



**Oncology – Fever and Neutropenia - Adult**

Key: Req – Requisition MAR – Medication Administration Record K – Kardex Dis – Discontinued

KEY

**Patient Population**

- Fever (Temp 38.3°C or greater orally Or 38°C or greater tympanic x 1 reading Or 38°C or greater orally on 2 readings, 1 hour apart **And** Neutropenia (Absolute Neutrophil Count [ANC] less than  $1 \times 10^9/L$ )
- On Active Therapy: Chemotherapy, Radiation Therapy and/or Post-BMT for patients still on immunosuppression or within 1 year of BMT, and active blood cancers with cytopenias

**Consults**

- Oncology consulted - Dr \_\_\_\_\_ aware. Page Oncologist with ANC result and clinical assessment

**Vitals/Monitoring**

- HR, RR, BP, O<sub>2</sub> sats q8h and PRN Or \_\_\_\_\_
- Temp q8h and PRN Or \_\_\_\_\_
- If **UNSTABLE** (↓LOC, ↓BP, ↓Perfusion) HR, RR, BP, O<sub>2</sub> sats – every 15 minutes until stable and consider ICU consult
- No rectal temp, no rectal exam

**Investigations**

- Access Central line (all lumens/ports) and draw bloodwork. If no Central line then draw peripheral blood work with peripheral intravenous start
- Blood cultures x 2 (one from CVC, if present, plus peripheral blood, or 2 from separate peripheral sites)
- Hematology profile, sodium, potassium, chloride, carbon dioxide total, creatinine, glucose, bilirubin, ALT
- Lactate if unstable
- Urine Macroscopic; Urine Culture and Sensitivity
- Chest x-ray
- If Clinically indicated:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Throat swab Culture and Sensitivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Sputum Gram Stain Culture and Sensitivity
<input type="checkbox"/> Stool Culture and Sensitivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Stool for C difficile toxin
<input type="checkbox"/> Procalcitonin	<input type="checkbox"/> Wound/Skin culture

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**IV Fluids**

- Start 0.9% sodium chloride IV at \_\_\_\_\_ mL/h (maintenance)
- 0.9% sodium chloride IV bolus \_\_\_\_\_ mL over \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

**Medications**

- No rectal medications
- acetaminophen 500 to 1,000 mg PO q4h PRN FOR FEVER ONLY to a max of 4 g daily from all sources

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**Antibiotic Therapy – Goal: Within one hour of presentation at hospital**

- 1st Antibiotic dose to be given STAT as soon as blood cultures drawn. Do not wait for ANC result

**If ANC less than  $1 \times 10^9/L$ :**

- ADMIT

piperacillin/tazobactam 4.5 g IV q8h

Or

imipenem/cilastin 500 mg IV q8h

**For patients with severe beta-lactam (penicillin/cephalosporin) allergy (eg anaphylaxis, angioedema):**

clindamycin 600 mg IV q8h

And  ciprofloxacin 400 mg IV q12h

**For patients with possible central line infection or suspected MRSA or hemodynamic instability add:**

**vancomycin dosing guidelines – see Page 3 (dosed on total body weight [TBW])**

vancomycin \_\_\_\_\_ mg IV loading dose (25 mg/kg [TBW] round to nearest 250 mg) then  
vancomycin \_\_\_\_\_ mg IV q \_\_\_\_\_ h

**Subsequent vancomycin dosage adjustments**

- As ordered by pharmacist. Target trough 10 to 15 mg/L

**Investigations**

- Further lab investigations for monitoring vancomycin therapy to be ordered by pharmacist/medical microbiologist

**If C. difficile suspected:**

vancomycin 125 mg PO q8h x 10 days

Or **Chemotherapy induced mucositis or typhilitis make patient NPO:**

metroNIDAZOLE 500 mg IV q8h x 10 days

**Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis**

dalteparin 5,000 units subcut once daily. Hold if platelets less than 50

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Dosing Guidelines for vancomycin							Clinical Decision Support									
ACTUAL Body Weight (kg)		LOADING DOSE (25 mg/kg)			MAINTENANCE DOSE (15 mg/kg)											
40 to 50		1250 mg			750 mg											
51 to 60		1500 mg			1000 mg											
61 to 70		1750 mg			1000 mg											
71 to 80		2000 mg			1250 mg											
81 to 90		2250 mg			1250 mg											
91 to 100*		2500 mg			1500 mg											
<p>* For 100 kg and above obtain Pharmacy Consult. Max 2500mg/dose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algorithm to determine Vancomycin Target TROUGH and Initial Dosing INTERVAL</li> <li>For the following infections a higher trough should be targeted (15 to 20 mg/L): severe infections due to methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) such as endocarditis, osteomyelitis/deep abscess, pneumonia, meningitis</li> </ul>																
<p><b>LOW-TARGET 10 to 15 mg/L</b></p> <p>INITIAL DOSING INTERVAL (hours)</p>							<p><b>HIGH-TARGET 15 to 20 mg/L</b></p> <p>INITIAL DOSING INTERVAL (hours)</p>									
SCr mcmol/L		Age Group (years)					SCr mcmol/L		Age Group (years)							
		20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 59	60 - 69	70 - 79			20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 59	60 - 69	70 - 79	80 - 89
40-60		8	8	12	12	12	18	40-60		8	8	8	8	8 - 12*	12	12
61-80		8	12	12	12	18	18	61-80		8	8	8-12*	12	12	12	12-18*
81-100		12	12	12	18	18	18	81-100		12	12	12	12	12 - 18*	18	18
101-120		12	12	18	18	18	24	101-120		12	12	12 - 18*	18	18	18	18
121-140		12	18	18	18	24		121-140		12	18	18	18	18	18	18-24*
141-160		18	24	24	24			141-160		18	18	18	18 - 24*	24		
161-180		24	24					161-180		18 - 24*	24	24	24			
181-200		24						181-200		24						
<p>* If more aggressive therapy is desired, select more frequent dosing interval</p>																
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Shaded boxes:</b> patients have unstable and/or reduced renal function, and the nomogram may not be as predictive; For those with an interval stated, patients should receive a loading dose followed by 3 hour and pre-2nd dose serum levels to determine appropriate dosing For those with no dosing interval stated, patients should receive a loading dose followed by 3 hour and 24 hour post-dose serum levels to determine subsequent dosing A clinical pharmacist should be contacted for assistance with dosing and interpretation of levels</li> </ul>																