

see section Special precaution for disposal and other handling.

Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to teicoplanin or to any of the excipient.

Special warnings and precaution for use

Hypersensitivity reactions

Serious, life-threatening hypersensitivity reactions, sometimes fatal, have been reported with teicoplanin (e.g. anaphylactic shock). If an allergic reaction to teicoplanin occurs, treatment should be discontinued immediately and appropriate emergency measures should be initiated. Teicoplanin must be administered with caution in patients with known hypersensitivity to vancomycin, as crossed hypersensitivity reactions, including fatal anaphylactic shock, may occur.

However, a prior history of the “Red Man Syndrome” that can occur with vancomycin is not a contraindication to teicoplanin.

Infusion related reactions

In rare cases (even at the first dose), red man syndrome (a complex of symptoms including pruritus, urticaria, erythema, angioneurotic oedema, tachycardia, hypotension, dyspnoea) has been observed.

Stopping or slowing the infusion may result in cessation of these reactions. Infusion related reactions can be limited if the daily dose is not given via bolus injection but infused over a 30-minute period.

Severe bullous reactions

Life-threatening or even fatal cutaneous reactions Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) have been reported with the use of teicoplanin. If symptoms or signs of SJS or TEN (e.g. progressive skin rash often with blisters or mucosal lesions) are present teicoplanin treatment should be discontinued immediately.

Spectrum of antibacterial activity

Teicoplanin has a limited spectrum of antibacterial activity (Gram-positive). It is not suitable for use as a single agent for the treatment of some types of infections unless the pathogen is already documented and known to be susceptible or there is a high suspicion that the most likely pathogen(s) would be suitable for treatment with teicoplanin. The rational use of teicoplanin should take into account the bacterial spectrum of activity, the safety profile and the suitability of standard antibacterial therapy to treat the individual patient. On this basis it is expected that in most instances teicoplanin will be used to treat severe infections in patients for whom standard antibacterial activity is considered to be unsuitable.

Loading dose regimen

Since data on safety are limited, patients should be carefully monitored for adverse reactions when teicoplanin doses of 12mg/kg body weight twice a day are administered. Under this regimen blood creatinine values should be monitored in addition to the recommended periodic haematological examination.

Teicoplanin should not be administered by intraventricular use.

Thrombocytopenia

Thrombocytopenia has been reported with teicoplanin. Periodic haematological examinations are recommended during treatment, including complete cell blood count.

Nephrotoxicity

Renal failure has been reported in patients treated with teicoplanin. Patients with renal insufficiency, and/or in those receiving teicoplanin in conjunction with or sequentially with other medicinal products with known nephrotoxic potential (aminoglycosides, colistin, amphotericin B, ciclosporin, and cisplatin) should be carefully monitored, and should include auditory tests.

Since teicoplanin is mainly excreted by the kidney, dose of teicoplanin must be adapted in patients with renal impairment.

Ototoxicity

As with other glycopeptides, ototoxicity (deafness and tinnitus) has been reported in patients treated with teicoplanin. Patients who develop signs and symptoms of impaired hearing or disorders of the inner ear during treatment with teicoplanin should be carefully evaluated and monitored, especially in case of prolonged treatment and in patients with renal insufficiency. Patients receiving teicoplanin in conjunction with or sequentially with other medicinal products with known neurotoxic/ototoxic potential (aminoglycosides, ciclosporin, cisplatin, furosemide and ethacrynic acid) should be carefully monitored and the benefit of teicoplanin evaluated if hearing deteriorates.

Special precautions must be taken when administering teicoplanin in patients who require concomitant treatment with ototoxic and/or nephrotoxic medicinal products for which it is recommended that regular haematology, liver and kidney function tests are carried out.

Superinfection

As with other antibiotics, the use of teicoplanin, especially if prolonged, may result in overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms. If superinfection occurs during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

Interaction with other medicinal product and other form of interaction:

No specific interaction studies have been performed.

Teicoplanin and aminoglycoside solutions are incompatible and must not be mixed for injection; however, they are compatible in dialysis fluid and may be freely used in the treatment of CAPD-related peritonitis. Teicoplanin should be used with care in conjunction with or sequentially with other medicinal products with known nephrotoxic or ototoxic potential. These include aminoglycosides, colistin, amphotericin B, ciclosporin, cisplatin, furosemide, and ethacrynic acid. However, there is no evidence of synergistic toxicity in combinations with teicoplanin.

Teicoplanin has been administered to many patients already receiving various medications including other antibiotics, antihypertensives, anaesthetic agents, cardiac medicinal products and antidiabetic agents without evidence of adverse interaction.

Paediatric population

Interaction studies have only been performed in adults.

Pregnancy, Lactation and Fertility

Pregnancy

There are a limited amount of data from the use of teicoplanin in pregnant women. Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity at high doses: in rats there was an increased incidence of stillbirths and neonatal mortality. The potential risk for humans is unknown. Therefore, teicoplanin should not be used during pregnancy unless clearly necessary. A potential risk of inner ear and renal damage to the foetus cannot be excluded.

Breast-feeding

It is unknown whether teicoplanin is excreted in human milk. There is no information on the excretion of teicoplanin in animal milk. A decision on whether to continue/discontinue breast-feeding or to continue/discontinue therapy with teicoplanin should be made taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding to the child and the benefit of teicoplanin therapy to the mother.

Fertility

Animal reproduction studies have not shown evidence of impairment of fertility.

Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Teicoplanin has minor influence on the ability to drive and use machines. Teicoplanin can cause dizziness and headache. The ability to drive or use machines may be affected. Patients experiencing these undesirable effects should not drive or use machines.

