

Vesicant/Irritant Therapy Guide with Appropriate Vascular Access

Drug Name	Brand Name	Vesicant vs. Irritant	PIV	Midline	CVAD (PICC)	Comments
Acyclovir	Zovirax	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	Prefer <7mg/ml concentration for peripheral access
Amiodarone	Cordarone	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	
Ampicillin/Sublactam	Unasyn	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	If continuous, then central line is preferred; use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks) intermittent
Amrinone	Inocor	Irritant	Monitor*	No	Yes	
Azithromycin	Zithromax	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cefazolin	Ancef, Kefzol	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cefepime	Maxipime	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cefotaxime	Claforan	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cefoxitin	Mefoxin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Ceftazidime	Fortaz, Tazicef	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Ceftriaxone	Rocephin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Daily dose reduces complications
Cefuroxime	Zinacef	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Ciproflaxacin	Cipro IV	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	
Clindamycin	Cleocin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Daptomycin	Cubicin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Dextrose =>10% - 12.5%		Irritant	Monitor*	No	Yes	PIV emergency; push slowly
Dextrose > 12%		Vesicant	Monitor*	No	Yes	PIV emergency; push slowly
Dobutamine	Dobutrex	Vesicant	Monitor*	No	Yes	PIV Bridge to Central Access
Dopamine	Intropin	Vesicant	Monitor*	No	Yes	PIV Bridge to Central Access ASAP
Doxycycline	Vibramycin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Ertapenem	Invanz	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Erythromycin	Erythrocin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Gentamicin	Garamycin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Hydromorphone	Dilaudid	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Home Continuous PCA - Central Line
Imipenem-Cilastatin	Primaxin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Levofloxacin	Levaquin	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	
Magnesium Sulfate		Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Peripheral concentrations only
Meperidine	Demerol	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	Home Continuous PCA - Central Line
Meropenem	Merrem	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Metronidazole	Flagyl	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Morphine Sulfate	Duramorph	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	Home Continuous PCA - Central Line
Moxifloxacin	Avelox	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	
Nafcillin	Nafcil, Nalpen	Irritant	Monitor*	No	Yes	Central Line for Continuous Infusion
Oxacillin	Bactocill, Prostaphlin	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	Central Line for Continuous Infusion
Pamidronate	APD, Aredia	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Must be given slowly
PPN (parenteral periph nutrition)	Procalamine	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Make sure less than 10% Dextrose in mixture
TPN (Total Parenteral)	Clinimix	Vesicant	No	No	Yes	Guidelines allow for PIV if <= 10% Dextrose monitor closely for extravasation
Pentamidine IV		Irritant	Monitor*	No	Yes	
Phenytoin	Dilantin	Vesicant	Monitor*	No	Yes	Time Dependent PIV-need CVAD
Piperacillin/Tazobacatam	Zosyn	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Potassium Chloride	less than 40mEq	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	PIV - Slow infusion with dilution
Promethazine	Phenergan	Vesicant	Monitor*	No	Yes	No IV push; must be IVPB diluted min 50cc NS; give slowly, no hand, nor wrist PIV; can give IM
Sulfamthoxazole/Trimethprim	Bactrim, Septra	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	
Tobramycin	Nebcin	Irritant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)
Vancomycin	Vancocin	Irritant	Monitor*	Yes	Yes	Use PIV/ML short term (< 2 weeks)

Monitor * - monitor for extravasation

May be used where necessary for short term infusions depending on condition of patient, renal considerations, vascular status, awaiting CVAD insertion or culture results, length of treatment, or "line holiday" requirement. Easier to monitor extravasation to a PIV rather than a midline due to deeper vein in upper arms; make it more difficult to detect extravasation.

CAUTION -IRRITANT STOP-VESICANT

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