



OFFICE of the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY for HEALTH
15, PALAZZO CASTELLANIA, MERCHANTS STREET, VALLETTA, MALTA

DH Circular 8/2020
DH 303/2020

24th January 2020

Attention All: Consultants
Medical Officers
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Technicians
Nurses

Re: Caspofungin 50mg and 70mg Infusion

It is being brought to your attention that Caspofungin 50mg and 70mg infusions are now available on the Government Formulary List for in-patient use.

Caspofungin can be prescribed by Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician, Consultant Infectious Diseases Paediatrician, Consultant Haematologist, Consultant Oncologist and Mater Dei Hospital Antibiotic Team Consultant as per protocol 33 attached (Annex 1).

In view of this new introduction, Liposomal Amphotericin B 50mg infusion is now also regulated by protocol 119 attached (Annex 2).

For your attention please.

Dr. Denis Vella Baldacchino
Chief Medical Officer

Caspofungin 50mg and 70mg Infusion

Prescriber Criteria: Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician
Consultant Infectious Diseases Paediatrician
Consultant Haematologist
Consultant Oncologist
Mater Dei Hospital Antibiotic Team Consultant

In-patient use:

- First-line treatment of candidiasis in neutropenic patients
- Alternative empirical treatment of presumed fungal infections where fluconazole is inappropriate.
- Alternative treatment of candidiasis in non-neutropenic patients where fluconazole is inappropriate.
- Alternative treatment of aspergillosis (based on clinical and radiological findings) where voriconazole is inappropriate

Other indications are to be considered on a case by case basis by the members of the antibiotic team.

Liposomal Amphotericin B 50mg infusion

Prescriber Criteria: Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician
Consultant Infectious Diseases Paediatrician
Consultant Haematologist
Consultant Oncologist
Mater Dei Hospital Antibiotic Team Consultant

In-patient use:

- Treatment of cryptococcal disease
- Treatment and prophylaxis of visceral and cutaneous leishmaniasis
- Treatment of mucormycosis
- Treatment of neonatal candidiasis when urinary tract involvement is excluded
- Alternative treatment of candidiasis in non-neutropenic patients where fluconazole and caspofungin are inappropriate
- Alternative treatment of candidiasis in neutropenic patients where fluconazole and caspofungin are inappropriate
- Alternative treatment of invasive aspergillosis (based on clinical and radiological findings) where voriconazole and caspofungin are inappropriate.

Other indications by members of the Antibiotic Team are to be considered on a case-by-case basis