administered	Cumulative Dose (mg)
1	Take <b>1 ml</b> of <b>(Solution B)</b> and further dilute in <b>100 mL</b>	0.1	0.1	<b>1</b>	0.1
2		0.1	0.4	<b>4</b>	0.5
3		0.1	1.0	<b>10</b>	1.5
4		0.1	4.0	<b>40</b>	5.5
5	Use <b>(Solution B)</b> (10 mg/mL)	10	10.0	<b>1</b>	15.5
6		10	40.0	<b>4</b>	55.5
7		10	140.0	<b>14</b>	195.5
8	Take <b>TWO</b> new vials and reconstitute and further dilute up to <b>25 ml diluent</b> for <b>each</b> vial	40	400.0	<b>10</b>	595.5
9		40	1400.0	<b>35</b>	1995.5

- The interval between doses is 15 minutes, with a total time of 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Observation before the full therapeutic dose is 30 mins.

**If allergy /reaction occur during desensitization procedure:**

- Stopped the procedure immediately.
- If symptoms persist, symptomatic treatment should be given.

Symptoms	Treatment
<b>Mild skin reaction</b> (i.e., erythema, rash, pruritis, urticaria)	<b>PO Cetirizine 20 mg STAT</b>
<b>Systemic reaction</b> (i.e., hypotension, wheezing, bronchospasm, angioedema)	<b>IM Epinephrine 0.3 mg STAT</b> <b>IV Methylprednisolone 125 mg STAT</b> <b>MDI Salbutamol with aerochamber 4 – 8 puffs</b> (if respiratory involvement)

- When the symptoms have resolved, the protocol can be resumed by repeating the dose that caused the reaction or restarting at a lower dose.
- However, the procedure should be discontinued if severe reactions (such as serum sickness, laryngeal edema that does not respond to epinephrine).



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**Alternative Approach & Reference for Reported Antibiotic Allergy**

Source: BC Medical Journal vol. 61 no. 9 | November 2019

**Beta-lactam Antibiotic Cross-Allergy Chart**

Beta-lactams	AMOXICILLIN*	AMPICILLIN	CLOXACILLIN	PENICILLIN	PIPERACILLIN*	CEFADROXIL	CEFAZOLIN	CEPHALEXIN	CEFOXITIN	CEFPROZIL	CEFUROXIME	CEFEXIME	CEFOTAXIME	CEFTAZIDIME	CEFTRIAXONE	CEFEPIME	ERTAPENEM	IMPENEM	MEROPENEM
AMOXICILLIN*	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AMPICILLIN	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CLOXACILLIN	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	✓	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PENICILLIN	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	✓	X <sup>5</sup>	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PIPERACILLIN*	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEFADROXIL	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEFAZOLIN	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEPHALEXIN	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEFOXITIN	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEFPROZIL	X <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CEFUROXIME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	✓	✓	✓
CEFEXIME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✓
CEFOTAXIME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	✓	✓
CEFTAZIDIME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	✓
CEFTRIAXONE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	✓	✓
CEFEPIME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>3</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ERTAPENEM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>5</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>
IMPENEM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>5</sup>
MEROPENEM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X <sup>5</sup>	✓

**AVOID ALL beta-lactam antibiotics if:**

- ICU admission related to allergy
- Delayed beta-lactam antibiotic allergy causing:
  - interstitial nephritis
  - hepatitis
  - hemolytic anemia
- Delayed severe skin allergic reactions:
  - Stevens-Johnson syndrome
  - toxic epidermal necrolysis
  - exfoliative dermatitis
  - acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP)
  - drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)

