

# Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Suspected Herpes Simplex Encephalitis

## Suspected Herpes Simplex Encephalitis

1. Viral **meningitis** (as distinct from encephalitis) generally does **NOT** require anti-viral treatment. Discuss with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases.
2. Consult with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases recommended if patient has recent travel history or is immunocompromised.

Antivirals for Suspected Herpes Simplex Encephalitis		
Infection	1 <sup>st</sup> Line	Comment
Suspected Herpes Simplex Encephalitis	Aciclovir IV 10mg/kg every 8 hours Refer to IV guide on <a href="#">MedinfoGalway</a> for dosing in obese patients.	<b>Confirmed</b> HSV encephalitis requires a total of 14 to 21 days IV therapy.

Ref: IDSA Guidelines for the Management of Encephalitis [Clin Infect Dis 2008;47:303-27](#)