



CLINICAL GUIDELINE

IV gentamicin top tips to optimise treatment, improve safety & promote patient-centred care

A guideline is intended to assist healthcare professionals in the choice of disease-specific treatments.

Clinical judgement should be exercised on the applicability of any guideline, influenced by individual patient characteristics. Clinicians should be mindful of the potential for harmful polypharmacy and increased susceptibility to adverse drug reactions in patients with multiple morbidities or frailty.

If, after discussion with the patient or carer, there are good reasons for not following a guideline, it is good practice to record these and communicate them to others involved in the care of the patient.

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Important Note:

The online version of this document is the only version that is maintained. Any printed copies should therefore be viewed as 'Uncontrolled' and as such, may not necessarily contain the latest updates and amendments.

Top tips to optimise IV gentamicin treatment, improve safety & promote patient-centred care

Applies to treatment dose gentamicin prescribed according to NHS GGC IV Gentamicin Guidelines. For further information refer to the full guidance via [GGC Medicines - - Gentamicin dosing guidelines \(age 16 and over\)](#)

✔ Ensure IV gentamicin doses are given on time – prompt antibiotic administration saves lives.



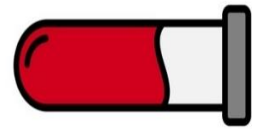
✔ Ensure all IV gentamicin administrations are clearly documented on the IV gentamicin paper PAM* chart and recorded on HEPMA.



✔ Take extra care with patients requiring IV gentamicin prescribed 48-hourly. Ensure prescribing documentation, blood concentration monitoring and review are in line with NHSGGC policy.



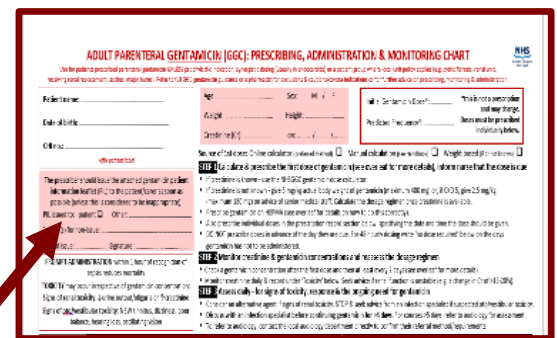
✔ Ensure a gentamicin blood concentration is taken at the appropriate time after the first IV gentamicin dose administration.



✔ Patients moving to and from wards prescribed IV gentamicin must have a clear antibiotic plan in place communicated during transitions. Ensure IV gentamicin is prescribed on HEPMA and the paper PAM* chart is always presented at ward transitions. Take extra care with transitions from A&E, theatres and critical care due to different prescribing systems.



✔ To promote patient-centred care issue a patient information leaflet (PIL) whenever possible to help share important information about IV gentamicin treatment with patients.



✔ Remember to document provision of the PIL on the paper PAM* chart and in the patient's clinical notes.

✔ Monitor daily for signs of renal and ototoxicity, and document creatinine on the PAM* chart daily.



✔ Review the need for IV antibiotics daily as per NHSGGC IVOST** policy and seek microbiology advice if IV gentamicin to continue for >4 days.



*Prescribing Administration & Monitoring

**Intravenous to Oral Switch