

colistimethate

Warnings

Classification
antibiotic

Alternate Names
COLY-MYCIN M; colistimethate sodium,
colistin sodium methanesulfonate

Indications

- treatment of infections caused by susceptible strains of gram-negative organisms when the organism is resistant to or contraindications exist to using other formulary alternatives.
- [indications and / or prescribing restrictions apply](#)

Reconstitution and Stability

- powder stable at room temperature
- reconstitute 150 mg vial with 2 mL sterile water for injection to provide 75 mg/mL of colistin base; swirl gently to avoid frothing

Compatibility

- compatible with dextrose 5%, sodium chloride 0.9%, dextrose-sodium chloride solutions, lactated ringers

Preparation and Administration

Administration Route	Approved	Preparation and Administration Instructions	Required Monitoring
Subcutaneous	NO		
Intramuscular	YES		Basic Monitoring
IV direct	NO		
IV intermittent	YES	dilute dose in 50 mL; administer over 30 to 60 minutes	Basic Monitoring
Continuous IV infusion	NO		

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Dosage

- all dosing in this section is for **colistin base**.
- Loading dose: 300 mg IV
- Maintenance dose: 150 to 180 mg IV Q12H (starting 12 hours after loading dose)
 - For dosage adjustment in renal impairment, see table below:
- Dose adjustment for renal impairment: give loading dose 300 mg IV, then give:

Creatinine Clearance*	Dose
greater than 90 mL/minute	180 mg IV Q12H
70 to 90 mL/minute	150 mg IV Q12H
50 to 69 mL/minute	120 mg IV Q12H
30 to 49 mL/minute	105 mg IV Q12H
10 to 29 mL/minute	82.5 mg IV Q12H
less than 10 mL/minute	see HD dosing
Hemodialysis (HD)	180 mg post-HD (3 times weekly)

* use adjusted body weight when estimating creatinine clearance

Potential Hazards of Parenteral Administration

- paresthesia, tingling of extremities or tongue, generalized itching or urticaria

Important Implications

Contraindications/Cautions

- Caution:
 - neuromuscular block can occur if used with other neuromuscular blockers leading to apnea and possibly respiratory arrest
 - nephrotoxic and/or neurotoxic side effects may be additive if drugs with similar potential toxicity (e.g. aminoglycosides) are given concurrently
 - in myasthenia gravis and patients with depressed neuromuscular transmission (e.g. post-op)
- Pregnancy/Lactation: refer to Lexicomp or Micromedex

Side effects

- may cause nephrotoxicity
- drug fever, gastrointestinal upset, vertigo, slurring of speech; side effects may be alleviated by decreasing dose

Monitoring

- kidney function