



CLINICAL GUIDELINE

Linezolid, Adult Treatment Protocol Initiation, Monitoring, Discharge and Outpatient Supply

A guideline is intended to assist healthcare professionals in the choice of disease-specific treatments.

Clinical judgement should be exercised on the applicability of any guideline, influenced by individual patient characteristics. Clinicians should be mindful of the potential for harmful polypharmacy and increased susceptibility to adverse drug reactions in patients with multiple morbidities or frailty.

If, after discussion with the patient or carer, there are good reasons for not following a guideline, it is good practice to record these and communicate them to others involved in the care of the patient.

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Lead Author:	Ysobel Gourlay
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Important Note:

The Intranet version of this document is the only version that is maintained. Any printed copies should therefore be viewed as 'Uncontrolled' and as such, may not necessarily contain the latest updates and amendments.

ADULT LINEZOLID TREATMENT PROTOCOL: INITIATION, MONITORING, DISCHARGE & OUTPATIENT SUPPLY

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Guideline Summary

1. Linezolid treatment should only be initiated on the advice of a Microbiologist or Infectious Diseases physician.
2. Linezolid is a 'Protected' antibiotic, stock supply requires completion of a 'Protected' Antibiotic order form ([Protected Antibiotic Order Form Link](#))
3. **Before** starting a patient on Linezolid
 - Check for contraindications, cautions and interactions.
 - Undertake baseline investigations
 - ✓ U&Es
 - ✓ LFTs
 - ✓ FBC (including haemoglobin, platelets and differential leucocyte counts)
4. Ensure appropriate ongoing monitoring
 - ✓ Weekly U&Es, LFTs and FBC including haemoglobin, platelets and total differentiated leucocyte counts.

NOTE: More frequent monitoring of the above is recommended in those with pre-existing myelosuppression, severe renal impairment or receiving concomitant medicines that may affect blood counts.

Be vigilant for the development of undesirable effects

- ✓ Monitor for symptoms and signs of lactic acidosis e.g. recurrent nausea and/or vomiting, abdominal pain, a low bicarbonate level or hyperventilation.
 - ✓ Monitor for symptoms and signs of peripheral neuropathy, e.g. any numbness or tingling in the extremities.
 - ✓ Monitor for symptoms and signs of optic neuropathy e.g. changes in visual acuity, changes in colour vision, blurred vision or visual field defects. In any patient requiring longer than 28 days linezolid therapy visual function should be checked regularly.
 - ✓ If a patient experiences new visual symptoms whilst taking linezolid they should be referred to ophthalmology.
 - ✓ Close inpatient blood pressure monitoring and/or monitoring for signs and symptoms of serotonin syndrome will be required in some patients where the concomitant administration of interacting drugs is considered necessary.
5. Provide patient/carer education and a linezolid patient information leaflet ([Linezolid PIL Link](#)).
 6. Linezolid has high oral bioavailability so the oral route should be used whenever possible.
 7. In any patient where linezolid therapy is ongoing at discharge ensure the linezolid discharge checklist is completed **prior** to discharge ([Linezolid Checklist Link](#)).

NOTE: if linezolid therapy is to continue for > 7 days post discharge the patient **must** also be referred to the Outpatient Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT) Service via TrakCare **prior** to discharge to ensure an adequate plan is in place for ongoing patient monitoring and linezolid supply.

ADULT LINEZOLID TREATMENT PROTOCOL: INITIATION, MONITORING, DISCHARGE & OUTPATIENT SUPPLY

1 INDICATION AND FORMULATIONS

Generic drug name:	Linezolid
Intended indication:	Treatment of infection on the advice of a consultant microbiologist or infectious diseases (ID) physician
Formulations:	600mg Tablet 100mg/5ml granules for oral suspension IV Infusion 600mg/300ml