**LEGEND:**

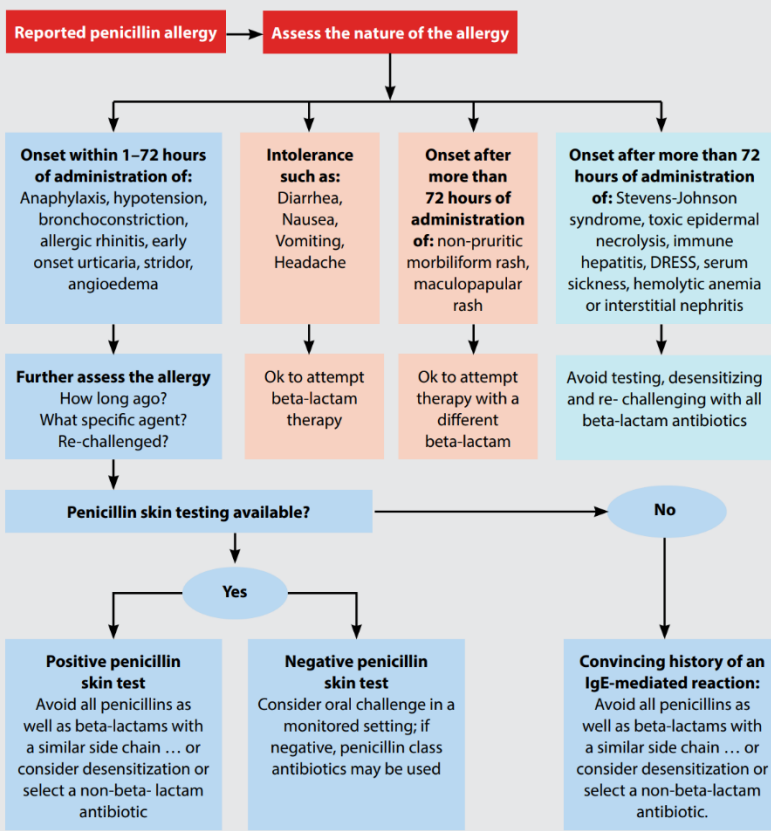
✓	Different structure. <b>CONSIDERED SAFE TO PRESCRIBE</b>
X <sup>1</sup>	Same side chain - clinical evidence of cross reaction. <b>DO NOT PRESCRIBE</b>
X <sup>2</sup>	Same side chain - Theoretical risk of cross reaction, no clinical studies. <b>DO NOT PRESCRIBE</b>
X <sup>3</sup>	Similar side chain - Potential for cross reaction. <b>DO NOT PRESCRIBE</b>
X <sup>4</sup>	Clinical evidence of cross reaction. <b>DO NOT PRESCRIBE</b>
X <sup>5</sup>	Theoretical risk of cross reaction, no clinical studies. <b>DO NOT PRESCRIBE</b>

**Reaction likely based on side chain:**

- Penicillins
- 1st Generation Cephalosporins
- 2nd Generation Cephalosporins
- 3rd Generation Cephalosporins
- 4th Generation Cephalosporins
- Carbapenems

**Reaction likely based on Beta-lactam ring**

\* Also applies to beta-lactamase inhibitor combinations (amoxicillin-clavulanate and piperacillin-tazobactam)



**Figure 1. Beta-lactam cross-allergy chart.**  
Source: Source: Interior Health Authority

**Figure 2. Flowchart from New Brunswick for assessing penicillin allergy.**  
Source: New Brunswick Provincial Health Authorities Anti-infective Stewardship Committee  
([https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/951180/antimicrobial\\_treatment\\_guidelines\\_for\\_common\\_infections\\_en.pdf](https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/951180/antimicrobial_treatment_guidelines_for_common_infections_en.pdf))

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ANTIBIOTIC DESENSITIZATION

AMPHOTERICIN B PROTOCOL

GANCICLOVIR PROTOCOL



## Amphotericin B Protocol

### Amphotericin B: Formulations Available in HSgB

### Amphotericin B: Administration Guide

### Amphotericin B: Adverse effects & Monitoring parameters

### Amphotericin B LIPOSOMAL: Algorithm for Crypt Meningitis

### Amphotericin B: Alert Note Upon Discharge

- ### Amphotericin B: Administration & Chart:
1. IV Amphotericin B DEOXYCHOLATE Chart
  2. IV Amphotericin B LIPID COMPLEX (ABLC) Chart
  3. IV Amphotericin B LIPOSOMAL Chart



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## Amphotericin B: Formulations Available in HSgB

Amphotericin B Formulations	IV Amphotericin B Deoxycholate 50mg/mL	IV Amphotericin B Lipid Complex (ABLC) 50mg/mL	IV Amphotericin B Liposomal 50mg/mL
Prescriber Category	A	UKK (ID) <i>(Not listed in blue book)</i>	UKK (ID) <i>(Not listed in blue book &amp; not registered in Malaysia)</i>
Dose	0.5 – 1 mg/kg OD	5 mg/kg OD	<b>Cryptococcal meningitis:</b> 10 mg/kg STAT on Day 1  <b>Others:</b> 3 – 6 mg/kg OD
Renal Dose	No dose adjustment		
Nephrotoxicity	++++	++	+
Hepatotoxicity	+	++	++
Anemia	++	+++	+
Infusion related toxicity	+++	++	+
Pregnancy	B	Use only when benefit > risk	Use only when benefit > risk
Breastfeeding	Limited studies, use only when benefit > risk		
Price	~ RM 38.57	~ RM 481.18	~ RM 250.00
Prescribing Restriction based on HSgB Antimicrobial Policy	<b>Yellow Category</b>	<b>Red Category (ID)</b>	<b>Red Category (ID)</b>

