

DOSING GUIDANCE

Start the maintenance intravenous infusion immediately after the loading dose. The dose is dependant on renal function. Prescribe the dose as diluted in 250ml 0.9% sodium chloride and infused continuously over 12 hours – infusion rate is 21ml/hr.

Estimate the patient's creatinine clearance using the formula given below (using ideal body weight if actual weight > 20% over ideal):

- Ideal body weight is calculated using patient height as follows:
 - i. Males: 50 kg + 2.3 kg for every inch above 5 feet (or 2.5 cm above 152 cm)
 - ii. Females: 45.5 kg + 2.3 kg for every inch above 5 feet (or 2.5 cm above 152 cm)

$$\text{Creatinine Clearance (ml/min)} = \frac{(140 - \text{age(years)}) \times \text{weight (kg)}}{\text{Creatinine (micromoles/l)}}$$

Multiply figure obtained above by 1.23 for males and 1.04 for females

Creatinine clearance (ml/min)	Dose to be prescribed in each 250 ml infusion bag administer over 12 hours.
<30 or CVVH/CVVHDF	250mg
30-39	375 mg
40-54	500 mg
55-74	750 mg
75-89	1000 mg
90-110	1250mg
>110	1500mg

Central administration: the final concentration should not exceed 10mg/ml.

Peripheral administration: the final concentration should not exceed 5mg/ml.

Glucose 5% may also be used for dilution.

DOSE ADJUSTMENT

Request a serum level at **0600 hrs** each day, or as advised by the pharmacist. On week days, the ward pharmacist (page 6010) will advise on dosage adjustments. Out of hours or at weekends, please use the following guidelines after 24 hours of treatment have been administered.

Vancomycin conc.	Suggested dosage change
< 15 mg/L	Increase the 12 hourly dose by 500mg
15 - 20mg/L	Increase the 12 hourly dose by 250mg
20- 25 mg/L	No change
25 -30 mg/L	Recheck at 12 hours. If repeat level is >25mg/l, decrease the 12 hourly dose by 250mg*
> 30 mg/L	Stop until <25mg/L then re-start at a lower dose

*If the patient is only receiving 500 mg /day, reduce the dose to 250 mg /day

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Discharge from ITU

On discharge from Intensive Care, the patient should revert to conventional intermittent dosing as ward areas do not have sufficient infusion pumps. Seek advice on dosage regimen from pharmacist

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