Children's Antimicrobial Management Program (ChAMP)

GUIDELINE

Hospital in the Home (HiTH) Antimicrobial Guidelines

Scope (Staff):	Clinical Staff – Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy
Scope (Area):	Perth Children's Hospital (PCH)

Child Safe Organisation Statement of Commitment

CAHS commits to being a child safe organisation by applying the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. This is a commitment to a strong culture supported by robust policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of harm to children and young people.

This document should be read in conjunction with this disclaimer

Aim

These guidelines have been developed to facilitate prompt access to the Hospital in the Home (HiTH) program.

Key points

- Children are accepted onto the HiTH program, following review and at the discretion of the HiTH Nursing Coordinator.
- Inpatient discharge will be contingent upon the availability of HiTH nursing staff and appropriately prepared home IV antimicrobials. Please refer to related HiTH procedures in the <u>Ambulatory Care Services Manual (internal link)</u>.
- Antimicrobials that can be administered once daily or by continuous infusion (Baxter Infusor®) are preferred.
- HiTH can offer up to three nursing visits per day, therefore a maximum frequency of three times daily (TDS) dosing is possible in selected patients. TDS dosing is not evenly split over the 24-hour period due to HITH being staffed only through the morning and evening shift. Note: TDS dosing does involve a minimum of 10 hour break overnight.
- Children with specified common presentations may be referred for direct admission to HiTH from PCH Emergency Department (ED) to receive IV antibiotic therapy.

Please note for the following guidelines:

- These guidelines may require adjustment in individual cases. It is recommended that any deviation from the guidelines is discussed with the on call Infectious Diseases (ID) Consultant.
- All dosing recommendations are for IV preparation of the medication in children
 ≥ 4 weeks old with normal renal function.
- Prescribers should be aware of toxicities associated with the medication.
- Children with a history of previous serious adverse reactions to IV antibiotics or mastocytosis are NOT suitable for home IV antibiotics.
- Children on beta-blockers need to be treated with caution as they may be resistant to adrenaline (epinephrine).
- The first dose of each IV antimicrobial is to be given in hospital.
- 24-hour infusions (Baxter Infusor®) require midline or central venous access devices (CVAD). If uncertain, please consult the CVAD team to ensure the most appropriate line is selected for the anticipated length of therapy. The ID team will advise the recommended length of therapy.

Infectious Disease consultation is recommended for:

- children requiring >3 days antimicrobial therapy on HiTH (Cystic Fibrosis (CF) / bronchiectasis excluded)
- children receiving non-standard antimicrobial treatment for their indication
- children receiving therapy for CF / bronchiectasis for >14 days total

Medical review and monitoring of HiTH patients

- Patients on HiTH for >7 days require at least weekly review by the managing team in the Day Treatment Unit (DTU) or Outpatient clinic.
- All microbiological specimens should be checked at 48 hours after collection to confirm appropriate antimicrobial selection and to tailor oral switch options if appropriate.
- Weekly blood monitoring e.g. full blood count (FBC), urea, electrolytes,, creatinine (UEC), liver function tests (LFTs) and medication levels (if required) should be conducted at a minimum for patients prescribed >7 days of antimicrobial therapy (inclusive of parenteral antibiotics received in hospital).
- Additional monitoring may be required in certain situations to monitor for medication related adverse events and clinical progress.
- All antimicrobial agents requiring therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) should have stable levels prior to going on to HiTH or a clear plan for TDM including how to modify treatment if TDM is out of the recommended therapeutic range.