ANTIBIOTIC DESENSITIZATION

AMPHOTERICIN B PROTOCOL

GANCICLOVIR PROTOCOL



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## Amphotericin B: Administration

Test Dose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 mg in 20-100 ml D5W infused over 10 – 30 minutes without premedication</li> <li>To assess for anaphylaxis/adverse reaction</li> </ul>
Pre-Hydration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>250 – 1000 mL NS with 1.5 g KCL for 2 hours prior to infusion (if patient is not on continuous IV drip).</li> </ul>
Pre-Medication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given 30 minutes prior to Ampho B for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 doses or 1<sup>st</sup> week. IF NO REACTION, OMIT!               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Fever:</b> Hydrocortisone 25 – 50 mg IV/Infusate (mixed with reconstituted Ampho B preparation) OR T Paracetamol 1 g STAT.</li> <li><b>Nausea/Vomiting:</b> Syr Diphenhydramine 10-15 ml STAT/ IV Promethazine 12.5 mg STAT.</li> <li><b>Rigors:</b> IV Pethidine 25 – 50 mg PRN</li> <li><b>Thrombophlebitis:</b> Add 1000 unit Heparin for infusion through peripheral line OR add into reconstituted Ampho B solution to prevent thrombophlebitis.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Electrolyte Supplementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start <b>Potassium supplementation</b> with:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tab Slow K 1200 mg BD</b></li> <li>or</li> <li><b>Potassium Chloride Powder 1.5 g TDS</b> (for patient on Ryles Tube).</li> </ul> <p>*However, if patient has pre-existing renal impairment or hyperkalemia, potassium should not be given or give with caution.</p> </li> <li>Start <b>Magnesium supplementation</b> with:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tab MMT 250 mg BD</b></li> <li>or</li> <li><b>Syr MgSO<sub>4</sub> 5 ml OD.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Maintenance dose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to the <b>Amphotericin B Administration &amp; Chart</b> Section:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IV Amphotericin B <b>DEOXYCHOLATE</b> Chart</li> <li>IV Amphotericin B <b>LIPID COMPLEX (ABLC)</b> Chart</li> <li>IV Amphotericin B <b>LIPOSOMAL</b> Chart</li> </ol> </li> </ul>



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## Amphotericin B: Adverse Effects & Monitoring Parameters

### 1. Infusion-Related Reactions

- Monitor closely for infusion-related reactions (**fever, chills, rigors, and nausea**), especially **during the first week** of therapy.

### 2. Electrolytes

- **Frequency:** Check electrolytes **every other day (EOD)** (daily if hypokalemia or hypomagnesemia is present).
- **Potassium (K) Management:**
  - Maintain **K > 4 mmol/L**.
  - Start **potassium supplementation** simultaneously with **IV Amphotericin B initiation** and adjust accordingly (**Exclusion:** Patients with **renal impairment** or **underlying hyperkalemia**).
  - If **K < 3.3 mmol/L**, increase **K supplementation in drip to 3 g** (infusion rate not to exceed 1.5 g/hr).
- **Magnesium (Mg) Management:**
  - Monitor for **hypomagnesemia**.
  - Start supplementation with **Tab MMT 250 mg BD** or **Syr MgSO<sub>4</sub> 5 mL OD (8 mEq)** upon initiation and adjust accordingly.

### 3. Nephrotoxicity

- **Renal Profile (RP):**
  - Monitor RP **EOD** (daily if RP is deranged).
  - Watch for signs/symptoms of renal dysfunction.
- **Management of Deranged RP:**
  - If **creatinine doubles** → **Hold Amphotericin B** and increase **maintenance IV fluids to 1L TDS**.
  - **Restart IV Amphotericin B deoxycholate** at **half of the original dose** once stabilized.
  - If **creatinine remains elevated**, consider switching to **IV Amphotericin B lipid complex** or an **alternative regimen**.

### 4. Severe Anemia

- Monitor **FBC weekly**.
- If **Hb < 6.5 g/dL + clinically symptomatic** → **Transfuse** and consider **alternative therapy** if prolonged treatment is required.

### 5. Thrombophlebitis

- **Carefully monitor the infusion site daily** for signs/symptoms of **thrombophlebitis**.
- If using a **peripheral line**, add **1000 units of Heparin** into **reconstituted Amphotericin B** to reduce risk of thrombophlebitis.

