

Colomycin and Promixin

Information for adult patients with cystic fibrosis

This information sheet explains how to take your nebuliser, possible side effects and advice on use, cleaning and storage.

What are Colomycin® and Promixin®?

The nebuliser solutions are two brands of the antibiotic colistin, which is used to treat *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection in your lungs. You can use them for three months to try and clear a new growth of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in your lungs or use them long term as a maintenance treatment if you always grow the bacterium.

Usual dose

- Colomycin - nebulise 2 million international units twice a day using your eFlow device or a conventional compressor.
- Promixin - nebulise 1 million international units twice a day using your I-neb device.

Inhale or nebulise your usual bronchodilator (Ventolin/salbutamol or Bricanyl/terbutaline) before taking your Colomycin/Promixin.

The Adult CF team will let you know if you need to nebulise Colomycin/Promixin continuously or every other month (usually alternating with another nebulised antibiotic).

Are there any side effects?

Colomycin/Promixin can cause chest tightness, wheezing and coughing. You can usually avoid these symptoms by using inhaled or nebulised bronchodilators such as salbutamol or terbutaline. To check for this and to assess your lung function, the physiotherapists at the hospital will arrange a trial dose for you before starting.

They can also cause: sore throat, hoarse voice, nausea and make things taste different. The patient information leaflet that comes in the package has a full list of possible side effects. If you have any of these or any other symptoms, contact the CF team.

Confirming your identity

Before you have a treatment or procedure, our staff will ask you your **name** and **date of birth** and check your **ID band**. If you don't have an ID band we will also ask you to confirm your address.

If we don't ask these questions, then please ask us to check.
Ensuring your safety is our primary concern.

How do I take Colomycin?

Using an eFlow or conventional compressor

Before nebulisation, you need to reconstitute the Cayston powder with the solvent provided, as follows:

- Reconstitute a 2 million international unit vial of Colomycin with 4ml of water for injection or sodium chloride 0.9% (or salbutamol if advised by the CF team).
- Empty the solution into the nebuliser pot or chamber.
- Nebulise until there is no more vapour or the device completes its pre-set delivery.
- Use a filter to avoid other people breathing in the antibiotic.

How do I take Promixin?

Using an I-neb

- Reconstitute a 1 million international unit vial of Promixin with 1ml of water for injection (or salbutamol if advised by the CF team).
- Fill the bubble in the grey chamber and nebulise until the I-neb completes delivery.

General advice

- Do not mix Colomycin or Promixin with any other drug in the same nebuliser pot or chamber.
- Nebulise Colomycin/Promixin twice a day, soon after physiotherapy.

Cleaning and storage

- After each use, clean the nebuliser pot or chamber as advised by the manufacturer and the CF team.
- Once made up, the Colomycin/Promixin solution can be stored in the fridge at 2-8°C for up to 24 hours.

Who do I contact with queries and concerns?

Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm: Adult CF Physiotherapists, tel 020 3299 5284

At all other times: King's Adult CF Ward, tel 020 3299 8652

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you.

PALS at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS:

Tel: 020 3299 3601

Email: kch-tr.pals@nhs.net

You can also contact us by using our online form at www.kch.nhs.uk/contact/pals

If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact PALS on 020 3299 1844.