2 DOSE & TREATMENT DURATION

Recommended starting dose:	<i>Linezolid can only be initiated on the advice of a microbiologist or an infectious diseases (ID) physician</i> Oral 600mg twice daily IV 600mg twice daily Please see link below for mycobacterium infections
Titration of dose:	None
Maximum dose:	Oral 600mg twice daily IV 600mg twice daily
Conditions requiring dose adjustment:	None
Duration of treatment	Treatment duration should be discussed with a microbiologist/ID consultant at initiation. The shortest possible duration should be prescribed. Usual maximum treatment course of 10-14 days. Maximum licensed duration of treatment 28 days. With microbiologist/ ID consultant approval some infections may require treatment courses for longer than 28 days. NOTE: this is unlicensed and will increase the risk of adverse effects so increased monitoring of the patient is required.
Mycobacterium Infection	For the use of linezolid in the treatment of mycobacterium infection please refer to http://www.tbdrugmonographs.co.uk/linezolid.html

3 INITIATING A PATIENT ON LINEZOLID THERAPY

Linezolid can only be initiated on the advice of a microbiologist or an infectious diseases (ID) physician.

3.1 Responsibilities of microbiologist or ID physician recommending linezolid

- Inform the prescribing doctor to refer to this document “Adult Linezolid Treatment Protocol: Initiation, Monitoring, Discharge and Outpatient Supply” available via Staffnet to ensure appropriate patient baseline checks are undertaken before initiating linezolid and ensure appropriate ongoing patient management.
- Inform the prescribing doctor to complete a “Protected Antibiotic” form available via Staffnet (see Section 16).
- Inform the local antimicrobial pharmacist (See Section 15) of the recommendation to start linezolid.

3.2 Responsibilities of the doctor prescribing linezolid

- Discuss prescription with microbiologist/ID consultant and complete “Protected Antibiotic” form available via Staffnet (see Section 16) and send to pharmacy department.
- Check for contraindications (see Section 7) cautions (see Section 8) and interactions (see Section 9) prior to initiating treatment.
- Undertake baseline investigations (see Section 10) and ongoing monitoring (see Section 11) and be vigilant for the development of undesirable effects (see Section 12).
- Provide patient education and a linezolid patient information leaflet (see Section 16) and document this in the patient’s medical notes.
- Prescribe linezolid on the inpatient medicine chart and inform the ward pharmacist and nurse looking after the patient to ensure supply available.
- Linezolid has high oral bioavailability so oral route should be used as soon as reliably available.
- Linezolid tablets are considerably cheaper than the oral suspension (see Section 14). Prescribe linezolid tablets where possible.
- Ensure the discharge checklist (see Section 4.1) is completed if the patient is discharged on ongoing linezolid therapy.

4 DISCHARGING A PATIENT ON LINEZOLID THERAPY OR SUPPLYING LINEZOLID VIA OUTPATIENTS

4.1 Doctor Checklist for Discharge/Outpatient Supply

If patient requires ≤ 7 days linezolid to complete their treatment course the prescribing doctor must:

- Ensure patient monitoring (see Section 11.1) is complete and up to date prior to discharge/outpatient supply.
- Ensure patient has been educated and provided with a linezolid patient information leaflet (see Section 16 below) prior to discharge/outpatient supply.
- Complete the ‘Linezolid Discharge and Outpatient Supply Checklist’ (see Section 16) and forward to pharmacy. The linezolid supply will not be released from pharmacy until this document has been received.

If patient requires > 7 days linezolid to complete their treatment course the prescribing doctor must:

- Ensure **prior** to discharge the patient is referred to the Outpatient Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT) Service via TrakCare to ensure an adequate plan is in place for ongoing patient monitoring and supply of linezolid.
- The patient must **not** be discharged until OPAT have arranged patient follow up monitoring and supply of linezolid. This plan must be documented in the patient’s medical notes and the patient’s immediate discharge letter. **NOTE:** If patient monitoring to be carried out by the GP (Section 11.2) this **must** be discussed and agreed with the GP **and** the OPAT team **prior** to the patient being discharged from hospital.
- Ensure patient monitoring (Section 11.1) is complete and up to date prior to discharge.
- Ensure patient has been educated and a linezolid patient information leaflet (see Section 16) provided prior to discharge. The details of the patient’s follow up appointment should be documented on the patient information leaflet.
- Complete the ‘Linezolid Discharge and Outpatient Supply Checklist’ (see Section 16) and forward to the hospital pharmacy via the email address outlined at the bottom of the checklist. The linezolid supply will not be released from pharmacy until a completed checklist has been received.

