

INFLORAN Bifidobacterium bifidum, Lactobacillus acidophilus

Trade Name	Infloran® (Laboratorio Formaceutio, Italy)
Class	Live probiotic
Mechanism of Action	Improving intestinal microbiological flora Increased barrier to bacterial translocation Competition with potential pathogens Enhancing enteral nutrition
Indications	To prevent NEC in those <32 weeks or <1500g at birth
Contraindications	NBM as directed by surgical team or Neonatal SMO due to suspected or confirmed acute surgical abdominal condition ie: NEC, bowel obstruction, enterocolitis Not tolerating enteral feeds - abdominal distension, vomiting, aspirates >50% of feed volume Allergy to milk or lactose Discontinue if high fever is present Use with caution in infants with compromised immune function Patients with short bowel syndrome may be predisposed to pathogenic infection with lactobacillus. Lactobacillus bacteraemia has been reported in an 11 month infant with short gut who received lactobacillus via gastrostomy tube. Use with caution in infants with this condition.
Supplied As	250mg capsule
Dilution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open 1 capsule into a sterile pink pottle at cotside using gloves 2. Add 1mL of milk or sterile water (if insufficient milk available) to the pottle, stir /swirl to dissolve the powder 3. If diluent is sterile water then give between feeds to ensure that the milk feeds are not affected by this extra volume 4. If diluent is milk then give with the feed 5. If EBM/HMF syringes are supplied premade: Dissolve the capsule as above with 1mL of EBM/HMF mixture from the syringe and draw up the milk back into the same syringe before giving the feed
Dosage	One capsule daily until 36 weeks corrected
Interval	Start on the day after birth
Administration	Oral Mix with water, breast milk or milk mixture and see dilution section above for further details
Compatible With	Infloran may be mixed with breastmilk containing HMF
Incompatible With	Do not mix with other medications prior to administration

Interactions	Theoretically the effect of Infloran® could be reduced by concurrent administration of antibiotics. Separate administration of Infloran® and antibiotics by at least 2 hours.
Monitoring	Microbiological surveillance of Infloran product will occur 6 monthly to check safety of the medication
Stability	Discard any unused sterile water/milk/Infloran mixture after 4 hours
Storage	In the fridge below 8 °C
Adverse Reactions	Bloating and flatulence Bacteraemia with lactobacillus species has been reported in 2 cases
Metabolism	Not orally absorbed, distributed mainly in the colon, eliminated in faeces
Comments	Infloran® is not a registered drug product in New Zealand Most NZ NICU's have used Infloran for babies at risk of NEC A parent information sheet is available and should be given to parents prior to starting probiotics (in the same way that we give an info sheet prior to starting HMF). Signed consent not needed.
References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Women's Hospital Newborn Services Protocol 2. Paediatrics 2005:115 (1) 1-4 VLBW infants and Infloran RCT 3. Paediatrics 2008: 122 (4) 693-701 4. Proprem Study 5. www.micromedex.com 6. Natural Medicines Comprehensive data base: www.naturaldatabase.com
Updated By	A Lynn, B Robertshawe, N Austin November 2012, Feb 2013, Dec 2013 (simplify dosing), Aug 2015 (one capsule daily to 36 wks PMA) A Lynn, B Robertshawe, N Austin, H Little July 2017 (use sterile water as diluent, start Day 2) A Lynn, B Robertshawe March 2022 routine review, April 2022 – clarify NBM