- Subsequent TDM will be conducted as per the ChAMP monographs throughout therapy.
- Baxter infusors[®] can only be ordered on weekdays and require a minimum of 24 hours-notice to allow ordering by Pharmacy Compounding Service (PCS).
 Longer waiting times may be expected at peak times (e.g. prior to long weekends and public holidays).
 - Orders received by PCS prior to 3pm Monday to Thursday will be available by 4:30pm the following day. Smaller orders may be available by 1pm.
 Contact PCS for further information.
 - Orders placed at any time on Fridays will not be available until the following Monday (or standard working day in the event of a public holiday) by 4:30pm.
- All patients must have an order for IM <u>adrenaline (epinephrine)</u> charted (but not dispensed) in the 'once only medications' section of the paediatric National Inpatient Medication Chart (pNIMC) with dosing as per below:

Weight	Adrenaline (epinephrine) Dose (IM)	Formulation
< 7.5kg	10 microgram/kg/dose (0.01mL/kg/dose)	Adrenaline (epinephrine) 1:1000 (1mg/mL) ampoule
	Note: The calculated dose for administration must be specified on the pNIMC)	
7.5kg - 20kg	150 micrograms	Adrenaline (epinephrine) 150 microgram Auto-Injector e.g. EpiPen Jr®
> 20kg	300 micrograms	Adrenaline (epinephrine) 300 microgram Auto-Injector e.g. EpiPen®

HiTH Admission Pathway from the Emergency Department (ED)

Diagnosis of **cellulitis**, **periorbital cellulitis**, **cervical lymphadenitis or urinary tract infection (UTI) / pyelonephritis** made by reviewing ED doctor. Patient clinically stable. Emergency Department Consultant confirms HiTH therapy is appropriate. ED doctor contacts admitting specialty consultant to accept patient for admission and referral to HiTH. ED doctor completes e-referral to HiTH. ED doctor contacts HiTH Referral Nurse on Vocera (or ext 63773 after 5pm) between 0700 – 2100 to confirm HiTH availability. Intravenous antibiotics charted as per HiTH antibiotic guidelines. First dose to be administered in ED. Send chart to Pharmacy Compounding Service (PCS) if compunding by PCS required. Refer to - Ordering PCS (CIVAS) Medication and TPN. Chart sodium chloride 0.9% flushes and IM adrenaline (epinephrine) (not dispensed). Oral switch antibiotic prescription provided to patient or HiTH nurse. Booked review or discharge plan confirmed with specialty team and patient prior to discharge.

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
Amikacin (ChAMP red/restricted agent, requires approval prior to prescribing)	Gram negative infections resistant to other agents	≥ 4 weeks to < 10 years: 22.5mg/kg/dose (to a maximum of 1.5grams) once daily ≥ 10 years to 18 years: 18mg/kg/dose (to a maximum of 1.5grams) once daily CF patients: ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 30mg/kg/dose (to a maximum of 1.5grams) once daily)	IV infusion: 30-60 minutes	Trough levels are recommended in all patients Trough level should be taken immediately prior to the 4 th dose and should be <5mg/L. Follow-up levels should be performed once weekly unless the clinical situation dictates otherwise.	Once weekly EUC and trough levels Weekly monitoring for hearing loss and vestibular toxicity recommended for duration >1 week.	Dosing should be based on adjusted body weight in overweight or obese children Can be used as an IM injection No oral switch
<u>Benzylpenicillin</u>	1) Mild to moderate Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP), including aspiration pneumonia: intolerant to oral therapy 2) Streptococcal (including Pneumococcal) bacteraemia 3) Endocarditis	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 200-300mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 14.4g per day	Continuous infusion	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	1) CAP: amoxicillin 25mg/kg/dose (max 1000mg) orally 8-hourly as soon as practicable to complete total 5 days treatment 2) Bacteraemia: In the afebrile, clinically well child, oral amoxicillin 25mg/kg/dose (max 1000mg) orally 8-hourly to complete total of 7-10 days may be considered 3) Endocarditis: No oral switch