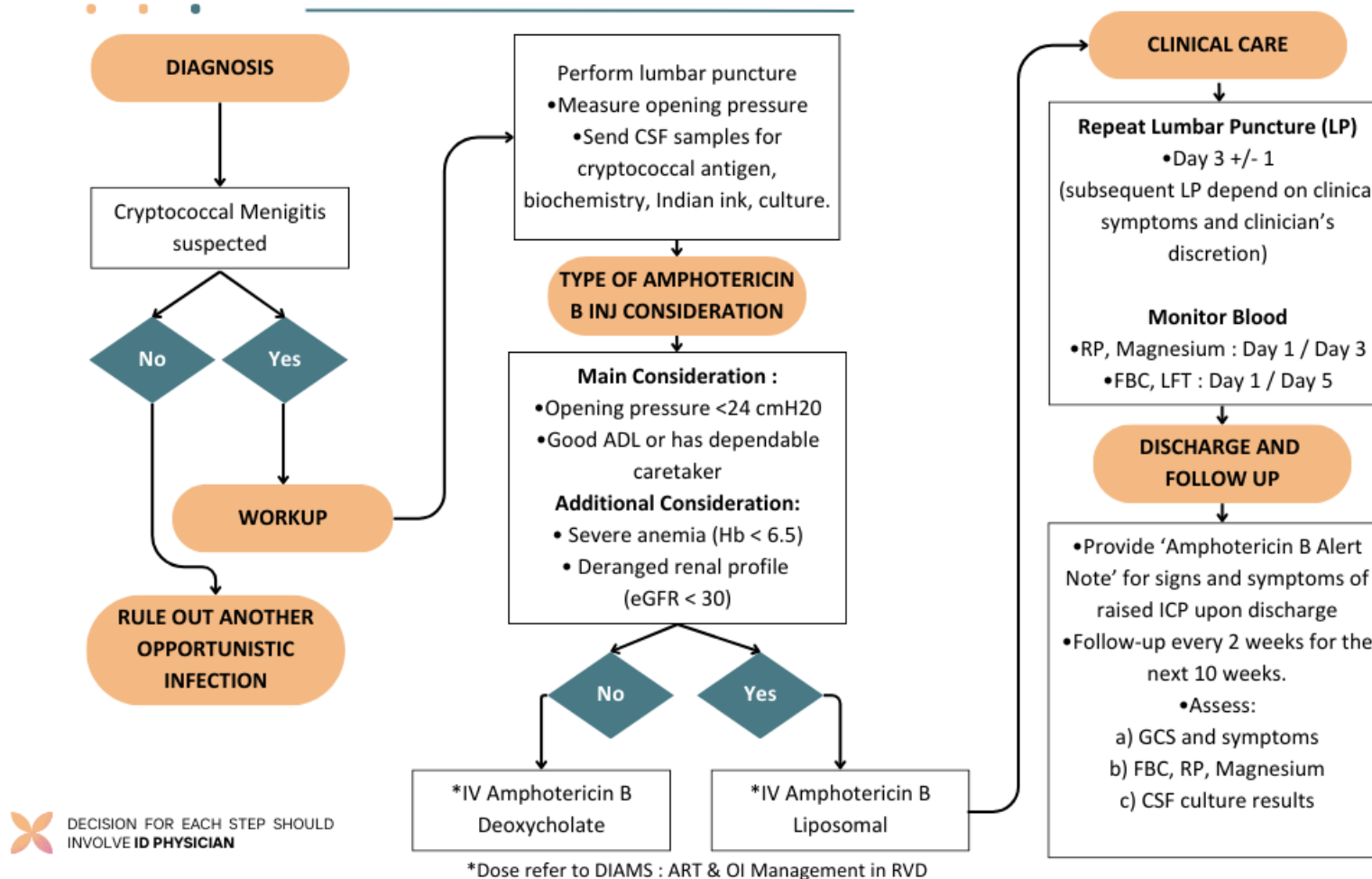
### ⚠ IMPORTANT WARNINGS:

- **Do NOT administer concurrently** with other **medications or blood products**.
  - **COMPATIBLE** with **HYDROCORTISONE, HEPARIN, SODIUM BICARBONATE & D5W** only.
- **Do NOT administer Amphotericin B within 4 hours of all blood products** as this has been associated with **severe pulmonary reaction**.

