

## **The 3Ts Formulary**

### **GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF INTRAVENOUS PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS (PPIs)**

#### **IV Omeprazole may ONLY be used for the following:**

- **Patients who are haemodynamically unstable with major haematemesis and/or brisk melaena awaiting urgent endoscopy .**
- **Patients, who at endoscopy, are found to have a peptic ulcer deemed to be at high risk of rebleeding and have had endoscopic therapy.**  
These are actively bleeding ulcers or non-bleeding ulcers with a visible vessel.

#### **Dose;**

**Initially 80mg IV;** given as 40mg omeprazole in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% infused over 20 – 30 minutes, then repeat.

**Followed by IV continuous infusion of 8mg/hr for 72 hours.**<sup>(1)</sup> Given as 40mg omeprazole in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% or 5% dextrose; infuse at 20ml (8mg) per hour over 5 hours for a total of 72 hours.

(A total of 15 infusion bags will need to be prepared - only prepare each bag immediately before use as there is no stability data beyond 5 hours.)

As half-life is increased in patients with impaired hepatic function, the dose requires adjustment.

#### **IV PPIs SHOULD NOT be used for:**

- **Patients who can eat or drink or take other oral medications**
- **Patients who are nil by mouth/awaiting surgery**  
Prescribe Ranitidine 50mg tds IV or if these patients are deemed to require a PPI they should be prescribed Lansoprazole FasTab 30mg daily. These tablets can be dissolved on the tongue and are swallowed with the patient's own saliva.
- **Patients with NG or PEG tubes**  
Lansoprazole FasTabs (may be dispersed in water) or Ranitidine Liquid may be given via these routes. Dose should be according to indication.

#### *References:*

1. Lau.J et al Effect of Intravenous Omeprazole on recurrent bleeding after endoscopic treatment of bleeding peptic ulcers. August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2000 New Eng. J. of Med. Vol 343 :310 – 316.
2. Losec infusion (Astra Zeneca) Electronic Medicines Compendium (accessed 27<sup>th</sup> April 2005)

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