

# Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): General Principles

## General Principles

Many medicines are excreted by the kidneys and require dose adjustment in renal impairment to avoid toxicity.

Antimicrobial dosage depends on the type and severity of the infection, sensitivity of the causative organism and the general condition of the patient. For severe infections the higher end of the dose range should be used.

For some drugs, although the size of the maintenance dose is reduced, it is important to still give a loading dose when recommended.

Caution if concomitant hepatic and renal impairment – a further reduction in dosing may be indicated.

There is inconsistency among published sources of information on drug dosing in renal impairment. Recommendations in these guidelines are largely derived from The Renal Drug Database (RDD), which in some cases may be higher than the manufacturer's recommendations in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) and the BNF.

Doses of Antimicrobials in Renal impairment are outlined in [Table](#) . Antimicrobials marked with an asterisk have significant differences in dosing between reference sources. In some cases a dose range is given – the higher end of the range should be used for severe infections. See [HPRA.ie](#) for licensed dose recommendations.

“Usual” dose refers to the dose and interval recommended for adults with normal renal and hepatic function in GUH Antimicrobial Guidelines and GUH Intravenous Administration Guide.