

Ref. No: 1374  
Date: 26/11/24  
Subject: Meropenem

**REQUEST**

- 1. How many doses of each of the following strengths of Meropenem do you administer annually?**
  - 500mg
  - 1 gram
  - 2 grams
- 2. What are the main areas of your hospital where Meropenem is used?**
- 3. What are the main conditions you use Meropenem to treat?**
- 4. How do you currently administer Meropenem via bolus or infusion? If you infuse, do you use gravity or pump sets?**
- 5. Where is your Meropenem currently reconstituted (e.g., wards or aseptic units)?**
- 6. Do you face any challenges when administering Meropenem?**
- 7. Do you frequently experience drug shortages of Meropenem?**
- 8. How many medication errors do you experience per month when administering Meropenem?**

## RESPONSE

1. Doses administered meropenem at **STHK**.1g = 11955, meropenem 500mg = 512 (information obtained from EPMA)

Doses administered meropenem at **S&O** - 500mg – 160, 1 gram-10544, 2 grams - 0

2. Main areas of use critical care, respiratory, general surgery and hematology areas.
3. Indications of use Microbiology advice only ( [Reserved Antimicrobial](#) unless specified by Antibiotic Policy):
  - Second line treatment for [Neutropenic Sepsis](#)
  - Second line treatment for [Ventilator Associated Pneumonia \(VAP\)](#)
  - Treatment of listeria meningitis in non-severely penicillin allergic patients.
  - necrotising fasciitis first line with clindamycin

### Active against most strains of:

- [Staphylococcus aureus \(MSSA\)](#)
- Beta haemolytic streptococci
- Streptococcus pneumoniae
- [Listeria](#)
- [Neisseria](#)
- [Haemophilus influenzae](#)
- [Escherichia coli](#)
- [Klebsiella](#)
- Other [Coliforms](#)
- [Pseudomonas](#)
- [Anaerobes](#)

4. 500mg can be given as a short infusion over 30 mins using pumps and giving sets or short IV injection over 5 mins, OPAT 1g is always 5 minute injection, inpatients traditionally 1g is given as a short infusion. 2g is given as a short infusion
5. Nurses reconstitute on the wards, no capacity in the ADU
6. Times constraints for nursing staff is the biggest issue
7. Not recently
8. 1 incident in the last 12 months involving meropenem