

<b>Areas applicable</b>	Monash Newborn		
<b>Exclusions</b>	Paediatrics and Adults		
<b>Contraindications</b>	Hypersensitivity reaction to trimethoprim Megaloblastic anemia due to folate deficiency		
<b>Precautions</b>	May elevate serum creatinine levels. Use with caution in infants with folate deficiency. Dosage modification is required in moderate renal impairment. Avoid the use of trimethoprim in severe renal impairment.		
<b>Medication class</b>	Antibiotic		
<b>Indications approved at Southern Health</b>	Treatment or prophylaxis of urinary tract infections (Also refer to <a href="#">Antenatal Hydronephrosis Procedure</a> )		
<b>Action</b>	Trimethoprim competitively inhibits bacterial tetrahydrofolate production which is essential for the biosynthesis of DNA and bacterial growth.		
<b>Pharmacokinetics</b>	Trimethoprim is extensively absorbed and achieves peak concentrations in 1-4 hours. Serum half-life in neonates is approximately 19 hours, dropping down to 3-6 hours in infancy. Trimethoprim is primarily excreted unchanged in the urine (60-80%).		
<b>Presentation</b>	10mg/ml suspension manufactured by pharmacy Note: contains sucrose 88.3% w/v and hydroxybenzoates		
<b>Storage</b>	Store at room temperature and protect from light. Do not refrigerate. Discard 28 days after opening, or upon expiry date if earlier. Record date of opening on the bottle.		
<b>Dosing</b>	Indication	Dose	Interval
	Prophylaxis	2 mg/kg	24 hourly
	Treatment	4 mg/kg	12 hourly
<b>Preparation</b>	Shake bottle before use		
<b>Administration</b>	Administer without regard to feeds		
<b>Monitoring requirements</b>	FBE and folate status during prolonged treatment Serum potassium and renal function		
<b>Adverse reactions</b>	Fever, rash, vomiting, hyperkalemia, elevated creatinine. Rare: leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, hypersensitivity reactions, toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens Johnson syndrome.		

Folate deficiency can occur with prolonged use.  
In infants with G6PD deficiency there is a risk of haemolysis.

**Levels** Not applicable

**References** Australian Medicines Handbook (AMH) (2012)  
Kemp, C.A. & McDowell, J.W. (Eds.) (2002), *Paediatric Pharmacopoeia* (13<sup>th</sup> ed.), Parkville, Victoria: Pharmacy Department, Royal Children's Hospital.  
Taketomo, C. K., Hodding, J. H. & Kraus, D. M. (2010). *Paediatric Dosage Handbook*. (17<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp Inc.

Refer to [Medication Administration Procedure](#) and [Medication Prescribing Procedure](#)

**Keywords or tags** Triprim, Alprim

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