

## Viral Infections

Illness	Comments	Drug	Dose	Duration of Tx
<i>Note: Doses are oral and for adults unless otherwise stated. Please refer to BNF for further information.</i>				
<b>Varicella zoster/ chickenpox</b>	Pregnant/immunocompromised/neonate: seek urgent specialist advice.	<b>If indicated:</b> Aciclovir	800 mg five times a day	7 days
	<b>Chicken pox:</b> If onset of rash <24hrs & >14yrs or severe pain or dense/oral rash or 2° household case or steroids or smoker consider acyclovir.	<b>Second line for shingles if compliance a problem, as more than ten times the cost</b>		
	<b>Shingles:</b> treat if >50 yrs and within 72 hrs of rash (PHN rare if <50yrs); or if active ophthalmic zoster or Ramsey Hunt syndrome or eczema.	Valaciclovir <b>or</b> Famciclovir	1g TDS	7 days
		250mg TDS	7 days	