Ertapenem Intravenous Infusion for Adults

Who can administer

May be administered by registered competent doctor or nurse/midwife

Important information

- Red-light antimicrobial: Requires pre-authorisation from Microbiology or ID prior to use 24 hours/7 days a week
- Ertapenem is a carbapenem. **Avoid if** history of immediate or severe hypersensitivity reaction to **penicillins or cephalosporins**
- See under 'Dose' for adjustments required in **renal** impairment
- Co-administration with **valproate** may result in a decrease in valproic acid levels below the therapeutic range - therefore **concurrent use is not recommended**

Available preparations

Invanz 1 gram vial

Reconstitution

Water for injection or sodium chloride 0.9%

10mL per 1g vial (produces 100mg/mL solution)

Dilute further prior to administration

Infusion fluids

Sodium chloride 0.9% **only**

Methods of intravenous administration

Intermittent intravenous infusion (administer using an electronically controlled infusion device)

- Add 500mg or 1g dose to 50mL infusion fluid
- The residual volume in the infusion line must be flushed through at the same rate to avoid significant underdosing
- Administer over 30 minutes

Dose in adults

Usual dose

- Give 1g every 24 hours

Renal impairment [ref 1]

- Risk of seizures
- Patients with renal impairment are at higher risk of ertapenem-induced encephalopathy and the resolution may be prolonged
- Not recommended by manufacturer due to lack of data in GFR<30 mL/min but a dose of 50% is recommended in US data sheet. The following table reflects the Renal Drug Database information

eGFR (mL/min/1.73m^2)	Dose	Frequency
30 to 50	Usual dose	
10 to 30	500mg to 1g	Every twenty-four hours
Less than 10	1g three times weekly **OR** 500mg every 24 hours	
Renal replacement therapy	Consult pharmacy or specialist literature	

Storage

Store below 25^{0}C

References

SPC Feb 2nd 2022

1. Renal drug database, accessed online 28/05/2025

Therapeutic classification

Carbapenem antibiotic