

azithromycin (Zithromax) 2 mg/mL in D5W IV syringe/IVPB (PEDS)

***Use this mixing instructions sheet only when azithromycin (Zithromax) 500 mg/250 mL D5W point of care device is unavailable.**

SUPPLIES *include quantity and medication name, strength/concentration, volume, diluent, diluent volume, and quantity and name of each supply needed*

NS flush syringes are never to be used for reconstitution/diluent for medication.

Reconstituted solution is for single patient use only.

- One (1) azithromycin 500 mg powder vial
- One (1) Sterile Water for Injection (SWFI) 10 mL vial
- One (1) Dextrose 5% in Water (D5W) 250 mL bag
- Alcohol Swabs
- Four (4) 18-gauge needles preferred (20-23 gauge needles acceptable)
- Three (3) 10 mL sterile IV syringes
- One (1) appropriate sterile IV syringe size if ordered dose volume is less than or equal to 50 mL
- One (1) empty, sterile IV container 250 mL and one (1) 50 mL sterile IV syringe if ordered dose volume is greater than 50 mL
- Nursing IV admixture label(s) – Lawson # 626

STEPS *explicitly state each step in chronological order, including hand washing, gown/garb, alcohol swab, etc.)*

1. Wash hands. Prepare/clean the designated mixing area.
2. Flip the cap off of the azithromycin 500 mg powder vial and SWFI 10 mL vial, wipe the rubber stoppers and the injection port of the D5W bag with alcohol swabs.
3. Attach 18 gauge needle to syringe. Withdraw 4.8 mL from the 10 mL SWFI vial and transfer into azithromycin vial to reconstitute. Gently agitate to mix. Discard syringe with needle into a sharp container.
4. Attach 18 gauge needle to syringe. Withdraw 5 mL from D5W 250 mL bag and discard syringe with needle into a sharp container.
5. Attach 18 gauge needle to syringe. Withdraw 5 mL of reconstituted azithromycin and transfer into the D5W bag. Discard syringe with needle into a sharp container.
6. Gently invert bag to mix. Do not shake. Visually inspect solution (e.g. free of inappropriate visible particulates or other foreign matter, discoloration, and defect), and the container integrity is intact. Discard if any defects.
7. Label the azithromycin 500 mg/250 mL D5W bag (floor stock bag) with:
 - a. Drug name, strength, and dose (if not apparent by the container)
 - b. Diluent and volume (if not apparent by the container)
 - c. Hang-by date and time (**Administration must begin within 1 hour from the time of compounding**)
 - d. Initials of person compounding
8. Attach 18 gauge needle to syringe and withdraw patient-specific ordered dose volume from floor stock bag and transfer into:
 - a. A syringe if ordered dose volume is less than or equal to 50 mL
 - b. An empty IV container 250 mL if ordered dose volume is greater than 50 mL. Wipe the injection port of the empty container prior to transferring dose.
9. Discard the floor stock bag once dose is withdrawn.
10. Visually inspect syringe containing patient-specific dose for particulate matter/defects. Discard if any defects.
11. Label the final IV syringe/IVPB with the following information:
 - a. Patient name and location
 - b. Drug name, strength, and dose (if not apparent by the container)
 - c. Diluent and volume (if not apparent by the container)
 - d. Hang-by date and time (**Administration must begin within 1 hour from the time of dose withdrawn from floor stock bag**)
 - e. Initials of person compounding

References

- azithromycin [prescribing information]. Athenex Pharmaceutical Division, LLC. Revised: 12/2021.
<https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/fda/fdaDrugXsl.cfm?setid=610a34ea-6aa7-4b94-a85a-ff16ca537d03&type=display>.
- United States Pharmacopeia (USP). General Chapter, <797> Pharmaceutical Compounding—Sterile Preparations. (2023) USP-NF. Rockville, MD: United States Pharmacopeia.
<https://ochsnerhealth.sharepoint.com/sites/ClinicalResources/SiteAssets/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FClinicalResources%2FSiteAssets%2FSitePages%2FRegulatory%2DReadiness%2FUSP%2D797%2DOfficial%2D11%2E1%2E23%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2FClinicalResources%2FSiteAssets%2FSitePages%2FRegulatory%2DReadiness>.