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<u>Cefepime</u>	Gram negative infections resistant to other betalactam antibiotics Empiric antibiotic treatment of fever and neutropenia	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 150mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 6g per day OR ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 50mg/kg/dose (max 2g per dose) given 8-hourly	Individual doses should be given as a slow bolus over 3-5minutes at a concentration of 100mg/mL OR Via infusion over 30 minutes at a concentration of 40mg/mL	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Discuss with Infectious Diseases
<u>Ceftazidime</u>	1) Gram negative infections resistant to other betalactam antibiotics 2) Cystic fibrosis exacerbation as per Cystic Fibrosis	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 50mg/kg/dose (max 2g per dose) given 8-hourly. CF patients: ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 50mg/kg/dose (max 3g per dose) given 8-hourly.	Not available as a continuous infusion. Individual doses should be given as a slow bolus over 3-5minutes at a concentration of 100mg/mL OR Via infusion over 15 to 30 minutes at a concentration of 40mg/mL	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Discuss with Infectious Diseases

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<u>Ceftriaxone</u>	1) Meningitis and periorbital or orbital cellulitis as an outpatient 2) Gram negative bacteraemia including Salmonellosis 3) Complicated UTI 4) CAP with empyema 5) Chronic suppurative lung disease (CSLD) 6) Acute Mastoiditis	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: - 50-100mg/kg/dose once daily. Maximum dose: 4g per day.	Doses at a final concentration of 40mg/mL can be given as a push over 5-15 minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Discuss with Infectious Diseases Can be used as an IM injection Ceftriaxone must NOT be administered at the same time as calcium containing fluids fo infusion (including Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN)) See cefotaxime for neonates
<u>Cefazolin</u>	1) Invasive methicillin sensitive <i>S. aureus</i> infections 2) Cellulitis requiring short term IV therapy (1-3 days): moderate	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 75-150mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 6g per day. OR ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 25-50mg/kg/dose (max 2g per dose) given 8-hourly	Preferable as continuous infusion Individual doses should be given as a slow bolus over 3-5 minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Discuss with Infectious Diseases For cellulitis: Oral cefalexin 20mg/kg/dose (max. 750mg) 8-hourly

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
Ciprofloxacin (ChAMP red/restricted agent, requires approval	Gram negative infections resistant to other agents Gram negative infections in those with immediate	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 10-15mg/kg/dose (max 400mg per dose) given 12-hourly CF patients: ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years:	Infuse over 60minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Oral ciprofloxacin has excellent bioavailability. In children able to eat and drink, it can be used as an alternative to IV. A test dose prior to discharge is recommended to ensure tolerated due to bitter taste.
prior to prescribing)	hypersensitivity to beta- lactam antibiotics	10mg/kg/dose (max 400mg per dose) given 8-hourly	commutes			Early oral switch is recommended. Oral dose should be rounded to the nearest portion of a tablet to facilitate oral administration.
Clindamycin	1) Gram positive infections in those with immediate hypersensitivity to betalactam antibiotics (preferably where susceptibility has been confirmed) 2) Non-multi resistant Staphylococcus aureus and Streptococcus pyogenes infection (not to be used as monotherapy in bacteraemia) 3) Empyema	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 30-40mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 1.8g/day OR ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 10-15mg/kg/dose (max 600mg per dose) given 8-hourly	Preferable as a continuous infusion Individual doses should be diluted to 18mg/mL or weaker and infused over 10-60mins at no greater than 30mg/minute	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Can cause severe hypotension if these strengths or rates of infusion are exceeded. Oral clindamycin has excellent bioavailability. In children able to swallow capsules, it can be used as an alternative. If dispersing the contents of the capsule in water to administer, a test dose prior to discharge is recommended to ensure tolerated due to taste.