**Amphotericin B LIPOSOMAL Algorithm for Cryptococcal Meningitis**

**ALGORITHM FOR TREATMENT OF CRYPTOCOCCAL MENINGITIS USING LIPOSOMAL AMPHOTERICIN B**

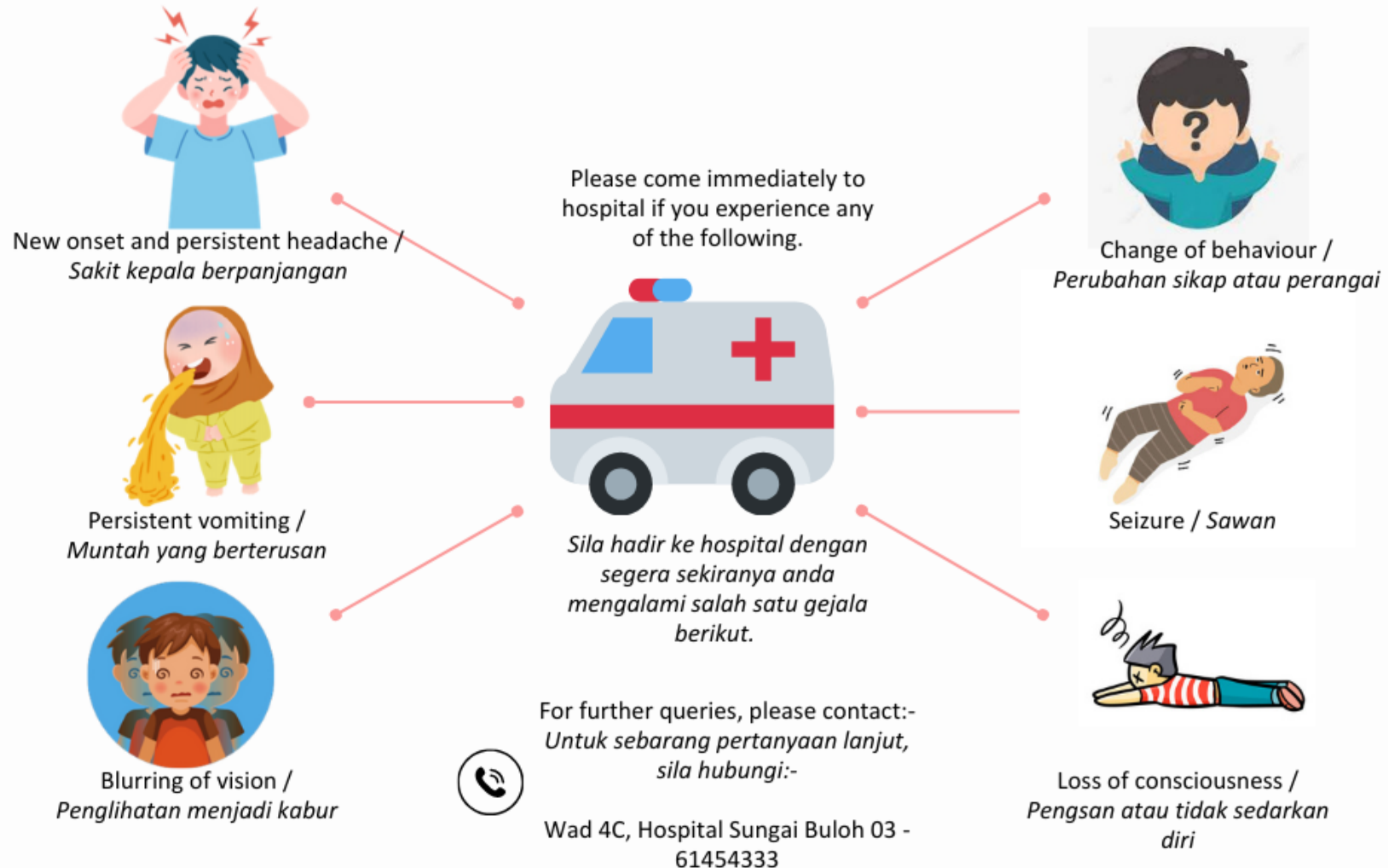
PREPARED BY  
DR NUR AISHAH BINTI AB WAHID (MMC 49416)  
MARIAH BINTI ZAKARIA (RPH 11202)



**Amphotericin B: Alert Note (Upon Discharge)**

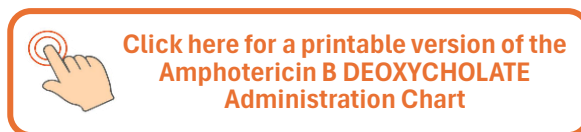
# AMPHOTERICIN B ALERT NOTE

## NOTA WASPADA AMPHOTERICIN B



## Amphotericin B Administration & Chart

### 1. IV Amphotericin B **DEOXYCHOLATE** Chart



- **TEST DOSE:**
  - **1 mg** in **20-100 ml D5W** infused **over 10 – 30 minutes** without premedication.
  - To assess for anaphylaxis/adverse reaction.