4.2 Pharmacy Checklist for Discharge/Outpatient Supply

If patient requires ≤ 7 days linezolid to complete their treatment course pharmacy must:

- Screen discharge/outpatient prescription.
- Ensure 'Linezolid Discharge and Outpatient Supply Checklist' (see Section 16) has been completed and received prior to releasing linezolid supply.
- Dispense prescription in usual manner.

If patient requires > 7 days linezolid to complete their treatment course pharmacy must:

- Screen discharge/outpatient prescription.
- Ensure 'Linezolid Discharge and Outpatient Supply Checklist' (see Section 16 below) has been completed and received prior to releasing linezolid supply.
- Supply a maximum 7 day supply of linezolid to the patient at a time. Ensure the discharging/outpatient medical team are aware only one week will be supplied at a time.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF OUTPATIENT ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY (OPAT) SERVICE

- To assess inpatient referrals for patients being discharged on > 7 days linezolid treatment to ensure ongoing linezolid is appropriate and if appropriate to agree a plan for patient monitoring and ongoing linezolid supply.
- To assess referrals for patients commenced on linezolid therapy via outpatient clinics to ensure linezolid is appropriate and if appropriate to agree a plan for patient monitoring and ongoing linezolid supply.
- OPAT will not take responsibility for patients discharged without formal assessment and agreement by the OPAT nurse specialist.

6 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PATIENT OR THEIR CARER

- Inform the prescribing doctor of all current medications including prescribed and over the counter products.
- To take linezolid as prescribed.
- To attend scheduled hospital and clinic appointments.
- To refer to the information in the linezolid patient information leaflet.
- To be aware of the importance of reporting any adverse effects to their doctor or nurse.
- If the adverse effect occurs in the community to be aware of the contact advice in the linezolid patient information leaflet to report adverse effects.

7 CONTRAINDICATIONS

NOTE: The following list of linezolid contraindications should not be considered exhaustive. For further information please see the current Summary of Product Characteristics via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc> or the current BNF via <http://www.medicinescomplete.com>

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1 of SPC.
- Linezolid should not be used in patients taking any medicinal product which inhibits monoamine oxidases A or B (e.g. phenelzine, isocarboxazid, selegiline, moclobemide) or within two weeks of taking any such medicinal product.
- Unless there are facilities available for close observation and monitoring of blood pressure linezolid should not be administered to patients with the following conditions: uncontrolled hypertension, phaeochromocytoma, carcinoid, thyrotoxicosis, bipolar depression, schizoaffective disorder, acute confusional states.
- Unless there are facilities available for close observation and monitoring of blood pressure linezolid should not be administered to patients taking any of the following medications: serotonin re-uptake inhibitors, tricyclic antidepressants, serotonin 5-HT₁ receptor agonists (triptans), directly or indirectly acting sympathomimetic agents (including the

adrenergic bronchodilators, pseudoephedrine and phenylpropanolamine), vasopressive agents (e.g. epinephrine, norepinephrine), dopaminergic agents (e.g. dopamine, dobutamine), pethidine or buspirone.

- Breastfeeding should be discontinued prior to and throughout administration of linezolid.
- Lactose: patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactose deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption.