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Ertapenem (ChAMP red/restricted agent, requires approval prior to prescribing)	Gram negative infections (excluding meningitis) resistant to other agents	≥ 3 months to <12 years: 15mg/kg/dose (max 500mg per dose) given 12-hourly Children ≥12 years: 1g given once daily.	Dilute to 20mg/mL or less and infuse over 30 minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Ertapenem is not routinely used in infants < 3 months old. Discuss with Infectious Diseases
Flucloxacillin	Invasive Staphylococcus aureus infections including bacteraemia and bone/joint infections Staphylococcal skin infection or cellulitis requiring prolonged intravenous therapy.	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 200mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 8g per day.	Continuous infusion	Nil		1) Discuss with Infectious Diseases 2) For cellulitis: Oral Cefalexin 20mg/kg/dose (max. 750mg) 8-hourly OR Oral Flucloxacillin 12.5mg/kg (max. 500mg) 6-hourly for 5-10 days
<u>Gentamicin</u>	Serious Gram-negative infections In addition to other agents for sub-acute bacterial endocarditis	≥ 4 weeks to <10 years: 7.5mg/kg/dose (to a maximum of 320mg) once daily ≥ 10 years to 18 years: 6 to 7mg/kg/dose (to a maximum of 560mg) once daily	Dilute to 10mg/mL or less and infuse over a minimum of 30 minutes	Trough level should be taken immediately prior to the 4 th dose and should be below the limit of detection (<0.6mg/L). Follow-up levels should be performed once weekly unless the clinical situation dictates otherwise.	Once weekly EUC and trough levels. Weekly trough level (non-CF) or weekly AUC (CF) Monitoring for hearing loss and vestibular toxicity recommended for duration >1 week.	Dosing should be based on adjusted body weight in overweight or obese children Can be used undiluted as an

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
Linezolid (ChAMP red/restricted agent, requires approval prior to prescribing)	1) Gram positive infections in those with immediate hypersensitivity to betalactam antibiotics 2) Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus resistant to alternative agents	≥ 4weeks to < 12years: 10mg/kg/dose (max 600mg per dose) given 8-hourly ≥ 12years: 600mg per dose given 12-hourly Maximum recommended duration of therapy (IV and oral combined) is 28 days	Infuse undiluted over 30 - 120 minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS Monitoring for peripheral neuropathy with weekly checks of reflexes.	Keep bags in foil over- wrap until ready to use Oral linezolid is available as tablets and liquid and has excellent bioavailability. In children able to eat and drink, it should be used as an alternative to IV linezolid.
Liposomal amphotericin B (AmBisome®)	Invasive fungal infection Prolonged fever and neutropenia unresponsive to intravenous antibiotics Antifungal prophylaxis	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 1 to 5mg/kg/dose given once daily.	Infuse over 2 hours. If tolerated, infusion time may be reduced to 1 hour provided there has not been >1 week since last tolerated infusion. If doses infused over 1 hour are tolerated, then the infusion may be given over 30 minutes provided there has not been >1 week since the last rapid infusion	Nil	Twice weekly EUC to monitor potassium and Magnesium	Only compatible with glucose 5%. Must flush IV lines with glucose 5% prior to infusion

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<u>Micafungin</u>	Invasive fungal infection Antifungal prophylaxis	Treatment: ≥ 4 weeks to < 4 months: 10mg/kg/dose (max 100mg) once daily ≥ 4 months: 2mg/kg/dose (max 100mg) given once daily. May be increased to 4mg/kg/dose (max 200mg per dose) given once daily if inadequate clinical response Prophylaxis: ≥ 4 weeks to < 4 months: 2mg/kg/dose (max 50mg) given once daily ≥ 4 months: 1mg/kg/dose (max 50mg) given once daily	Infuse over at least 60 minutes Concentrations ≥ 1.5mg/mL must be administered via a central line	Nil	Weekly EUC and LFT's	Discuss with Infectious Diseases for oral switch options Solutions in syringes or bags should be protected from light from time of dilution and during administration. It is not necessary to protect administration tubing from light.
<u>Meropenem</u>	Gram negative infections resistant to other agents	≥4 weeks to 18 years: 20-40mg/kg/dose (max 2g per dose) given 8-hourly OR 30-60mg/kg/dose (max 3g per dose) given 12-hourly via continuous infusion. Maximum dose: 6g per day. CF patients: ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: should receive 40mg/kg/dose (max 2g per dose) given 8-houly	Individual doses should be given as a slow bolus over 3-5minutes Continuous infusions are administered via CADD® infusion pumps	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	Discuss with Infectious Diseases for oral switch options

