



**UAB COA Center for
Advanced Intestinal
Rehabilitation**

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Fever with Central Line

Letter for Families to present to Emergency room staff or primary physician

Date:

Dear Physician:

_____ is a patient followed at the UAB COA Center for Advanced Intestinal Rehabilitation at Children's Hospital of Alabama. We ask our patients and their families to contact us directly with any health concerns. However, we have reinforced the need for close monitoring and medical evaluation for:

1) Presence of a Central line and fever greater than 38 degrees Centigrade, 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, chills associated with Central Venous Catheter flushing or infusion

- We have asked that any of our patients that present with a fever and suspected central line infection receive empiric antibiotics (Vancomycin and Cefepime) after obtaining blood cultures through their central line and peripherally, even if a source of infection other than the central line is possible.

Initial evaluation also includes:

- CBC with diff, renal panel, CRP, urinalysis and urine culture

Additional evaluation should be individualized, and may include:

- Liver profile and PT/INR and PTT (if the patient has known liver disease, is icteric, or has suspected DIC)
- Stool cultures if the patient has excessive stool output (over his/her baseline) and/or dehydration.
- Imaging (i.e. chest x-ray or abdominal x-ray)

We typically admit these patients to the hospital for 48 hours pending culture results on antibiotics:

1. Vancomycin: 15 mg/kg IV every 6 hours administered over at least 60 minutes; maximum 500 mg/dose

AND

2. Cefepime: 50 mg/kg IV every 8 hours to a maximum of 2g/dose



For penicillin allergic patients, please administer in place of Cefepime:

- Meropenem: 20 mg/kg/IV every 8 hours, maximum 1 g every 8 hours

For patients truly allergic to Vancomycin (not Red man's syndrome), please administer:

- Linezolid 10 mg/kg/dose every 8 hours (<12 y/o) or every 12 hours (12 years or older)

- 2) Significant bleeding (more than a tablespoon) from their GI tract or equipment (central line)**
- 3) Show signs of significant dehydration (no urine output for 12 hours, sunken eyes, or lethargy) they should receive appropriate fluid resuscitation.**
- 4) Repetitive vomiting (more than twice in an hour)**

Should _____ resent to you with any of these or other significant complaints, please contact our office during weekdays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm at 205-638-2062 and ask to speak to Linda Wilkinson or one of the managing physicians.

During any other time please contact the Surgery Fellow on call through the operator at Children's of Alabama at 205-638-9100.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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