8 CAUTIONS

NOTE: The following list of linezolid cautions should not be considered exhaustive. For further information please refer to the current Summary of Product Characteristics via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc> or the current BNF <http://www.medicinescomplete.com>

- Myelosuppression (including anaemia, leucopenia, pancytopenia and thrombocytopenia). Linezolid should only be administered to such patients when close monitoring (See section 11.1) of haemoglobin levels, blood counts and platelet counts is possible. If significant myelosuppression occurs linezolid should be stopped. If considered absolutely necessary to continue therapy, intensive monitoring of blood counts and appropriate management strategies should be implemented.
- Antibiotic-associated diarrhoea and antibiotic-associated colitis, including pseudomembranous colitis have been reported with linezolid. Linezolid should be discontinued, if possible, if such symptoms develop.
- Lactic acidosis has been reported with the use of linezolid. Patients who develop signs and symptoms of metabolic acidosis (recurrent nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain, a low bicarbonate level, or hyperventilation) while receiving linezolid should receive immediate medical attention. If lactic acidosis occurs, the benefits of continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.
- Peripheral and optic neuropathy has been reported in patients taking linezolid. This is more common when linezolid treatment goes beyond 28 days therapy. Any patient receiving greater than 28 days therapy with linezolid should have their visual function checked regularly. If peripheral or optic neuropathy occurs, the continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.
- Serotonin syndrome associated with the co-administration of linezolid and serotonergic agents, including antidepressants such as selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs) have been reported. Concomitant use of such agents is contraindicated unless considered essential. In such cases close **INPATIENT** monitoring for signs and symptoms of serotonin syndrome is necessary. If symptoms occur consideration should be given to discontinuation of either one or both agents. Note discontinuation of the serotonergic agent may result in withdrawal symptoms.
- Convulsions have been reported to occur in patients when treated with linezolid. Linezolid should be used with caution in patients with a history or risk of developing seizures.
- Tyramine rich foods or drinks should be avoided in patients taking linezolid due to the risk of developing hypertensive crisis.
- Severe renal impairment: linezolid should be used with special caution in patients with severe renal insufficiency and only when the anticipated benefit is considered to outweigh the theoretical risk.
- Severe hepatic impairment: it is recommended that linezolid should be given to patients with severe hepatic insufficiency only when the perceived benefit outweighs the theoretical risk.
- Pregnancy: treatment with linezolid during pregnancy should be avoided unless clinically necessary i.e. only if the potential benefit outweighs the theoretical risk.

9 DRUG INTERACTIONS

NOTE: The following list of drug interactions should not be considered exhaustive. For further information refer to the current Summary of Product Characteristics via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc> current BNF <http://www.medicinescomplete.com> and UK Medicines Information via <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/what-is-serotonin-syndrome-and-which-medicines-cause-it-2/>

Linezolid is a reversible non-selective monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI)

- **Food/Drink:** No significant pressor response was observed in subjects receiving both linezolid and less than 100 mg tyramine. This suggests that it is only necessary to avoid ingesting excessive amounts of food and beverages with a high tyramine content (e.g. mature cheese, yeast extracts, undistilled alcoholic beverages and fermented soya bean products such as soy sauce).
- **Other MAOI:** The concurrent use of linezolid is contraindicated with or within 2 weeks of taking any other drug that inhibits MAO-A or MAO-B e.g. phenelzine, selegiline, rasagiline, isocarboxazide, tranylpromine.
- **Alpha blockers:** enhanced hypotensive effect when MAOIs given with alpha blockers.
- **Analgesics:** including pethidine [CNS excitation (hypertension) or depression (hypotension) when given with MAOIs], tramadol [possible increased serotonergic effects and increased risk of convulsions when given with MAOIs], nefopam [CNS excitation (hypertension) or depression (hypotension) when given with MAOIs], and other opioids which have serotonergic effects e.g. fentanyl/alfentanil, methadone. Co-administration of linezolid and opioids which have serotonergic effects e.g. pethidine, fentanyl, alfentanil, tramadol, methadone, dextromethorphan, pentazocine, oxycodone, tapentadol should be avoided where possible. If co-administration is considered essential patients will require close observation and monitoring for serotonin syndrome.
- **Antidepressants** increased risk of hypertension and CNS excitation and serotonin syndrome when MAOIs given with antidepressants including: SSRIs (e.g. citalopram, paroxetine, escitalopram, sertraline), and tricyclic antidepressants (e.g. amitriptyline). Whilst co-administration is contraindicated the management of patients for whom treatment with linezolid and a serotonergic antidepressant agent is considered essential will require close observation and monitoring.
- **Serotonergic antiemetics** e.g. ondansetron, metoclopramide increased risk of serotonin syndrome. Monitor patients for symptoms of serotonin syndrome such as fever, tremors, diarrhoea, and agitation. Concurrent treatment should be stopped if serotonin syndrome occurs.
- **Antiepileptics:** MAOIs possibly antagonise anticonvulsant effect of antiepileptics by lowering seizure threshold. Linezolid should be avoided in patients with increased risk of seizure.
- **Antipsychotics:** CNS effects of MAOIs possibly increased.
- **Atomoxetine:** possible increased risk of convulsions when given with MAOIs.
- **Bupropion:** The concurrent use of bupropion and linezolid is predicted to increase the risk of additive hypertension: a case of severe, intermittent, intraoperative hypertension appears to support this. Manufacturer advises avoid for 2 weeks after stopping MAOI.
- **Dapoxetine:** increased risk of serotonergic effects when given with MAOIs. If both drugs are given, patients should be closely monitored for signs of serotonin syndrome such as agitation, fever, diarrhoea, and tremor. Manufacturers advise avoiding concurrent use during and for 14 days after stopping linezolid. Linezolid should not be started for at least 7 days after stopping dapoxetine.
- **Dopaminergics:** possible increased risk of serotonin syndrome when MAOIs given with levodopa, entacapone and tolcapone. Concurrent treatment should be stopped if serotonin syndrome occurs.