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
Piperacillin with tazobactam (Tazocin®)	Gram negative infections resistant to other beta- lactam antibiotics	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 300 to 400mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 16g per day. OR 100mg/kg/dose (max 4g per dose) given 8-hourly	Preferable as continuous infusion. Individual doses should be given as an infusion over a minimum of 30 minutes	Nil	Weekly FBC, EUC, LFTS	All doses expressed as the piperacillin component Discuss with Infectious Diseases for oral switch options if applicable
Teicoplanin (ChAMP red/restricted agent, requires approval prior to prescribing)		≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: 10mg/kg/dose (max 800mg per dose) given 12-hourly for three doses then 6-10mg/kg/dose (max 400mg per dose) once daily thereafter	Can be given as a slow push over 5 minutes or infused over 30 minutes	Trough level may be used / necessary in severe infections.	Weekly FBC and EUC	Teicoplanin should only be used in children requiring short course therapy (<72 hours) or children intolerant to vancomycin

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
Tobramycin	Serious Gram negative infections 2) Cystic fibrosis	≥ 4 weeks to <10 years: 7.5mg/kg/dose (max 320mg per dose) given once daily. ≥10 years to 18 years: 6 to 7mg/kg/dose (max 560mg per dose) given once daily CF patients: ≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: Initial dose of 10/kg/dose (max 750mg per dose) given once daily. Subsequent doses based on AUC level to a maximum of 750mg or 15mg/kg/dose (whichever is less)	Dilute to a final concentration of 40mg/mL or less and infuse over 20 - 60 minutes	Trough levels are recommended in all patients except patients with altered pharmacokinetics (e.g. CF patients) where area under the curve (AUC) monitoring is recommended Trough levels should be taken immediately prior to the 4th dose and should be <0.6mg/L (below the level of detection). Follow-up levels should be performed once weekly unless the clinical situation dictates otherwise. AUC monitoring should be discussed with the ward/department pharmacist.	Once weekly EUC. Weekly trough levels (non-CF) or weekly AUC (CF)	Dosing should be based on adjusted body weight in overweight or obese children Can be used as an IM injection into a large muscle mass

Medication	Frequently prescribed indications	Recommended IV Dose/Frequency for infants and children	Administration duration for intermittent dosing	Therapeutic drug monitoring	Monitoring for potential toxicity	Notes and Recommended oral switch options
<u>Vancomycin</u>	1) Invasive Staphylococcal infections (MRSA) resistant to beta-lactam antibiotics. 2) Meningitis with Streptococcus pneumoniae with proven or suspected decreased penicillin susceptibility	≥ 4 weeks to 18 years: Initial dose 60mg/kg/day via continuous infusion (via Baxter Infusor®) Maximum dose: 3g per day. Higher doses may be required only after discussion with Infectious Diseases or Clinical Microbiology	Continuous infusion only	When using continuous infusions a level should be performed 24 AND 48 hours after commencing the infusion in conjunction with serum creatinine. Levels should be 20-25mg/L.	Weekly FBC and EUC Once vancomycin levels are stable, they should be repeated every 3 days throughout treatment in conjunction with serum creatinine	Patients should have stable levels on continuous infusions prior to going on HiTH. Contact the Infectious Diseases or ChAMP teams for advice on dose adjustment.

Related CAHS internal policies, procedures and guidelines

Antimicrobial Stewardship Policy

ChAMP Empiric Guidelines and Monographs

Medication Management and Anaphylaxis Protocol - HiTH

Referral to Hospital in the Home Services (HiTH)

PCH Ambulatory Care Services Manual

Adrenaline (epinephrine) Monograph

References and related external legislation, policies, and guidelines

- 1) Symons K. Ermer J. (editors) (2020). Australian injectable drugs handbook. Collingwood, The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia.
- 2) Paediatric Formulary Committee (2021). <u>BNF for Children: 2020</u>. London, BMJ Group Pharmaceutical Press.
- 3) Antibiotic Writing Group (2021). eTG complete. West Melbourne, Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd. Available from: http://online.tg.org.au.pklibresources.health.wa.gov.au/ip/.

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request.

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