

LRI Emergency Department

Standard Operating Procedure for:

Use of Topical Wound Anaesthetic- LAT gel In the Paediatric Emergency Department

Staff relevant to:	ED medical and nursing staff
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Lignocaine, Adrenaline and Tetracaine (LAT) Gel use in ED

Product Information

Lignocaine 4%, Tetracaine 0.5%, Adrenaline 0.1%

Provided in SINGLE use 3ml bottles

Onset 20-30 minutes

Lasts 30-60 min

For topical use on **broken** skin



Uses

- LAT gel is an anaesthetic gel that is safe to apply directly onto and **into** wounds.
- It is suitable for children age over 1 year.
- It is used to provide anaesthesia to allow cleaning and suturing of wounds and abrasions in children and removes the need for injectable anaesthetics.
- Should be used for wounds of the scalp, forehead, chin, limbs or trunk.

Contraindications

- ANY previous reaction to local/ general anaesthetic or known cholinesterase deficiency
- Wound on or near mucus membrane including eye, nose or mouth.
- Wound > 5cm in length
- Concern about tissue viability i.e. crush or flap wounds
- Wounds over 8 hours old
- Obvious injury to associated structures i.e. bone, tendon, blood vessels, joint or nerve
- Wounds to the ear, nose, genitalia or digits should be discussed with a SENIOR Dr (ST4 and above) BEFORE using LAT gel.

This is due to concerns about perfusion and also due to evidence showing **LESS EFFECT** on extremity wounds.

Please see over for treatment pathway

Wound suitable for LAT gel

Simple laceration < 5cm in length

Child > 1 year old

Compliant child (involve play therapist if available)

Parental consent obtained (give info leaflet)

Wound < 8 hours old

Not on an extremity (see contraindications)

Simple analgesia in triage

Apply 0.1 ml/kg of LAT gel to the wound

Max dose 2ml in 1-3 years

Max dose 3ml in OVER 3's

Apply half directly **into** wound and up to 1cm around, half onto gauze cut to size and placed over wound.

Cover with occlusive dressing (Tegaderm)



Wait 20-30 minutes

Remove dressing and test area to be sutured to confirm adequate analgesia

Local anaesthetic may be injected for failures but the TOTAL dose of Lignocaine must not exceed 5mg/kg.

Therefore you may inject an ADDITIONAL 0.1ml/kg of 1% Lignocaine

Wound may now be cleaned thoroughly prior to suturing

(skin that has been numbed will appear blanched)