



## ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

# HALOPERIDOL

<b>Scope (Staff):</b>	All WNHS Staff
<b>Scope (Area):</b>	Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

### Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

### Restrictions

[Formulary: Restricted](#)

### Medication Class

Antipsychotics (Antipsychotic agent)

### Presentation

#### Oral:

*Tablet:* 500 microg, 5 mg

#### Short-acting Injection:

*Ampoule:* 5 mg/mL

### Storage

Store below 25 °C. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

Protect from light.

### Dose

Refer to KEMH Clinical Guideline: [Palliative care](#)

#### Control of Nausea and Vomiting (Palliative Care)

**Oral:** 0.5–1 mg at night or twice a day

**Nausea and Vomiting caused by Bowel Obstruction (Palliative Care):****Short-acting injection, Continuous subcut infusion:**

1 - 2.5mg in 24 hours

**Short-acting injection, Intermittent subcut injection:**

0.5 – 1mg BD, and 0.5 – 1mg every 4 hours as required. Maximum of 5mg daily.

**Administration**

Refer to the [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#)

**Monitoring**

Monitor vital signs when given by IM or IV injection. Resuscitation facilities must be readily available.

May prolong QT interval. Baseline ECG is recommended. Continuous cardiac monitoring is recommended if repeated doses are given.

Monitor for EPSE (Extrapyramidal side effects)

Sedation level

Weight, BP, Serum lipids, BGLs, Smoking status

Refer to [NPS Antipsychotic Monitoring Tool](#) for further monitoring advice.

**Pregnancy**

**1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:** Monitoring required

**2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:** Monitoring required

**3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:** Monitoring required

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

**Breastfeeding**

Monitoring required

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

**Comments**

Haloperidol not considered first-line in WNHS management of Acute Health Related Behavioural Disturbance/ Psychoses. Refer to clinical guideline: [Management of Mental Health Emergency](#)

Monitoring is important for this medication with emphasis placed on the possibility of EPSE, prolonged QT intervals, sedation (especially in combination with other sedating agents)

Smoking may cause haloperidol to be metabolised differently in the body – dose adjustment may be required should the patient start or stop smoking whilst on this medication

## Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

### HDWA Mandatory Policies:

[Mental Health Charts](#)

### WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Palliative care](#)

[Management of Mental Health Emergency](#)

[Pre-operative Medication Management](#)

### WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Medication Administration](#)

## References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Haloperidol. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 07]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

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The Royal Women's Hospital. Haloperidol. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 07]. Available from: <https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/>

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