



## CLINICAL GUIDELINE

# Oral Metronidazole, promoting appropriate use

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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<b>Lead Author:</b>	Rachael Rodger
<b>Approval Group:</b>	Antimicrobial Utilisation Committee

### 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.

# **THINK** before you prescribe or administer **IV METRONIDAZOLE** could my patient have **ORAL THERAPY?**



Metronidazole has excellent **ORAL** bioavailability reaching **95-100%**

If your **PATIENT** meets the following criteria:



- ✓ **Oral route reliably available**
- ✓ **Gut absorption not compromised**
- ✓ **No clinical deterioration/ systemic sepsis**



Consider **SWITCH** from **IV** to **ORAL** metronidazole– **GO GREEN!**

**ADVANTAGES** of the **ORAL** route:

- ✓ **Improved antimicrobial stewardship**
- ✓ **Reduced patient risk of **IV** line infections & thrombophlebitis**
- ✓ **More patient friendly: improved comfort & mobility**
- ✓ **Reduced nursing & medical workload**
- ✓ **Reduced cost-**IV** route **27 times** more expensive than tablets**
- ✓ **Improved sustainability & reduced plastic waste**

For further advice on **IV** to **ORAL** antibiotic **SWITCH** options see NHSGGC **IVOST** policy

