

Colistin (Colistimethate)

Colistin is a polymixin antibiotic. It has activity against susceptible *Acinetobacter* and *Pseudomonas* but no activity against *Proteus*, *Serratia*, *Providencia*, *Burkholderia*, Gram-negative cocci, Gram-positive organisms, or anaerobes.

Acceptable uses

- Management of infections due to multi-drug resistant *Acinetobacter* and *Pseudomonas* on a case-by-case basis. ID consult strongly advised.

Unacceptable uses

- Monotherapy for empiric treatment of suspected gram-negative infections
- Prophylactic therapy

Dose

5-15 mg/kg/day divided into 2-3 doses, adjust for renal function and dialysis (see Table)

Toxicity

- Renal impairment, neuromuscular blockade, neurotoxicity
- Monitor creatinine a minimum of twice weekly.