

Birmingham and Midland Eye Centre

**Topical Ophthalmic Antibiotic Selection Guide**

This table relates to antibiotics for topical treatment only.

This is a guide for selecting a suitable topical ophthalmic antibiotic based on the microbiology sensitivity report. It does not replace clinical judgement and BMEC ophthalmic infection guidelines should be followed – in cases of doubt, antibiotic therapy should be discussed with the duty microbiologist and a consultant ophthalmologist.

		Alternatives (in order of preference)	
Sensitive to	First choice	Preserved	Preservative free
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Chloramphenicol	G. chloramphenicol 0.5%	G. fusidic acid 1% Check quinolone sensitivity	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Oc. chloramphenicol 1% Oc. Polyfax® Check quinolone sensitivity Check cefuroxime sensitivity G. vancomycin 5%*‡
Fusidic acid	G. fusidic acid 1%	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Check quinolone sensitivity	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Oc. chloramphenicol 1% Oc. Polyfax® Check quinolone sensitivity Check cefuroxime sensitivity
<b>Aminoglycosides</b>			
Gentamicin	G. gentamicin 0.3%	G. gentamicin 1.5%‡ Check quinolone sensitivity	G. gentamicin 1.5%‡ G. amikacin 2.5%*‡ Check quinolone sensitivity Check cefuroxime sensitivity
Amikacin	G. amikacin 2.5% PF*‡	Check quinolone sensitivity	Check quinolone sensitivity Check cefuroxime sensitivity <i>Ps. aeruginosa</i> : check ceftazidime*

Drugs marked in red contain penicillin. PF = preservative free.

†Avoid in patients with anaphylaxis to penicillin

\*May not be readily available – check availability with pharmacy and discuss with microbiology for interim alternatives if supply will be delayed.

‡Restricted – must be prescribed in accordance with BMEC ophthalmic infection policies

**Date: January 2011**                      **Version 1:**                      **Review date: January 2013**

**Approved by: Drugs and Therapeutic Committee; Divisional Governance Groups**

## Topical Ophthalmic Antibiotic Selection Guide

		Alternatives (in order of preference)	
Sensitive to	First choice	Preserved	Preservative free
<b>Beta-lactams</b>			
Penicillin	G. chloramphenicol 0.5%	G. fusidic acid 1% G. penicillin <sup>†</sup> 5000 units/ml	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Oc. chloramphenicol 1% G. penicillin <sup>†</sup> 5000 units/ml* G. cefuroxime <sup>‡</sup> 5% <sup>‡</sup> G. vancomycin 5%* <sup>‡</sup>
Flucloxacillin	G. chloramphenicol 0.5%	G. fusidic acid 1%	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Oc. chloramphenicol 1% G. cefuroxime <sup>‡</sup> 5% <sup>‡</sup> G. vancomycin 5%* <sup>‡</sup>
Cefuroxime	G. cefuroxime <sup>‡</sup> 5% PF <sup>‡</sup>	Check quinolone sensitivity Check aminoglycoside sensitivity	Check quinolone sensitivity Check aminoglycoside sensitivity Check vancomycin sensitivity
Ceftazidime	G. ceftazidime <sup>‡</sup> 5% PF* <sup>‡</sup>	Check quinolone sensitivity Check aminoglycoside sensitivity	
<b>Glycopeptides</b>			
Vancomycin	G. vancomycin 5% PF* <sup>‡</sup>	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% G. fusidic acid 1%	G. chloramphenicol 0.5% Oc. chloramphenicol 1% Oc. Polyfax®
<b>Quinolones</b>			
Ofloxacin	G. ofloxacin 0.3% <sup>‡</sup>	G. ciprofloxacin 0.3% <sup>‡</sup>	Oc. ciprofloxacin 0.3% G. levofloxacin 0.5% <sup>‡</sup> Check cefuroxime sensitivity <i>Ps. aeruginosa</i> : check ceftazidime
Ciprofloxacin	G. ciprofloxacin 0.3% <sup>‡</sup>	G. ofloxacin 0.3% <sup>‡</sup>	Oc. ciprofloxacin 0.3% G. levofloxacin 0.5% <sup>‡</sup>

Drugs marked in red contain penicillin. PF = preservative free.

<sup>†</sup>Avoid in patients with anaphylaxis to penicillin

\*May not be readily available – check availability with pharmacy and discuss with microbiology for interim alternatives if supply will be delayed.

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