Undesirable side effects

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

In the table below all the adverse reactions, which occurred at an incidence greater than placebo and more than one patient are listed using the following convention:

Very common; common, uncommon, rare, very rare, not known

Within each frequency grouping, undesirable effects are presented in order of decreasing seriousness.

Adverse reactions should be monitored when teicoplanin doses of 12 mg/kg body weight twice a day are administered.

System organ class	Common	Uncommon	Rare	Very rare	Not known
Infections and infestations			Abscess		Superinfection (overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms)
Blood and the lymphatic system disorders		Leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, eosinophilia			Agranulocytosis, neutropenia

Immune system disorders		Anaphylactic reaction (anaphylaxis)			Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS), anaphylactic shock
Nervous system disorders		Dizziness, headache			Seizures
Ear and Labyrinth disorders		Deafness, hearing loss, tinnitus, vestibular disorder			
Vascular disorders		Phlebitis			Thrombophlebitis
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders		Bronchospasm			
Gastro - intestinal disorders		Dianhoea, vomiting, nausea			
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Rash, erythema, pruritus		Red man syndrome (e.g. Flushing of the upper part of the body)		Toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, erythema multiforme, angioedema, dermatitis exfoliative, urticaria
Renal and Urinary disorders		Blood creatinine increased			Renal failure (including renal failure acute)
General disorders and administration site conditions	Pain, pyrexia				Injection site abscess, chills (rigors)
Investigations		Transaminases increased (transient abnormality of transaminases), blood alkaline phosphatase increased (transient abnormality of alkaline phosphatase), blood creatinine increased (transient rise of serum creatinine)			

Overdose:

Symptoms

Cases of accidental administration of excessive doses to paediatric patients have been reported. In one case agitation occurred in a 29-day-old newborn who had been administered 400 mg intravenously (95 mg/kg).

Management

Treatment of teicoplanin overdose should be symptomatic.

Teicoplanin is not removed by haemodialysis and only slowly by peritoneal dialysis.

Pharmaceutical Properties:

Pharmacodynamic properties:

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Glycopeptide antibacterials, ATC Code: J01XA02

Mechanism of action

Teicoplanin inhibits the growth of susceptible organisms by interfering with cell-wall biosynthesis at a site different from that affected by beta-lactams. Peptidoglycan synthesis is blocked by specific binding to D-alanyl-D-alanine residues.

Mechanism of resistance

Resistance to teicoplanin can be based on the following mechanisms:

- Modified target structure: this form of resistance has occurred particularly in Enterococcus faecium. The modification is based on exchange of the terminal D-alanine-D-alanine function of the amino-acid chain in a murein precursor with D-Ala-D-lactate, thus reducing the affinity to vancomycin. The responsible enzymes are a newly synthesised D-lactate dehydrogenase or ligase.
- The reduced sensitivity or resistance of staphylococci to teicoplanin is based on the overproduction of murein precursors to which teicoplanin is bound.

Cross-resistance between teicoplanin and the glycoprotein vancomycin may occur. A number of vancomycin-resistant enterococci are sensitive to teicoplanin (Van-B phenotype).

Susceptibility testing breakpoints

The MICs breakpoints according to the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST), version 13.0, January 1st, 2023 are displayed in the following table:

Microorganism	MIC Breakpoints (mg/L)	
	Susceptible S ≤	Resistant R >
<i>S. aureus</i> ¹	2	2
Coagulase -negative staphylococci	4	4
<i>Enterococcus</i> spp.	2	2
Streptococcus groups A, B, C, G ¹	2	2
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> ¹	2	2
Viridans group streptococci ¹	2	2
PK-PD(Non species related) breakpoints	IE	IE

¹Resistant isolates are rare or not yet reported. The identification and antimicrobial susceptibility test result on any such isolate must be confirmed and the isolate sent to a reference laboratory.

PK-PD indicates Pharmacokinetics-Pharmacodynamics

IE Indicates that there is insufficient evidence that the organism or group is a good target for therapy with agent A MIC with a comment but without an accompanying S, I or R categorization may be reported.

Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic relationship

Teicoplanin antimicrobial activity depends essentially on the duration of time during which the substance level is higher than the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of the pathogen.

Susceptibility

The prevalence of resistance may vary geographically and over time for selected species and local information on resistance is desirable, particularly when treating severe infections. As necessary, expert advice should be sought when the local prevalence of resistance is such that the utility of the agent in at least some of types of infections is questionable.

Commonly susceptible species
<i>Aerobic Gram -positive bacteria</i> <i>Corynebacterium jeikeium</i> ^a <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (including methicillin -resistant strains) <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> <i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i> subsp. <i>equisimilis</i> ^a (Group C & G streptococci) <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> Streptococci in the viridans group ^{a,b} <i>Anaerobic Gram -positive bacteria</i> <i>Clostridium difficile</i> ^a <i>Peptostreptococcus spp.</i> ^a
Species for which acquired resistance may be a problem
<i>Aerobic Gram -positive bacteria</i> <i>Enterococcus faecium</i> <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> <i>Staphylococcus haemolyticus</i> <i>Staphylococcus hominis</i>
Inherently resistant bacteria All Gram -negative bacteria <i>Other bacteria</i> <i>Chlamydia spp.</i> <i>Chlamydophila spp.</i> <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> <i>Mycoplasma spp.</i>
^a No current data were available when the tables were published. The primary literature, standard volumes and treatment recommendations assume sensitivity ^b Collective term for a heterogeneous group of streptococcus species. Resistance rate can vary depending on the actual streptococcus species