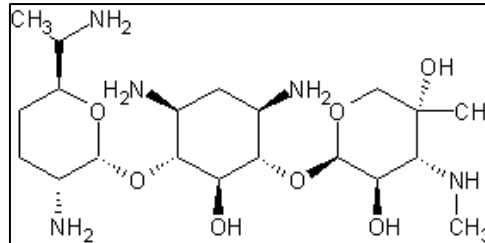
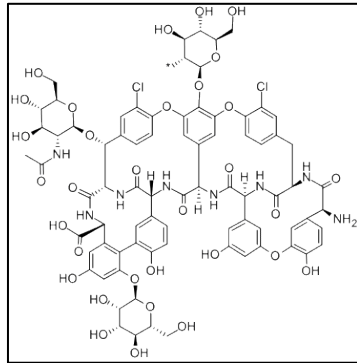


# Patient Safety ALERT – Administration of IV Teicoplanin and Gentamicin



## MINIMISING THE RISK OF CVS INSTABILITY

Teicoplanin and gentamicin are pharmacologically incompatible when given together intravenously - precipitate is formed. The precipitant produced may cause cardiovascular instability/anaphylaxis. Bolus administration of Teicoplanin may also cause hypotension.

Following the reporting of several cases of possible anaphylaxis with the administration of the above combination in the Peninsula, the MHRA have been notified. The microbiology service at NDDH are also aware.

No change of antibiotic prophylaxis has been recommended to date.

Dr Paul Sice, Lead for the Peninsula Anaesthetic Allergy Clinic, has implemented the following pragmatic advice in Derriford with good effect. It is recommended that the same process is followed within Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust:

- **Dilute Teicoplanin in 100mls saline**
  - Give as a slow IV infusion and **not as a bolus**
- **Separate the administration of the two medications (Teicoplanin and Gentamicin)**
  - **Separate in time**
    - Administer one medication on entry of the patient into the anaesthetic room
    - Administer the other medication on transfer of the patient into Theatre
  - **Separate by injection port**
    - If only one port then flush with saline between medications

### FOR ACTION:

Please ensure that ALL STAFF are vigilant and report/investigate all potential reactions via the Peninsula Anaesthetic Allergy Clinic [see referral documents under 'General Resources' in the Anaesthesia and Intensive Care section on BOB].

For further information, please contact [simon.hebard@nhs.net](mailto:simon.hebard@nhs.net)