

## **Intravenous proton pump inhibitors for gastric anti-secretory treatment**

### WHAT DOES THE GUIDANCE SAY?

Intravenous proton pump inhibitors (omeprazole and pantoprazole injections) are recommended for listing on the Standard Drug List (SDL) for government subsidy for gastric anti-secretory treatment when oral therapies cannot be used.

### WHAT ARE PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS?

Proton pump inhibitors, or PPIs, stop cells that line the stomach from producing too much acid. This can help prevent ulcers from forming or help to heal acid damage to the stomach and oesophagus.

There are many types of PPIs including omeprazole, pantoprazole and esomeprazole. They are usually taken orally but can be given through a vein (intravenous infusion) if oral treatment is unsuitable.

### HOW MUCH PPI CAN I TAKE?

PPIs are generally taken orally. If an intravenous PPI is required because oral therapy is unsuitable, your doctor will determine the appropriate dose for you.

### WHO CAN HAVE AN INTRAVENOUS PPI?

People can have an intravenous PPI (omeprazole or pantoprazole injection) if oral therapies are unsuitable and they need to reduce acid production in the stomach to:

- Treat or prevent relapse of gastric or duodenal ulcers, or
- Treat Zollinger-Ellison syndrome.

Your doctor will advise if an intravenous PPI is suitable for you.

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### WHY WERE THEY RECOMMENDED FOR SDL?

ACE evaluates how well a treatment works in relation to how much it costs compared to other treatments. Omeprazole and pantoprazole injections were recommended because their benefits in preventing and healing ulcers for people who cannot have oral therapies justifies their costs.

Esomeprazole injection was not recommended for subsidy because its benefits do not justify its cost compared to omeprazole and pantoprazole injections.

### WHAT DOES LISTING ON THE SDL MEAN FOR ME?

Drugs on the Standard Drug List (SDL) represent therapies essential for managing common diseases affecting the majority of patients in Singapore.

They are subsidised at 50% for all Singaporean citizens who are treated in a public healthcare institution. Patients from lower to middle income households may receive a higher subsidy of up to 75%.

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ACE is the national health technology assessment agency under the Ministry of Health (Singapore). It publishes guidances on diagnosing, treating, and preventing different medical conditions based on the latest research information available worldwide.

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