- **5HT1 receptor agonists:** risk of CNS toxicity and serotonin syndrome when MAOIs given with rizatriptan or sumatriptan. The manufacturers of linezolid contraindicate its use with the triptans unless concurrent use is essential. If both drugs are given, patients should be closely monitored for signs of serotonin syndrome.
- **Sympathomemetics:** risk of hypertensive crisis when MAOIs given with sympathomemetics e.g. adrenaline, noradrenaline, dopamine, dobutamine.

10 BASELINE INVESTIGATIONS

- Baseline LFTs, U&Es and FBC (including haemoglobin, platelets, and total differentiated leucocyte counts).
- Baseline monitoring of blood pressure is required in patients where the concomitant administration of interacting drugs is considered necessary (see Section 9).

11 ONGOING MONITORING

11.1 Acute Setting:

- Patients receiving treatment with linezolid should receive the following monitoring:
- Weekly FBC including haemoglobin, platelets and total differentiated leucocyte counts.
- Weekly LFTs and U&Es.
- Symptoms and signs of lactic acidosis e.g. recurrent nausea and/or vomiting, abdominal pain, a low bicarbonate level or hyperventilation.
- All patients should be advised to report any numbness or tingling in the extremities.
- All patients should be advised to report any symptoms of visual impairment. These include changes in visual acuity, changes in colour vision, blurred vision or visual field defects.
- Any patient experiencing new visual symptoms whilst taking linezolid should be referred to ophthalmology.
- Visual function should be monitored regularly if treatment is required for longer than 28 days.
- Close monitoring of blood pressure is required in patients where the concomitant administration of interacting drugs is considered necessary (see section 9).

Note: more frequent monitoring is recommended in the following patients

- Receiving longer than 10-14 days of treatment.
- With pre-existing myelosuppression.
- Receiving concomitant medicines that might affect their blood counts.
- With severe renal insufficiency.

11.2 Primary care:

In exceptional circumstances, if a patient **does not require inpatient monitoring** and is suitable for discharge, if there are barriers to the patient attending OPAT or the acute setting on a weekly basis, then bloods may be taken in primary care for monitoring.

- The patient must be referred to the OPAT Service and there must be an agreed plan for monitoring and supply of linezolid between the GP and the acute setting. This plan must be documented in the patient's medical notes and discharge letter.
- If appropriate the following monitoring (see table below) can be undertaken in primary care if the patient is unable to attend the acute setting or the OPAT service.

