

## Louth: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Louth Hospitals: Antimicrobial Guidelines: Paediatrics - Severe Malaria

Infection
<b>Paediatrics - Severe Malaria (warrants ICU admission)</b>
<b>Severity indicators:</b> Hyperparasitaemia > 5%, Neurological abnormality, renal impairment, acidosis, hypoglycaemia, respiratory distress, Hb <8g/dl, spontaneous bleeding/DIC, shock, haemoglobinuria .
Likely Organisms
<b>Plasmodium falciparum</b> most likely
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Line :</b>
Artesunate IV for at least 24 hours, duration of IV therapy based on clinical response
<b>Artesunate IV Dosing Regimen:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Children ≥ 20 kg :</b> 2.4 mg/kg IV at 0 hours, 12 hours, 24 hours, and then once daily thereafter until oral therapy can be tolerated</li> <li><b>Children &lt; 20 kg :</b> 3 mg/kg at 0 hours, 12 hours, 24 hours, and then once daily thereafter until oral therapy can be tolerated</li> </ul>
Once patient is clinically improved and IV to oral switch appropriate, complete treatment with:
Artemether-Lumefantrine PO (Riamet®) - dose as per BNF for Children, dose given at 0h, 8h, 24h, 36h, 48h and 60h (total course given over 60 hours = 2.5 days)
<b>N.B. Please note the timing of Riamet® doses</b> relates to time from time zero – see worked example below:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Dose = Time Zero E.g. 18.00 on 12/8/19</li> <li>Next dose due at 8 hours from time zero = 02.00 on 13/8/19</li> <li>Next dose due at 24 hours from time zero = 18.00 on 13/8/19</li> <li>Next dose due at 36 hours from time zero = 06.00 on 14/8/19</li> <li>Next dose due at 48 hours from time zero = 18.00 on 14/8/19</li> <li>Next dose due at 60 hours from time zero = 06.00 on 15/8/19</li> </ul>
<b>N.B. Contact Pharmacy Department</b> prior to discharge to ensure continuity of supply as Riamet® is not readily available in the community
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Line:</b>
IV Quinine no longer available (Jul 2019)
Comments
<b>References for Artesunate IV Dose:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sanford Guide to Antimicrobial Therapy, available from <a href="http://webedition.sanfordguides.com">webedition.sanfordguides.com</a> , accessed 20/08/19</li> <li>John Hopkins ABX Guide, available from <a href="http://www.hopkinsguides.com">www.hopkinsguides.com</a> , accessed 20/08/19</li> <li>World Health Organisation. Guidelines for the treatment of malaria. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. 2015.</li> </ul>