- **MAINTENANCE DOSE:**

IV Amphotericin B DEOXYCHOLATE 50 mg/mL	
Dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>0.5 – 1 mg/kg OD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gradual increase dose until therapeutic dose is achieved.</li> <li>○ E.g:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day 1 : Half dose</li> <li>Day 2 onwards : Increase to 0.6 – 1 mg/kg (if tolerated Day 1).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Reconstitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconstitute each vial with <b>10 ml WFI</b> (5 mg/ml)</li> </ul>
Dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dilute in <b>500 ml D5</b></li> </ul>
Maximum concentration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ≤ 0.1 mg/mL</li> </ul>
Stability after dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use immediately after dilution</li> </ul>
Administration & Duration of Infusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Infuse <b>over 4 – 6 hours</b> to prevent infusion related reactions.</li> </ul>

- **PRE-HYDRATION AND ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTATION**

- 250 – 1000 mL NS with 1.5 g KCL for 2 hours prior to infusion (if patient is not on continuous IV drip).
- Start Potassium supplementation with **Tab Slow K 1200 mg BD** or **Potassium Chloride powder 1.5 g TDS** (should not be given if patient has pre-existing renal impairment or hyperkalemia).
- Start Magnesium supplementation with **Tab MMT 250 mg BD** or **Syr MgSO4 5 ml OD**.

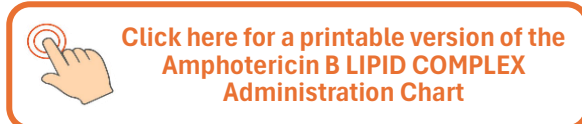
- **PRE-MEDICATION**

- Given 30 minutes prior to Ampho B for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 doses or 1<sup>st</sup> week
- IF NO REACTION, OMIT!
- Types of pre-meds based on type of infusion-related reaction:
  - **Fever:** Hydrocortisone 25 – 50 mg IV/Infusate (mixed with reconstituted Ampho B preparation) OR T Paracetamol 1 g STAT.
  - **Nausea/Vomiting:** IV Promethazine 12.5mg STAT/ Syr Diphenhydramine 10-15 ml STAT.
  - **Rigors:** IV Pethidine 25 – 50 mg PRN. If rigors is predicted, add Pethidine 20 – 30 mins before infusion.
  - **Thrombophlebitis:** Add 1000 unit Heparin for infusion through peripheral line OR add into reconstituted Ampho B solution to prevent thrombophlebitis.



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Only for internal circulation (HSgB). For further enquiries, kindly contact ext. 4126

## 2. IV Amphotericin B **LIPID COMPLEX (ABLC)** Chart



- **TEST DOSE:**
  - 1 mg in 20-100 ml D5W infused over 10 – 30 minutes without premedication.
  - To assess for anaphylaxis/adverse reaction.

- **MAINTENANCE DOSE:**

IV Amphotericin B LIPID COMPLEX (ABLC) 50 mg/mL	
Dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 5 mg/kg OD</li> </ul>
Reconstitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Shake the vial until no evidence of yellow sedimentation.</li> <li>● Withdraw required dose from required number of vials into sterile syringe using 18 G needle.</li> <li>● Replace 18 G needle with 5 µ filter needle provided in the package [1 filter can be used up to eight 50 mg vials (400 mg)].</li> <li>● Empty the syringe into the IV bag (500 mL D5) using the filter needle to final concentration of 1 mg/mL.</li> <li>● Shake the bag till mixed thoroughly prior infusion.</li> </ul>
Dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dilute in 500 ml D5</li> </ul>
Maximum concentration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ≤ 1 mg/mL</li> <li>● Patients with restriction of fluids (ROF) : ≤ 2 mg/mL</li> </ul>
Stability after dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Room temperature (&lt;25°C) : 6 hours</li> <li>● Fridge (2-8°C) : 48 hours</li> </ul>
Administration & Duration of Infusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Infuse at rate 2.5 mg/kg/hr</li> <li>● May prolong infusion over 2 hours to reduce infusion related reaction</li> <li>● If infusion time more than 2 hours, infusion container should be shaken every 2 hours.</li> </ul>

- **PRE-HYDRATION AND ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTATION**

- 250 – 1000 mL NS with 1.5 g KCL for 2 hours prior to infusion (if patient is not on continuous IV drip).
- Start Potassium supplementation with **Tab Slow K 1200 mg BD** or **Potassium Chloride powder 1.5 g TDS** (should not be given if patient has pre-existing renal impairment or hyperkalemia).
- Start Magnesium supplementation with **Tab MMT 250 mg BD** or **Syr MgSO4 5 ml OD**.

- **PRE-MEDICATION**

- Given 30 minutes prior to Ampho B for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 doses or 1<sup>st</sup> week
- IF NO REACTION, OMIT!
- Types of pre-meds based on type of infusion-related reaction:
  - **Fever:** Hydrocortisone 25 – 50 mg IV/Infusate (mixed with reconstituted Ampho B preparation) OR T Paracetamol 1 g STAT.
  - **Nausea/Vomiting:** IV Promethazine 12.5mg STAT/ Syr Diphenhydramine 10-15 ml STAT.
  - **Rigors:** IV Pethidine 25 – 50 mg PRN. If rigors is predicted, add Pethidine 20 – 30 mins before infusion.
  - **Thrombophlebitis:** Add 1000 unit Heparin for infusion through peripheral line OR add into reconstituted Ampho B solution to prevent thrombophlebitis.



