



Patient Group Direction for Supply of Chloramphenicol 0.5% Eye Drops under Community Pharmacy Minor Ailment Service.

This Patient Group Direction relates to the following specific preparation:

Name of medicine	Chloramphenicol Eye Drops 0.5%
Legal status	POM
Storage	Store between 2°C and 8°C
Dose	Adults and children 1 years and over - Apply one (1) drop at least every two (2) hours then reduce frequency as infection is controlled and continue for 48 hours after healing
Route/method	Ocular
Frequency	Adults and children 1 years and over - Apply one (1) drop at least every two (2) hours then reduce frequency as infection is controlled and continue for 48 hours after healing
Total dose number	Maximum 5 days treatment (10ml bottle)
Advice	<p>Patient Information Leaflets.</p> <p>Contact lenses should be removed during period of treatment. Continue for at least 48 hours after the eye appears normal. Store in a fridge (between 2-8°), and keep cap tightly closed between applications. Discard 28 days after opening.</p> <p>Occasional : Transient stinging on instillation. Rare : Allergic reaction (persistent burning, swelling of lids)</p>

2. Clinical condition

Clinical Condition to be treated	Conjunctivitis will give the sensation of a gritty or itchy eye or eyes, with possibly a purulent discharge or crusting of the eyelid margins. It will only have been present for a few days and is not associated with any reduction in vision. The affected eye(s) will often look <u>slightly</u> red/infected, but this is not usually very marked. Pain is not a feature of simple conjunctivitis.
Criteria for inclusion	Presentation in Community Pharmacy with a need for treatment of symptoms of bacterial conjunctivitis, and registered for the Minor Ailment Service (MAS).
Criteria for exclusion	<p>Patient not participating in MAS.</p> <p>Children under 1 year.</p> <p>Pregnancy, Breast feeding</p> <p>Known hypersensitivity to chloramphenicol, benzalkonium chloride or disodium edetate.</p>

Action if excluded	<p>Refer to GP</p> <p>Urgent Referral should also be made if patient presents with an eye</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - if painful, rather than itchy or gritty - if reduced visual acuity - if eye looks cloudy - if pus level visible in anterior chamber - if any history of trauma to eye, or grinding, immediately prior to onset of symptoms - if possibility of foreign body on/in eye - if history of welding without eye protection immediately prior to onset of symptoms - if no improvement within 48 hours <p>Routine referral should be considered if patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - pregnant - breast feeding
Action if declines	
Interactions with other medicaments and other forms of interaction	Chymotrypsin will be inhibited if given simultaneously with chloramphenicol.

3. Records

1. **Following to be noted in the computerised patient information record and on the CP 2 form:**
 - Dose, frequency and the quantity supplied
 - Date of supply to patient
2. **Storage:**
 - Standards must be consistent with the Summary of Product Characteristics.

4. Professional Responsibility

- ❖ All Health Professionals will ensure he/she has the relevant training and is competent in all aspects of medication, including contra-indications and the recognition and treatment of adverse effects. He/she will attend training updates as appropriate
- ❖ Nurses will have due regard for the NMC Code of Conduct, Scope of Professional Practice and Standards of Administration for Nurses and other Health Professionals for their own professional Code of Ethics.
- ❖ In the event of a Suspected Adverse Drug Reaction, please complete a yellow card and submits to the MCA. A yellow card can be found at the rear of the BNF. Record findings, advice and actions in person's record.

