

Tobramycin inhaled

Tobramycin for injection (DBL)

Other brands may be available - ensure you have a brand that is preservative-free

What does it do?

An aminoglycoside antibiotic used to prevent and treat pseudomonas infections in the lungs

How is it taken?

Tobramycin is usually inhaled twice per day via nebuliser. The total volume to be nebulised with each dose is best kept to 4 mL. If your or your child's dose is 80 mg (2 mL of 40 mg/mL solution), mix the tobramycin solution with 2 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride, which may be obtained from RCH pharmacy in 30 mL sachets. Alternatively, you may purchase 10 mL ampoules from your local pharmacy. If the dose is 160 mg (4 mL of 40 mg/mL solution), no dilution is required.

If you are unsure how to get the medicine out of the vial, please contact the pharmacy department.

Tobramycin is usually given after physiotherapy, so that the medicine can work more effectively in the lungs. Talk to your physiotherapist about the best time to give inhaled antibiotics for you or your child and to discuss the nebuliser pump you currently have or may need to purchase. Your doctor will decide how long you or your child should continue taking tobramycin.

If you forget to give a dose, give the missed dose as soon as you remember, then give the next dose at the time it is normally due. Do not try to make up for missed doses by giving more than one dose at a time.

Where do I get it?

Only available from **RCH pharmacy** on presentation of a valid RCH prescription written by a doctor at RCH.

How do I store it?

All medicines should be stored out of the reach of children
Store the vials at room temperature (below 25° C)
Leave the medicine in the vials until it is time to give the dose

What side effects may I experience?

All medicines can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious. Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you or your child is experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions from this medicine that are troublesome or ongoing, even if the problem is not listed below. Some side effects can occur if you take this medicine with certain other medicines, including over-the-counter or herbal medicines. Always tell your pharmacist about any medicines you or your child are taking.

Some of the side effects that may occur include:

Tiredness or weakness, stomach upset and sore mouth and gums.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

Hearing problems, ringing in the ears, muscle weakness or decreased urination.

Stop using this medicine and contact a doctor or emergency department if signs of an allergic reaction occur.

These may include:

An unexplained increase in wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing, fainting, swelling of the lips or tongue, severe itchy rash (hives).

The information contained in this leaflet is intended to support not replace discussion with your doctor or health care professionals.

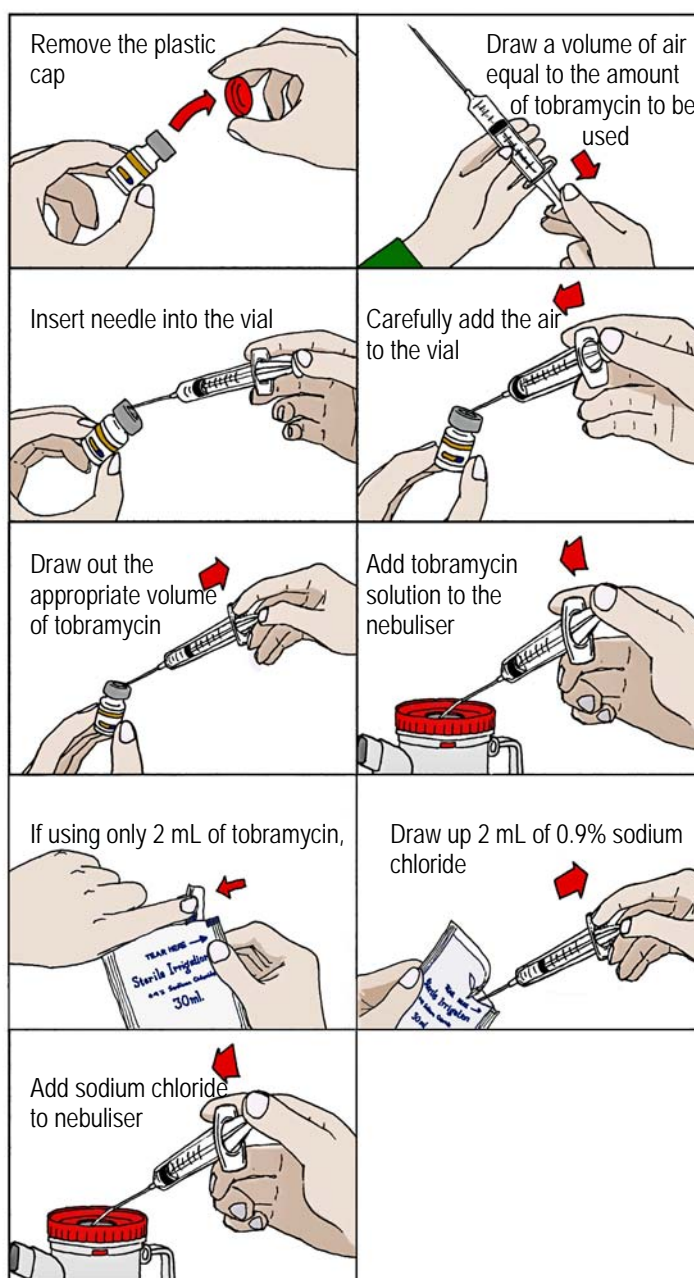
ASK YOUR PHARMACIST ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT THIS MEDICINE

For further information, contact The Royal Children's Hospital Drug Information Centre on 03 9345 5208.

The authors of these medicine information handouts have made considerable effort to ensure the information is accurate, up to date and easily understood.

The Royal Children's Hospital accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies, information perceived as misleading, or the success of any treatment regimen detailed in the handouts.

Preparing Tobramycin inhaled



Artwork by Daniel Ong

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