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### 3. IV Amphotericin B LIPOSOMAL Chart



- **TEST DOSE:**
  - 1 mg in 20-100 ml D5W infused over 10 – 30 minutes without premedication.
  - To assess for anaphylaxis/adverse reaction.

- **MAINTENANCE DOSE:**

IV Amphotericin B LIPOSOMAL 50 mg/mL	
Dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cryptococcal meningitis : <b>10 mg/kg STAT</b></li> <li>● Others : <b>3 – 6 mg/kg OD</b></li> </ul>
Reconstitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconstitute each vial with 12ml WFI (4mg/ml)</li> <li>● Use sterile 18G Blunt fill needle with 5-micron filter provided in the package to instil the reconstituted product into a sterile container containing calculated amount of D5.</li> </ul>
Dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dilute in <b>500 ml D5</b></li> </ul>
Maximum concentration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 0.2mg – 2mg/ml</li> </ul>
Stability after dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use immediately after dilution.</li> <li>● Fridge (2-8°C) : 24 hours</li> </ul>
Administration & Duration of Infusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Infuse over 2 hours.</li> <li>● Infusion time may reduce to 1 hour if patient able to tolerate.</li> </ul>

- **PRE-HYDRATION AND ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTATION**

- 250 – 1000 mL NS with 1.5 g KCL for 2 hours prior to infusion (if patient is not on continuous IV drip).
- Start Potassium supplementation with **Tab Slow K 1200 mg BD** or **Potassium Chloride powder 1.5 g TDS** (should not be given if patient has pre-existing renal impairment or hyperkalemia).
- Start Magnesium supplementation with **Tab MMT 250 mg BD** or **Syr MgSO4 5 ml OD**.

- **PRE-MEDICATION**

- Given 30 minutes prior to Ampho B for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 doses or 1<sup>st</sup> week
- IF NO REACTION, OMIT!
- Types of pre-meds based on type of infusion-related reaction:
  - **Fever:** Hydrocortisone 25 – 50 mg IV/Infusate (mixed with reconstituted Ampho B preparation) OR T Paracetamol 1 g STAT.
  - **Nausea/Vomiting:** IV Promethazine 12.5mg STAT/ Syr Diphenhydramine 10-15 ml STAT.
  - **Rigors:** IV Pethidine 25 – 50 mg PRN. If rigors is predicted, add Pethidine 20 – 30 mins before infusion.
  - **Thrombophlebitis:** Add 1000 unit Heparin for infusion through peripheral line OR add into reconstituted Ampho B solution to prevent thrombophlebitis.



## Ganciclovir Protocol

### INDICATION & DOSE:

- Indication: Treatment of cytomegalovirus (CMV) disease in immunocompromised patients
- Treatment Dose: 5 mg/kg BD for 14 - 21 days
- Maintenance Therapy/Secondary Prophylaxis Dose: 5 mg/kg OD till VL suppressed & CD4 > 100 cells/ $\mu$ L  
(In RVD patients, maintenance therapy is generally not necessary; ART offers best hope for prevention of relapses)

### HANDLING

**⚠ Caution!** Ganciclovir is a **potential teratogen and carcinogen**, thus requires special precaution during handling.

- Use **full PPE** when reconstituting Ganciclovir in the treatment room.
- Wear **latex gloves** for drug administration.
- Avoid inhalation or direct contact of the powder contained in the vials or direct contact of the reconstituted solution with the skin or mucous membranes.
- For contact with the skin or mucous membranes, **wash thoroughly with soap and water for at least 15 mins.**
- For eye exposure, **rinse thoroughly with plain water.**

### RECONSTITUTION & DILUTION

- Reconstitute 1 vial with 10 ml sterile WFI. Shake the vial to dissolve the drug & inspect for the presence of particles.  
(do not use bacteriostatic WFI containing parabens. It is incompatible with Ganciclovir and may cause precipitation)
- Further dilute the required dose with 100 mL NS/D5W/Ringer's/lactated Ringer's (Max conc: 10 mg/mL)

### ADMINISTRATION

- **DO NOT ADMINISTER BY RAPID OR BOLUS IV INJECTION, IM OR SC.**
- Administer via IV Infusion - Infuse over 1 hour

### STABILITY

- After reconstitution: To be used immediately. Reconstituted solution **MUST NOT BE REFRIGERATED.**
- After dilution: 24 hours (FRIDGE). Put the bottle in a sealed plastic bag & label it before refrigeration.

