

Gentamicin Bladder Irrigation

What is Gentamicin bladder irrigation?

Gentamicin is an antibiotic medicine that is used to treat or prevent urinary tract infections (UTIs). It can be given directly into the bladder through a catheter. This is called bladder irrigation. It is used to treat UTIs that are difficult to treat with antibiotics taken by mouth.

How will I give my child Gentamicin bladder irrigation?

You may get the irrigation already made or you may have to make it at home. It will be given to your child through a catheter. You will put the catheter into your child's urethra. The urethra leads from your child's bladder to the outside. It is what the pee comes out of. The catheter will drain the urine out of your child's bladder and then it will be used to put the medicine into your child's bladder.

Where can I have my child's prescription filled?

Not all pharmacies will fill prescriptions for Gentamicin for bladder irrigations because it must be specially made. If you cannot find a pharmacy to make it for you, the pharmacies at Seattle Children's Hospital and Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy are able to provide the supplies so you can make at home.

What supplies do I need if I make the Gentamicin irrigation at home?



- Gentamicin, (80 mg)/2 mL vial
- Sodium chloride 0.9%, 50 mL vial
- Needle and syringe, 1ml 30G ½"
- Piston syringe and plunger
- Syringe, 30 mL

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- Needle, 19 gauge
- Alcohol prep pads
- Sharps container
- Non-sterile gloves

How do I make the irrigation solution?

You will need to mix the irrigation solution right before you use it each time.
To make the solution:

1. Remove the caps from Gentamicin and sodium chloride vials.
2. Remove the alcohol pad from the package, wipe the tops of both vials with the pad and throw the pad away.
3. Remove the eclipse needle and syringe from package. Attach the needle to the syringe by twisting it on.



4. Remove the syringe cap.
5. Draw up air into the syringe to the 0.6 mL mark. You draw up air by slowly pulling back on the syringe until it stops at the 0.6 mL mark.
6. Pierce the Gentamicin vial with the needle.
7. Push all the air in the syringe into the vial.

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8. Draw up 0.6 mL of Gentamicin into the syringe.



9. Remove the needle from the Gentamicin vial.
10. Using the same needle and syringe, pierce the sodium chloride vial.
11. Push all of the 0.6 mL of Gentamicin into the vial.
12. Take out the needle, and put it in a sharp's container
13. Remove the 19-gauge needle and the 30 mL syringe from packaging. Attach the needle to syringe.



14. Draw up air into the syringe to the 30 mL mark.
15. Pierce the 50 mL vial of Gentamicin in sodium chloride with the needle.

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16. Draw up 30 mL of medication by slowly pulling back on the syringe until you see the medication at the 30 mL line on the syringe.



You will need to push 5 to 10 mL of air into the vial alternating with removing 5-10 mL of medication until 30 mL of medication is in the syringe.

17. Remove the piston syringe from packaging; remove the plunger and blue adapter. Replace the plunger into the syringe.



18. Place the 30 mL of medication into the piston syringe through the tip of the syringe



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For questions call

- Urology 206-987-2509
- Seattle Children's Pharmacy
206-987-2138
- Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy
206-884-9120

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

If the dose is 50 mL:

19. Using the same 30 mL syringe and 19-gauge needle, draw up the remaining 20 mL of Gentamicin in sodium chloride and place in the piston syringe for a total dose of 50 mL.
20. Place used needles in a sharp's container.



How do I give my child gentamicin bladder irrigation?

Follow these steps:

1. Put the catheter into your child's urethra.
2. Catheterize the bladder and let all the urine drain out. Leave the catheter in the bladder.
3. Attach the gentamicin filled catheter tip syringe into the end of the catheter. Push the syringe plunger in and push the medicine into the bladder.
4. Leave the syringe attached to the catheter and gently pull the catheter and syringe out of the bladder. The medicine will stay in the bladder until the next catheterization.

Who do I call if I have questions about making the solution?

For questions about making the irrigation solution call the Seattle Children's Pharmacy at 206-987-2138 or Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy at 206-884-9120.

Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201.

This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

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