



NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

LEVETIRACETAM
 Created by: NCCU
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NCCU Clinical Guidelines
 KEMH/PMH
 Perth, Western Australia

DRUG:	LEVETIRACETAM
PRESENTATION:	Vial: 100mg/mL 5mL vials Oral solution: 100mg/mL
ACTION & INDICATION:	Levetiracetam is an anticonvulsant with a broad spectrum of activity. It is often used in combination with other anticonvulsants. Some patients with partial seizures (with or without secondary generalisation) have, however, been treated with levetiracetam alone. The mechanism of action is unclear. May selectively prevent hypersynchronization of epileptiform burst firing and propagation of seizure activity.
DOSE :	Initially 10mg/kg/dose, increasing every 1 to 2 weeks as required to a maximum dose of 30mg/kg/dose. < 4 weeks Administer once daily. > 4 weeks Administer twice daily.
PREPARATION:	IV: Take 1mL (100mg) and dilute it to 20mL = 5mg/mL Compatible with sodium chloride and glucose solutions.
ADMINISTRATION:	Oral: May be given at any time with regard to feeds. IV: Administer over at least 15 minutes.
ADVERSE EFFECTS:	Sedation and irritability.
COMMENTS:	If ceasing therapy, the dose should be reduced gradually as abrupt withdrawal may lead to increasing seizures. Changing from IV to oral therapy does not require any dosage conversion. Discard reconstituted vial immediately after use
REFERENCES:	Neofax 2013 Pediatric Dosage Handbook 17 th Ed
REVIEWED:	September 2013