# Waterford: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Antimicrobial Guideline: Sepsis in Pregnancy

# Sepsis in Pregnancy

see Sepsis and National Clinical Guideline No26 Sepsis management for adults including maternity 2021

See below for antimicrobial recommendations for

- 1. Sepsis in pregnancy (no identifiable source)
- 2. Severe sepsis (eg. septic shock) in pregnancy.

NB. Check previous microbiology test results for antimicrobial resistance.

Note Group B Streptococci (GBS) are universally susceptible to penicillins and most cephalosporins including cefuroxime and ceftriaxone. Be 20-30% of GBS isolates both locally and nationally are resistant to clindamycin therefore for empiric use (where susceptibility is unknown) clindamycin

These regimes are not suitable for patients with known or suspected MDROs such as ESBL, CPE. Discuss these cases with Clinical Microbiologist.

Take prior antimicrobial use into account when prescribing as recent exposure to a particular agent is a risk factor for resistance to same

Ensure appropriate microbiological specimens (blood, urine, swabs) sent before starting treatment where possible.

Identify source of sepsis as soon as possible to ensure timely source control.

The empirical antimicrobial regime should be rationalised as soon as microbiology test results available.

Review need for Gentamicin/Amikacin daily.

### Sepsis in Pregnancy (no identifiable source

oxiclav 1.25g TDS IV + Gentamicin 5mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 480mg) (please see Gentamicin dosing schedule)

lote: Early escalation to Piperacillin-tazobactam 4.5g IV QDS + Gentamicin 5mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 480mg) may be warranted depending on clinical severity, recent microbiology test results or recent co-amoxiclay use

history of MRSA colonisation or infection consider adding Vancomycin 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (booking weight, max 2g/dose), (please see Vancomycin dosing schedule). Consider 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose if severe infection or septic sho

n patients with a booking weight BMI ≥30kg/m² use Obese Dosing Weight/Adjusted Body Weight (<u>Please see formulae for weight calculations</u>) and not

## Penicillin Allergy (Empiric Therapy)

### NOT IgE-mediated /anaphylaxis/severe penicillin reaction

- + Metronidazole 500mg IV TDS
- + Gentamicin 5mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 480mg). (Please see Gentamicin dosing schedule)

history of MRSA colonisation or infection consider adding Vancomycin 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (booking weight, max 2g/dose). Consider 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose if severe infection or septic shock. (Please see Vancomycin dosing schedule)

### qE-mediated /anaphylaxis/severe penicillin reaction:

Vancomycin 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (booking weight, max 2g/dose). Consider 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose if severe infection or septic short (Please see Vancomycin dosing schedule).

- + Gentamicin 5mg /kg once daily (use booking weight) (Please see Gentamicin dosing schedule)

Add clindamycin if invasive Group A Strep Infection suspected

n patients with a booking weight BMI ≥30kg/m² use Obese Dosing Weight/Adjusted Body Weight (See formulae for weight calculations) and not Actual dy Weight to calculate gentamicin dose. (Please see Gentamicin d

lote: Both vancomycin and gentamicin can cause nephrotoxicity as an adverse effect. This risk is increased when both agents are used together and is ed further with the use of concomitant piperacillin-tazobactam and other nephrotoxic medications. Review use of these medications daily, monitor enal function and drug levels.

## Sepsis (severe) in Pregnancy e.g. septic show

# First Line & Penicillin Allergy (Not IgE-mediated/anaphylaxis or non-severe penicillin allergy) Empiric Therapy

- + Clindamycin 1.2g QDS IV
- + Gentamicin 5mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 480mg) (Please see Gentamicin dosing scheme)

In patients with a history of Gentamicin resistant Gram negative infections (eg. UTI) use Amikacin 15mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 1.5g).

If history of or risk factors for MRSA colonisation or infection add Vancomycin 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose then 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (booking weight, max 2g/dose). (Please see Vancomycin dosing sche

In patients with a booking weight BMI ≥30kg/m² use Obese Dosing Weight/Adjusted Body Weight and not Actual Body Weight to calculate gentamicin/amikacin dose. (Please see formulae for weight calculation)

If there is a strong suspicion clinically that the septic shock may be relating to Group A Streptococcus, then IV immunoglobulin could be considered.

IgE-mediated/anaphylaxis or Severe Penicillin Allergy Empiric Therapy

Vancomycin 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose then 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (Please see Vancomycin dosing schedule)

- + Gentamicin 5mg/kg IV once daily (booking weight, max 480mg) (Please see Gentamicin dosing schedule)

In patients with a history of Gentamicin resistant Gram negative infections (eg. UTI) use Amikacin 15mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 1.5g)

Ciprofloxacin 400mg BD IV may be added for additional Gram-negative cover

Meropenem can be considered for use in select cases (1-2% cross reactivity between penicillin and carbapenem). Discuss with

- + Clindamycin 1.2g QDS IV
- + Gentamicin 5mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 480mg) (Please see Gentamicin dosing schedule)

In patients with a history of Gentamicin resistant Gram negative infections (eg. UTI) use Amikacin, 15mg/kg OD IV (booking weight, max 1.5g)

If history of or risk factors for MRSA colonisation or infection add Vancomycin 25mg/kg (max 2g) loading dose then 15mg/kg IV 12 hourly (booking weight, max 2g/dose) (Please see Vancomycin dosing schedule).

In patients with a booking weight BMI ≥30kg/m<sup>2</sup> use Obese Dosing Weight/ Adjusted Body Weight and not Actual Body Weight to calculate gentamicin/amikacin dose. (Please see formulae for weight calculation)

Review Gentamicin/Amikacin daily with culture results and clinical response. If patient is clinically improving, consider stopping after 48 hours.

Note: Both vancomycin and gentamicin/amikacin can cause nephrotoxicity as an adverse effect. This risk is increased when both agents are used together and is increased further with the use of other nephrotoxic medications. Review use of these medications daily, monitor renal function and drug

If there is a strong suspicion clinically that the septic shock may be relating to Group A Streptococcus, then IV immunoglobulin could be considered.

Waterford: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Antimicrobial Guideline - Last Updated: Aug. 16, 2024, 12:54 p.m., printed: Sept. 21, 2024, 1:25 a.m.