

Guideline/Protocol Title:	Inpatient Antibiotic Lock Therapy Adult Guidelines
Revision History and Last revision Date:	12/2020, 1/2023, 8/2024
P&T Approval Date:	11/2024

PURPOSE:	To define patient eligibility for antibiotic lock therapy (ALT) in adult inpatients and outline the workflow for nursing and clinical pharmacy staff.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
Antibiotic lock therapy (ALT) is most commonly considered for adjunctive treatment of bacteremia associated with central venous catheters (CVCs). ALT can also be considered for prophylaxis of bacteremia for certain populations.	

BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALT is most commonly used as an adjunct to systemic antimicrobials for the treatment of catheter-related bloodstream infection (CRBSI, see definition below) where the CVC cannot be removed and salvage of the catheter is desired. Prophylactic use of ALT may be considered for select patients, e.g. patients with recurrent CRBSI. ALT is not intended to be administered via the routes of IV infusion or IV push. Lock solution should generally remain in place (“dwell”) whenever the affected line/lumen is not in use. Efficacy is related to dwell time, and if ALT cannot dwell for at least 4 hours, it is unlikely to be effective. There are situations where catheter salvage is contraindicated (e.g. <i>S. aureus</i> bacteremia, fungemia); in these situations, ALT should not be used instead of catheter removal. If there is concern whether catheter salvage with ALT is appropriate, discussion with the Infectious Diseases (ID) consult service or Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) is recommended. 	

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE	
To develop the guidelines, the sources considered include the references below and input from UCSF ID providers, ID pharmacists, and nursing. This guideline has been reviewed by all key collaborators and their additional recommendations incorporated.	

Reference #	
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5	Justo JA, Bookstaver PB. Antibiotic lock therapy: review of technique and logistical challenges. Infect Drug Resist. 2014;7:343-363. Published 2014 Dec 12. doi:10.2147/IDR.S51388
6	Mermel LA, Allon M, Bouza E, et al. Clinical practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of intravascular catheter-related infection: 2009 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America [published correction appears in Clin Infect Dis. 2010 Apr 1;50(7):1079. Dosage error in

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7	O'Grady NP, Alexander M, Burns LA, et al. Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. Clin Infect Dis. 2011;52(9):e162-e193. doi:10.1093/cid/cir257
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Revision History	
Revision Date	Update(s)
12/2020	Initial guideline developed, approved by P&T
1/2023	Minor revision in verbiage
8/2024	<p>Re-formatted guideline into updated guideline format.</p> <p>Updated stability/expiration information to 72h for all locks to account for entire interdialytic period. Added information on diluent used for each lock.</p> <p>Added daptomycin + heparin lock offering.</p> <p>Provided specific directions for how to manage HD vs. non-HD catheters.</p> <p>Minor revisions in verbiage in "Pharmacy Operations" and "Nursing Administration" sections to enhance clarity, including enhanced guidance on managing multiple lumens, dwell time, etc.</p> <p>Added transitions of care considerations.</p> <p>Introduced catheter related bloodstream infection (CRBSI) terminology</p> <p>Updated references as appropriate.</p> <p>Removed ALT recipes from guideline (Master Formula Records to be stored in Focal Pointe).</p>

- I. PATIENT ELIGIBILITY
 - a. Catheter related bloodstream infection (CRBSI) of a permanent tunneled or surgically implanted central venous catheter
 - b. Prophylaxis for recurrent CRBSIs in high-risk patients
 - c. ID consult or ASP approval is recommended.
- II. CONTRAINDICATIONS

- a. History of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT) for ALT-containing heparin. Gentamicin lock is an exception as it does not contain heparin.
- b. Allergy to any component of the lock.
- c. Personal or religious exclusion to ingestion of pork components if lock contains heparin. Gentamicin lock is an exception as it does not contain heparin.
- d. Resistance to ALT antibiotic demonstrated via antibiotic susceptibility testing.
- e. Catheter tunnel or exit site infection.
- f. Relative contraindication: Peripherally inserted central catheter or other non-tunneled CVCs, where line removal may be preferred (discuss use with ID/ASP if removal is not feasible).

