

• **Infusion reaction:** chills, fever, pain, swelling at site

Evaluate:

• Therapeutic response: resolution of infection, negative C&S for infecting organism

Teach patient/family:

• That long-term therapy may be needed to clear infection (2 wk-3 mo, depending on type of infection), that frequent blood draws will be needed

• **To notify prescriber of bleeding, bruising, or soft-tissue swelling, renal, neurologic side effects**

• **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** To notify health care professional if pregnancy is planned or suspected, not to breastfeed

ampicillin (Rx)

(am-pi-sill'in)

Func. class.: Antiinfective—
broad-spectrum

Chem. class.: Aminopenicillin

ACTION: Interferes with cell wall replication of susceptible organisms; the cell wall, rendered osmotically unstable, swells, bursts from osmotic pressure; lysis mediated by cell wall autolysins

USES: Effective for gram-positive cocci (*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*), gram-negative cocci (*Neisseria meningitidis*), gram-negative bacilli (*Haemophilus influenzae*, *Proteus mirabilis*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*), gram-positive bacilli; meningitis, GI/GU/respiratory infections, endocarditis, septicemia, otitis media, skin infection, bacterial endocarditis

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to penicillins, antimicrobial resistance

Precautions: Pregnancy, breastfeeding, neonates, hypersensitivity to cephalosporins, renal disease, mononucleosis

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

Systemic infections

• **Adult and child ≥ 40 kg:** PO 250-500 mg q6hr; IV/IM 2-8 g/day in divided doses q4-6hr

• **Child < 40 kg:** PO 50-100 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6-8hr; IV/IM 100-150 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6hr

Bacterial meningitis

• **Adult and adolescent:** IM/IV 150-200 mg/kg/day in divided doses q3-4 hr; IDSA dose IV 2 g q4hr

• **Infant and child:** IM/IV 150-200 mg/kg/day in divided doses q3-4hr; IDSA dose IV 200-400 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6hr

• **Neonate > 7 days and > 2000 g:** IM/IV 200 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6hr; IDSA dose IV 200 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6-8hr

Prevention of bacterial endocarditis

• **Adult:** IM/IV 2 g 30 min before procedure

• **Child:** IM/IV 50 mg/kg 30 min before procedure, max 2 g

GI/GU infections other than

N. gonorrhoeae

• **Adult and child > 20 kg:** PO 500 mg q6hr, may use larger dose for more serious infections

• **Child < 40 kg:** PO 50 mg/kg/day in divided doses q6-8hr

Renal disease

• **Adult and child:** CCr 10-50 mL/min extend to q6-12hr; CCr < 10 mL/min extend to q12-16hr

Available forms: Powder for inj 125, 250, 500 mg, 1, 2, 10 g/vial; caps 250, 500 mg; powder for oral susp 125, 250 mg/5 mL

Administer:

• Check allergies before using; obtain C&S before using; begin before results are received

PO route

• Give in even doses around the clock, store caps in tight container, store after reconstituting in refrigerator up to 2 wk, 1 wk room temperature

• Tabs may be crushed or caps opened and mixed with water