### DISPOSAL

- All syringes, unused meds or tubing should be disposed into the **sharps bin** (smallest size)
- Contaminated sharps bin should be disposed of once it's full.
- The bin should be covered with **two (2) clinical waste bags** and **sealed with a plastic tag** (to request from Radicare).
- Inform Radicare to handle the waste in a manner **similar to handling cytotoxic drugs** when disposing of these meds.

### ADVERSE EFFECTS & MONITORING:

- Watch out for neutropenia (reversible), thrombocytopenia & anaemia
- Monitor **FBC** 2-3 times/week
- Discontinue Ganciclovir or add G-CSF (Neupogen/Filgrastim) if Absolute Neutrophil Count (**ANC**) drops to <  $0.5 \times 10^9/L$  (Dose reduction should be avoided due to concerns for antiviral resistance).
- G-CSF (Neupogen/Filgrastim) dose: 5 mcg/kg SC or IV OD [300 mcg = 30 mu].
- Discontinue Ganciclovir if **platelet** <  $25 \times 10^9/L$  or consider platelet support if platelet <  $20 \times 10^9/L$
- Consider discontinuing Ganciclovir if **Hb** < 8 g/dL





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## References

### Bactrim Desensitization Protocol:

Adapted from:

1. WHO Guidelines on Co-Trimoxazole Prophylaxis for HIV-Related Infections Among Children, Adolescent and Adults 2006

### Penicillin Desensitization Protocol:

Adapted from:

1. Sanford Guide to Antimicrobial Therapy. (Jun, 2020)
2. NB Provincial Health Authorities Anti-Infective Stewardship Committee. Antimicrobial Desensitization. (2019). Accessed from: [https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/1036904/antimicrobial\\_desensitization.pdf](https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/1036904/antimicrobial_desensitization.pdf)

### Cephalosporin Desensitization Protocol:

Adapted from:

1. Chastain, D. B., Hutzley, V. J., Parekh, J., & Alegro, J. V. G. (2019). Antimicrobial desensitization: A review of published protocols. *Pharmacy*, 7(3), 112. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pharmacy7030112>
2. Win, P. H., Brown, H., Zankar, A., Ballas, Z. K., & Hussain, I. (2005). Rapid intravenous cephalosporin desensitization. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, 116(1), 225–228. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaci.2005.03.037>
3. Schull, P. D. McGraw Hill's IV Drug Handbook. (2009).
4. NB Provincial Health Authorities Anti-Infective Stewardship Committee. Antimicrobial Desensitization. (2019). Accessed from: [https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/1036904/antimicrobial\\_desensitization.pdf](https://en.horizonnb.ca/media/1036904/antimicrobial_desensitization.pdf)

### Amphotericin B Protocol:

Reference:

1. Guidelines for diagnosing, preventing and managing cryptococcal disease among adults, adolescents and children living with HIV. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022.
2. Lexicomp
3. Micromedex
4. The Renal Drug Handbook. 5th Edition. The UK Renal Pharmacy Group. 2018. Caputo, R., Asprea, M., Giovannetti, L., & Messori, A. (2020). Nephrotoxicity of three formulations of amphotericin B: trial sequential analysis. *Archives of medical science: AMS*, 16(6), 1493–1495. <https://doi.org/10.5114/aoms.2020.93338>
5. Grazziotin, L., Moreira, L., & Ferreira, M. (2018). Comparative Effectiveness and Safety Between Amphotericin B Lipid-Formulations: A Systematic Review. *International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care*, 34(3), 343–351. doi:10.1017/S026646231800034X
6. Hamill R. J. (2013). Amphotericin B formulations: a comparative review of efficacy and toxicity. *Drugs*, 73(9), 919–934. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40265-013-0069-4>
7. Falci, D. R., da Rosa, F. B., & Pasqualotto, A. C. (2015). Hematological toxicities associated with amphotericin B formulations. *Leukemia & lymphoma*, 56(10), 2889–2894. <https://doi.org/10.3109/10428194.2015.1010080>
8. Amphotret for Injection USP 50mg Product Insert.
9. Ampholip Injection 50mg/ml Product Insert
10. Amphonex Product Insert
11. Drugs and Lactation (LactMed®) [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; 2006-. Amphotericin B. [Updated 2021 Mar 17].

### Ganciclovir Protocol:

Reference:

1. Ganciclovir Inj (Cymevene) Product Insert
2. Hospital Sungai Buloh Antimicrobial Guideline 2024
3. HSgB DIAMS – RVD & OI Quick Guide
4. HSgB Drug Dilution by PRIC