

Appendix C to RANZCO Guidelines for Performing Intravitreal Therapy

Endophthalmitis pack

Keep this page inside pack (plastic bag) containing all of following Check expiry every 6 months and replenish after use.

Pack contents:

Xylocaine 2% (with or without adrenaline 1 in 100,000)
Vancomycin – 1 ampoule 500mg
Ceftazidime (Fortum) – 1 ampoule 1g
Sterile lid speculum
Sterile toothed forceps
Intravitreal injection pack (if needed)
Sterile gloves
Povidone-iodine 5%
Syringes (with spares) – 10ml x2, 5ml x 4, 2ml x3, 1ml x 4
Needles (with spares) – 30 gauge x5, 18G drawing up x 3, 23 gauge x 2
Sterile cap for syringe (for vitreous sample)
Normal saline (10ml) for injection – 5 ampoules
Local pathology request form and specimen bag

Technique

1. Prepare antibiotics before tap and inject procedure.
 - (a) Dilute vancomycin 500mg ampoule in 5mls of normal saline in the vial (=100mg/ml). Further dilute (in 5ml syringe) 1ml of this solution in 4mls of saline to give 5mls of 20mg/ml solution. Draw up 0.1ml of this in 1ml syringe (2mg in 0.1ml) ready for injection into the eye (30 G needle).
 - (b) Dilute Ceftazidime 1g in 5mls of saline in the vial (= 200mg/ml). Further dilute 1ml of this with 9mls. of saline to give 10mls of 20mg/ml solution. Draw up in 1ml syringe 0.1ml of this solution (2mg in 0.1ml) ready for injection into the eye (30 G needle).
2. Inject subconjunctival local anaesthetic in the area of tap and inject then apply topical betadine. Once anaesthetic is active, place eyelid speculum.
3. With 23 gauge needle on 1 or 2ml syringe, insert needle through pars plana into mid vitreous cavity, and aspirate tap sample (~0.3 ml).
4. Inject vancomycin 0.1ml (2mg) through pars plana (toothed forceps often required to stabilize the eye which is now softer after the tap).
5. Inject ceftazidime 0.1ml (2mg) as above.
6. Send specimen for urgent microscopy / culture / sensitivity
7. Commence intensive topical steroids and topical antibiotics +/- oral antibiotics +/- oral steroids.