ADULT LINEZOLID TREATMENT PROTOCOL: INITIATION, MONITORING, DISCHARGE & OUTPATIENT SUPPLY

Monitoring Parameters	Frequency	Action to be taken
LFTs, U&Es, and FBC including haemoglobin, platelets and total differentiated leucocyte counts	Weekly	If any abnormalities are detected this should be discussed with the OPAT service or the acute care microbiology or infectious diseases consultant as soon as possible.
Visual function	All patients should be advised to report visual changes whilst taking linezolid. If treatment is required for longer than 28 days visual function should be checked regularly.	Any patient experiencing new visual symptoms whilst taking linezolid should be evaluated promptly and referred to an ophthalmologist if necessary. This should be reported and discussed with the OPAT service or the acute care microbiology or infectious diseases consultant as soon as possible.
Metabolism and nutrition disorders: Lactic acidosis, hyponatraemia	All patients should be advised to report any signs of metabolic disorder whilst taking linezolid.	Any patients who develop signs and symptoms of metabolic acidosis including: recurrent nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain, a low bicarbonate level or hyperventilation, should receive immediate medical attention. This should be reported and discussed with the OPAT service or the acute care microbiology or infectious diseases consultant as soon as possible.

12 UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS

NOTE: The following list should not be considered exhaustive. For further documented adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and details of likelihood etc, see the current Summary of Product Characteristics available via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc> or current BNF <http://www.medicinescomplete.com>

Any serious adverse drug reactions should be reported via the CSM Yellow Card scheme. Yellow Cards and guidance on its use are available at the back of the BNF or online at <http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

ADR details	Management of ADR
Peripheral and optic neuropathy, loss of vision, changes in visual acuity and visual field defects, blurred vision	<p>All patients should be advised to report any numbness or tingling in the extremities or any symptoms of visual impairment. These include changes in visual acuity, changes in colour vision, blurred vision or visual field defects.</p> <p>Patients experiencing new visual symptoms should be evaluated promptly and referred to an ophthalmologist if necessary.</p> <p>Vision should be monitored regularly if treatment is required for longer than 28 days.</p> <p>If peripheral or optic neuropathy occurs, the continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.</p>
Blood disorders: Myelosuppression, leucopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, eosinophilia, pancytopenia, anaemia and sideroblastic anaemia	<p>Monitor full blood count (FBC) at baseline, then weekly. Close monitoring of FBC is recommended in patients who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require longer than 10-14 days treatment • have pre-existing myelosuppression • are receiving concomitant medicines that may affect their blood counts • have severe renal insufficiency

DOCUMENT AUTHOR: Dr Rachael Rodger
DOCUMENT PREPARED BY: GG&C Antimicrobial Pharmacist Group
DOCUMENT APPROVED BY: GG&C Antimicrobial Utilisation Committee
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ADULT LINEZOLID TREATMENT PROTOCOL: INITIATION, MONITORING, DISCHARGE & OUTPATIENT SUPPLY

	NOTE: if significant myelosuppression occurs during linezolid therapy, treatment should be stopped. If it is considered absolutely necessary to continue therapy, intensive monitoring of blood counts and appropriate management strategies should be implemented.
Anaphylaxis	Linezolid should be avoided in patients with known hypersensitivity to linezolid or any of the excipients.
Metabolism and nutrition disorders: Lactic acidosis, hyponatraemia	The continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks. Patients who develop signs and symptoms of metabolic acidosis including: recurrent nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain, a low bicarbonate level or hyperventilation, should receive immediate medical attention.
Serotonin syndrome	Linezolid should be avoided in contraindicated patients (See section 7). If concurrent use of linezolid with a serotonergic drug is considered essential then close inpatient monitoring should be undertaken for signs of serotonin syndrome which include: hypertension, confusion, delirium, restlessness, tremor or blushing (see Section 9).
Convulsions	Linezolid can lower seizure threshold and should be avoided in patients at increased risk of seizure.
Gastrointestinal disorders: diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting, pancreatitis, gastritis, abdominal pain	If these symptoms become severe or persistent or stools contain blood or mucus, linezolid therapy should be stopped. Patients should also avoid medicines that stop or slow bowel movements and seek medical attention.
Vascular disorders: hypertension, phlebitis, thrombophlebitis	The continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks. NOTE: patients taking linezolid should avoid interacting drugs and food with high tyramine content due to the risk of developing hypertension (see Section 9).
Hepato-biliary disorders: abnormal liver function test, increased AST, ALT or alkaline phosphatase. Increased total bilirubin.	The continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.
Skin disorders: urticaria, dermatitis and rash. Bullous disorders such as those described as Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis	Mild skin disorders should be managed appropriately. In more severe cases the use of ongoing linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.
Renal disorders: Increased BUN, polyuria, increased creatinine, renal failure	The continued use of linezolid should be weighed against the potential risks.
Oral and vaginal thrush	Patients should receive appropriate anti-fungal treatment. Check FBC to ensure patient does not have myelodepression.

