Aciclovir

FORM Vial containing 250mg or 500mg powder for reconstitution or 250mg/10ml concentrate for infusion (Central Use only)

INDICATION An antiviral indicated for the treatment of Herpes Simplex and Varicella Zoster infections

DOSE RANGE

AGE	DOSE	FREQUENCY	ROUTE
0 - 6months	20mg/kg/dose	Three times daily *	I/V over 1 hour

* reduce if renally impaired with creatinine clearance less than 50ml/min. See SPC or BNF C.

Neonatal

RECONSTITUTION Add 10ml water for injection BP or sodium chloride 0.9% injection BP to each 250mg vial or 20ml to a 500mg vial and shake gently until completely dissolved, to produce a 25mg/ml solution. Concentrate for infusion is ready made at 25mg/ml

DILUTION

Central Administration
The appropriate dose may be given undiluted via a syringe pump over a minimum of 1 hour

Peripheral Administration
Dilute to 5mg/ml with sodium chloride 0.9% and infuse the dose over 1 hour for peripheral administration.

Aciclovir 25mg/ml injection solution	8ml
Sodium Chloride 0.9% inj	Up to 40ml total

Gives a 5mg in 1ml solution. Use the required volume.

METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION I/V infusion over 1 hour
25mg/ml solution is for CENTRAL USE only

COMPATIBILITY

Solution compatibility	Sodium chloride 0.45% & 0.9%, sodium chloride 0.18% with glucose 4%, sodium chloride 0.45% with glucose 2.5%, sodium chloride 0.9% with glucose 5% and compound sodium lactate infusion BP
Solution incompatibility	TPN, intralipid
IV Line compatibility	Calcium gluconate, dexamethasone, fluconazole, insulin, metronidazole, The following drugs when in glucose 5% only: gentamicin, heparin, milrinone, potassium chloride, sodium bicarbonate , vancomycin. No other drugs at the same time in the same line due to high pH
IV Line incompatibility	All other drugs

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE PLEASE CONTACT PHARMACY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON COMPATIBILITY WITH ANY MEDICINES NOT INCLUDED

CAUTIONS, CONTRA-INDICATIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

- See Summary of Product Characteristics and most recent edition of BNF for Children (links below)
  - *If renal impairment develops during treatment, a rapid response normally occurs following hydration of the patient and or dosage reduction or withdrawal. Specific care should be taken in all patients receiving high doses to ensure they are well hydrated, particularly if they have any renal impairment.*

FURTHER INFORMATION Extravasation risk high due to high pH.

STORAGE	Unreconstituted vials are stored at room temperature.
PH	around 11
LICENSED STATUS	Licensed
LINKS	BNF for Children: / Electronic Medicines Compendium
APPLICABLE POLICIES	West of Scotland Neonatal Guidelines:
	Consult local policy if applicable

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Administer reconstituted solutions immediately.
All vials, ampoules and infusion bags are for single use only unless otherwise stated.
Dose may vary depending on indication, age, renal function, hepatic function, and concomitant medications.
This monograph should be used in conjunction with the package insert, BNF for Children, and Summary of Product Characteristics. For further advice contact your clinical pharmacist or pharmacy department.