

Nystatin Oral Liquid for Neonates

BRIEF ADMINISTRATION GUIDE

For detailed information refer to [The Australasian Neonatal Medicines Formulary Nystatin guideline](#)

1. Medicine

1.1. Indications

- Prophylaxis in babies with risk factors for systemic candidiasis (refer to NICU guideline #6449 [Candida Infections and anti-fungal use in the newborn unit](#))
- Treatment of oral candidiasis (thrush)
Note: nystatin is not suitable for the treatment of invasive fungal disease

1.2. Route and Presentation

Oral, topical to oral mucosa

Supplied as

- Nystatin oral drops 100,000 units/mL, 24 mL

1.3. Dose

Prophylaxis for invasive fungal infection

- 1 mL every 8 hours

Treatment of oral candidiasis

- 1 mL every 6 hours

Note: treatment is usually given for 7 days, and continued for 48 hours after lesions disappear

2. Preparation and Administration

2.1. Compatible fluids

N/A

2.2. Administration Method

- Shake bottle well before withdrawing the dose
- Administer after a feed (if not NBM)
- Saturate a cotton bud with the required dose and paint on the inside of the mouth
- Alternatively, 0.5 mL can be given through the feeding tube and flushed with a bolus of air (1 mL for a 5 Fg tube, 2 mL for an 8 Fg tube). Use the other 0.5 mL to saturate a cotton bud and paint the inside of the infant's mouth.

2.3. Monitoring

Observe for improvement or presence of fungal infection

2.4. Storage and Stability

Store nystatin oral drops at room temperature, at or below 25°C

Once opened, discard after 7 days

2.5. Competency for Administration

This procedure is carried out by, or under, the direct supervision of a registered nurse/registered midwife who holds current Te Whatu Ora Waikato Generic Medicine Management.

3. Associated Documents

- Waikato DHB NICU guideline [Antibiotic usage in Newborn Unit](#) (Ref. 1659)
- Waikato DHB NICU guideline [Candida Infections and Antifungal Treatment in NICU](#) guideline (Ref. 6449)

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4. References

- Australian Neonatal Medicines Formulary. Nystatin Drug Guideline 2022, available from: www.anmfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Nystatin_ANMFv5.0_20221020.pdf
- New Zealand Formulary for Children (NZFC), version 137, November 2023. Nystatin (oromucosal). Available from: https://www.nzfchildren.org.nz/nzf_6202
- Auckland DHB guideline Nystatin for use in newborn intensive care. 2020. Available from <https://www.starship.org.nz/guidelines/nystatin/>
- Canterbury DHB Neonatal Services. Nystatin Drug Information sheet, available from <https://edu.cdhb.health.nz/Hospitals-Services/Health-Professionals/Neonatal-Clinical-Resources/Neonatal-Drug-Information-Sheets/Documents/Nystatin-236729.pdf>
- Datasheet for Nilstat oral drops. Pharmacy Retailing (NZ) Ltd, May 2019. Accessed via Medsafe <https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/datasheet/n/nilstatcapdrpowdtabcrintvagcr.pdf>

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