**BENZYLPENICILLIN – for up to 28 days of age**

**INDICATION**

Bacterial infection: Pneumococcal, Meningococcal, Streptococcal, Gonococcal

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| DRUG | DOSE | DOSES/DAY | ROUTE |
| benzylpenicillin  (Crystapen) | 50mg/kg  For doses > 50mg/kg, see preparation notes below. | One dose every 12 hours in babies up to 6 days old  One dose every 8 hours in babies 7 to 28 days old  The dose should be reduced in renal failure. | Slow IV bolus over 5 minutes.  Some infants have developed severe local reactions to IM injections, so IV treatment is preferable. |

**SUPPLY**

Each ampoule contains 600mg of benzylpenicillin

**PREPARATION**

Add 4·6ml of sterile water to each 600mg vial, as there is a displacement value of 0.4ml. This gives a solution containing 120mg/ml (600mg/5ml) benzylpenicillin.

For doses > 50mg/kg, further dilute to a concentration of 60mg/ml with 5ml sodium chloride 0.9% or glucose 5% and give over 15 minutes

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| Solution compatibility | Glucose 5%, glucose 10%, sodium chloride 0.45%, sodium chloride 0.9%, buffered sodium chloride 0.9%, |
| IV line compatibility | Calcium chloride, calcium gluconate, chloramphenicol, clarithromycin, erythromycin, gentamicin, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, pantoprazole, ranitidine |
| IV line incompatibility | Amphoteracin, cimetidine, cytarabine, dobutamine, flucloxacillin, insulin, intralipid, , methylprednisolone, phenytoin, potassium chloride, promethazine, sodium bicarbonate and vancomycin. |