13 PHARMACEUTICAL ASPECTS

Refer to the most recent Linezolid Summary of Product Characteristics. This is available via <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc>

14 COST: BRITISH NATIONAL FORMULARY (BNF)

• 7 day course tablets:	£57.40	14 day course:	£114.80
• 7 day course oral suspension	£667.50	14 day course:	£1335.00
• 7 day course IV:	£623.00	14 day course:	£1246.00

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ADULT LINEZOLID TREATMENT PROTOCOL: INITIATION, MONITORING, DISCHARGE & OUTPATIENT SUPPLY

15 ACUTE CARE CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Designation	Acute Site	Contact Information
OPAT Service Mon-Fri 8am-4pm		Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	0141 452 3107 or 07989470541
OPAT Service out with the above times	Infectious Diseases Registrar/Consultant	Ward 5c Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	0141 452 2470
Consultant Microbiologist Service		Glasgow North & Clyde Hospitals Glasgow South	0141 201 8551 0141 354 9132
Rachael Rodger	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Royal Alexandra Hospital (Mon, Tue, Thur) & Vale of Leven Hospital (Wed)	0141 314 6146 0141 887 9111 pg 56260 Rachael.Rodger@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Lee Stewart	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	0141 451 6263 or 0141 201 1100 pg 16055 Lee.Stewart@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Fiona Robb	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Gartnavel General Hospital (Tues) Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (Mon, Wed & Thur)	0142 451 6261 or 0141 201 1100 pg 15008 Fiona.Robb@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Kimberley Philip	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Glasgow Royal Infirmary (Mon, Tue, Wed)	0141 201 3246 0141 211 4000 pg 13246 Kimberley.Philip@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Michael Neto	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Glasgow Royal Infirmary (Wed, Thurs, Fri)	0141 201 3246 0141 211 4000 pg 13246 Michael.DaSilvaNeto@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Karen Downie	Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Inverclyde Royal Hospital (Wed & Thur)	01475 633 777 Ex 04070 pg 51072 Karen.Downie@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Ysobel Gourlay	Lead Antimicrobial Pharmacist	Gartnavel General Hospital	0141 211 3320 0141 211 3000 pg 5271 Ysobel.Gourlay@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

16 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- **Protected Antimicrobial Form** available via this [Link](#)
- **Linezolid Patient Information Leaflet**- available via this [Link](#)
- **Linezolid Discharge and Outpatient Supply Checklist**- available via this [Link](#)
- Medicines.org.uk, (2019). *Linezolid 600mg film-coated tablets- Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) - (eMC)*. [online] Available at: <http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/31542> [Accessed 1st November 2021]
- Joint Formulary Committee. *British National Formulary* (online) London: BMJ Group and Pharmaceutical Press <http://www.medicinescomplete.com> [Accessed 1st November 2021]
- UK Medicines Information, Medicine Q & As. What is serotonin syndrome and what medicines cause it? Available at: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/what-is-serotonin-syndrome-and-which-medicines-cause-it-2/>

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