

# Gentamicin Bladder Irrigation

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## What is gentamicin bladder irrigation?

Gentamicin is an antibiotic medicine that treats or prevents urinary tract infections (UTIs). You can give it directly into the bladder through a catheter. This is called bladder irrigation. It treats UTIs when antibiotics taken by mouth don't work.

## How will I give my child gentamicin bladder irrigation?

You will make the medicine at home and the catheter will deliver the medicine.

Follow these steps:

1. Put the catheter into your child's urethra. You will put the catheter into the bladder through your child's urethra (where the pee comes out) or the channel where the catheter goes (Mitrofanoff channel).
2. Once the catheter is in the bladder and let all the urine drain out. Leave the catheter in the bladder.
3. Attach the Gentamicin-filled catheter tip syringe into the end of the catheter. Push the syringe plunger in and push the medicine into the bladder.

Let the medicine stay in the bladder for the prescribed amount of time. Then drain the bladder all the way using the catheter.

## Where can I have my child's prescription filled?

A prepared bladder irrigation is only available through a pharmacy that can make sterile products. Not all pharmacies can make these types of products.

If you can't find a pharmacy to make the sterile product for you, Seattle Children's Hospital Outpatient Pharmacy and Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy can give you the supplies to make a bladder irrigation at home.

If your child will use this medicine long-term, call the Urology nurses at **206-987-2509** to start a supply order for the piston syringes.

## What supplies do I need if I make the gentamicin irrigation at home?

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|--|----------------------|
| 1. Gentamicin, (80 mg)/2 mL vial (multi-dose)                  | 5. Syringe, 30 mL    |
| 2. Sodium chloride 0.9%, 50 mL vial                            | 6. Needle, 18 gauge  |
| 3. Needle and syringe, 1 mL 30G ½" (inch)                      | 7. Alcohol prep pads |
| 4. Piston syringe and plunger (provided by the Urology Clinic) | 8. Disposable gloves |
|  | 9. Sharps container  |

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### To Learn More

- Urology  
206-987-2509
- Seattle Children's Pharmacy  
206-987-2138
- Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy  
206-884-9120
- [seattlechildrens.org/patient-education](http://seattlechildrens.org/patient-education)

### Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.



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See photograph below for images of supplies needed for the irrigation. Sharps container not pictured.



### How do I make the irrigation solution?

You will need to mix the irrigation solution right before you use it each time. To make the solution:

1. Remove the caps from gentamicin and sodium chloride vials.
2. Remove the alcohol pad from the package. Wipe the tops of both vials with the pad. Throw the pad away.
3. Remove the 30G 1/2" eclipse needle and 1 mL syringe from package. Attach the needle to the syringe by twisting it on.



4. Remove the syringe cap.
5. Draw up air into the syringe to the 0.6 mL mark. You draw up air by slowly pulling back on the syringe until it stops at the 0.6 mL mark.
6. Pierce the gentamicin vial with the needle.
7. Push all the air in the syringe into the vial.

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8. Draw up 0.6 mL of gentamicin into the syringe.



9. Remove the needle from the gentamicin vial.
10. Using the same needle and syringe, pierce the sodium chloride vial.
11. Push all 0.6 mL of gentamicin into the vial.
12. Take out the needle, and put it in a sharps container.
13. Remove the 19-gauge needle and the 30 mL syringe from packaging. Attach the needle to syringe.



14. Draw up air into the syringe to the 30 mL mark.

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15. Pierce the 50 mL vial of gentamicin in sodium chloride with the needle.
16. Draw up 30 mL of medicine mixture by slowly pulling back on the syringe until it's at the 30 mL line on the syringe.

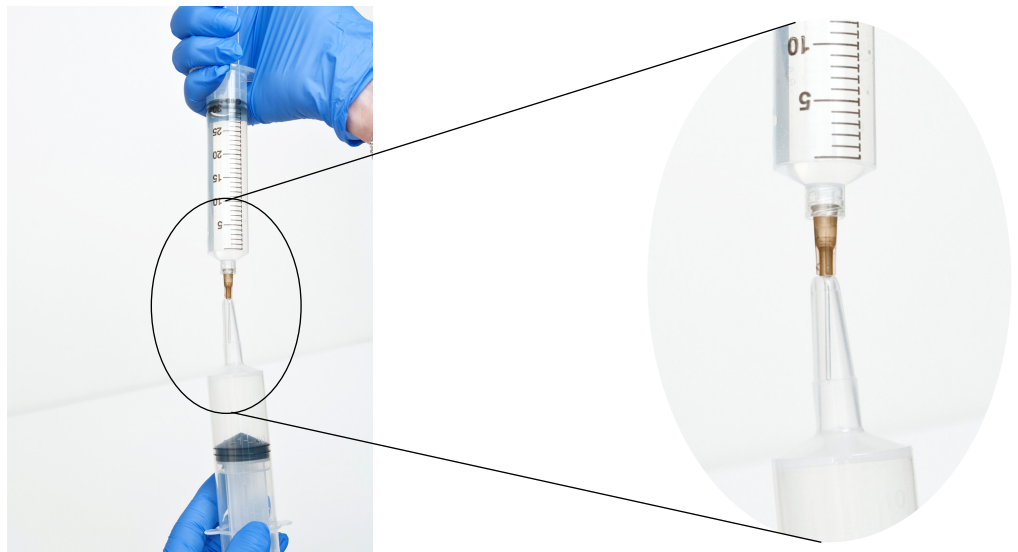


You will need to push 5 to 10 mL of air into the vial alternating with removing 5-10 mL of medicine until 30 mL of medicine is in the syringe.

17. Remove the piston syringe from packaging. Remove the plunger and blue adapter. Replace the plunger into the syringe.



18. Place the 30 mL of medicine into the piston syringe through the tip of the syringe.



### If the dose is 50 mL:

19. Using the same 30 mL syringe and 19-gauge needle, draw up the remaining 20 mL of gentamicin in sodium chloride and place in the piston syringe for a total dose of 50 mL.
20. Discard used needles in a sharps container.



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### Who do I call if I have questions about making the solution?

For questions about making the irrigation solution, call the Seattle Children's Pharmacy at **206-987-2138** or Seattle Children's Bellevue Pharmacy at **206-884-9120**.