III. ALT DOSES

- a. See table below
- b. Other antibiotic locks may be considered per ID/ASP as needed
- c. Drug shortages may affect the availability of lock therapy

Antibiotic	Antibiotic Concentration (mg/mL)	Anticoagulant Concentration	Diluent	Expiration*
Cefazolin	10 mg/mL	Heparin 10 units/mL	0.9% NaCl	72 hours
Ceftazidime	10 mg/mL	Heparin 10 units/mL	0.9% NaCl	72 hours
Gentamicin	2.5 mg/mL	Sodium Citrate 40 mg/mL (4%)	N/A	72 hours
Linezolid	1 mg/mL	Heparin 10 units/mL	0.9% NaCl	72 hours
Vancomycin	2 mg/mL	Heparin 10 units/mL	0.9% NaCl	72 hours
Daptomycin	5 mg/mL	Heparin 10 units/mL	Lactated Ringers	72 hours

*Expiration reflects the time before which the ALT dwell must be completed

d. Catheter and Volume Selection

Catheter Type	Volume per Lumen
Tunneled Central Catheter (e.g. Broviac, Hickman, Groshong, etc), tunneled hemodialysis (HD) catheters	2 mL
Implanted Vascular Access Port (e.g. Port-A-Cath)	5 mL

e. Dwell Time and Exchange Frequency

i. Non-HD tunneled central catheters:

1. Duration of dwell time should not exceed 24 hours. Lock solution should generally remain in place (dwelling) as long as possible, whenever the affected line/lumen is not in use (minimum dwell time is 4 hours). The number of ALT exchanges per day (e.g. order frequency: q24h, q12h, q8h, etc) should be coordinated between pharmacy and the RN. Perform ALT exchange of unused lumens at least daily, clustered with lumen patency assessment and flushing (i.e., aspirate and discard old lock, flush with NS, instill new lock).
2. Pharmacy and nursing should work to cluster required medications, lab draws, and/or blood products to minimize catheter use and maximize ALT dwell times.
3. ALT should be instilled into all lumens of multi-lumen catheters, and each lumen should have a separate order in APeX. If concurrent dwelling is not feasible, consider alternating lumens that are in use vs. locked with ALT.

ii. HD Catheters

1. ALT solution should dwell until the next HD session. ALT solution should be aspirated prior to dialysis. A new lock should be placed in each lumen after dialysis. Lock solution

should generally remain in place (dwelling) whenever the affected line/lumen is not in use.

2. ALT should be instilled into all lumens of multi-lumen catheters, and each lumen should have a separate order in APeX.

IV. PHARMACY OPERATIONS

- a. Pharmacy to begin preparation when either:
 - i. Hemodialysis RN requests ALT upon patient arrival in dialysis (HD catheters only), OR
 - ii. ALT dispense automatically triggered at time/frequency specified in the ALT order (non-HD catheters only)
- b. Pharmacy to send 2 mL of antibiotic lock solution in a 10 mL syringe for each lumen of a tunneled catheter.
- c. Pharmacy to send 5 mL of antibiotic lock solution in a 10 mL syringe for each lumen of an implanted vascular access port (e.g. Port-A-Cath).
- d. Storage: Room temperature (23-25°C).
- e. Label warnings: For antibiotic lock therapy into CVC lumen only.

V. NURSING ADMINISTRATION

- a. ALT for HD catheters should be requested by hemodialysis RNs upon patient arrival in the dialysis unit.
- b. ALT for non-HD catheters will be prepared and dispensed at the time/frequency specified in the ALT order (e.g every 24 hours, etc).
- c. To place antibiotic lock therapy:
 - i. Inspect ALT for precipitation. If precipitation is noted, discard syringe and contact pharmacy to re-make the product.
 - ii. If ALT already in place, aspirate and discard volume of ALT plus 1-2 mL.
 - iii. Flush with 10mL NS syringe.
 - iv. Instill ALT solution.
 - v. Clamp catheter and allow antibiotic lock to dwell as long as possible.
 - vi. Label ALT locked lumen: "DO NOT USE- Antibiotic Lock In Place"
 - vii. Specify lumen in eMAR and document ALT in IV Assessments flowsheet "Lumen Status" row.
 - viii. When dwell time is complete, aspirate and discard volume of ALT plus 1-2 mL.

VI. DISCHARGE PLANNING

- a. Home infusion companies may not offer antibiotic locks, or may offer antibiotic locks that differ from those available inpatient at UCSF Health.
- b. Please confirm availability and adjust therapy plan as appropriate prior to discharge.

VII. DEFINITIONS

- a. Catheter-related bloodstream infection (CRBSI): bacteremia or fungemia in a patient who has an intravascular device, a positive peripheral blood culture, clinical manifestations of infection (e.g. fever, chills, and/or hypotension), and no apparent source for bloodstream infection other than the catheter. At UCSF, diagnosis is by differential time to positivity (DTTP), where growth in a culture drawn from the catheter is detected by an automated blood culture system two hours earlier than a simultaneously collected peripheral blood culture.
- b. Exit site infection: erythema, induration, or tenderness within 2 cm of catheter exit site, with or without microbiological growth of an organism from exudate from the site. A contraindication to catheter salvage.
- c. Tunnel infection: tenderness, erythema, or induration extending beyond 2 cm from the catheter exit site involving the subcutaneous tract of a tunneled line. A contraindication to catheter salvage.