Antibiotics should be given prior to gynaecological and uro-gynaecological surgery or procedures to prevent surgical site infection when the reproductive tract is entered or there is likely to be contamination of the peritoneal cavity from the vagina.

**Indications**
Antibiotic prophylaxis is recommended for the following gynaecological surgical procedures

- Abdominal / vaginal hysterectomy
- Laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy
- Uro-gynaecological procedures

**Pre-operative considerations**
- Before hysterectomy, screen for bacterial vaginosis (BV) and treat, if detected. This reduces BV-associated cuff infection.

**Antibiotic regimen**
1. Cefazolin 2g IV within 60 min (ideally 15-30 min) prior to skin incision (consider a repeat intra operative dose for procedure > 4 hours).
   
   PLUS
   Metronidazole 500mg IV (as a single dose within 60 min (ideally 15-30 min) prior to skin incision

2. For patients with immediate penicillin hypersensitivity use:
   - Clindamycin 600mg IV (as a single dose), within 60 min (ideally 15-30 min) before skin incision (must be given as infusion over a minimum of 20 minutes).

**Colonisation or infection with methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) - micro alert B or C**
- For known colonised patients prior to elective surgery: Offer decolonisation therapy as per the WNHS Micro Alerts and Multi-Resistant Organisms Policy.
For patients known to have active MRSA infection or colonisation at the time of surgery ADD vancomycin to a max dose of 1.5g. Administration of both cefazolin and vancomycin is recommended unless cefazolin is contraindicated. If cefazolin is contraindicated in a patient with known MRSA infection or colonisation, use vancomycin + metronidazole.

Prescribe Vancomycin at the recommended rate of no greater than 10 mg/min, ideally timed to complete the infusion before surgical incision but may be commenced up to 30 minutes before the procedure, as per eTG. Recommended prophylaxis doses of vancomycin are:

- ≤50 kg vancomycin dose = 15 mg/kg IV
- 50-75 kg vancomycin dose= 1g IV
- ≥ 75kg vancomycin dose= of 1.5 g, IV

Refer to the WNHS Vancomycin Adult Medication Monograph for further information.
References


Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines

WNHS Policy: Antimicrobial Stewardship
Pharmacy: Vancomycin Adult Medication Monograph

Useful resources (including related forms)

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