

Antibiotic supplies for Group A Strep

This document contains information and actions for community pharmacy, primary care (GP Practices) and GMED Out of Hours Services – please read and disseminate to all relevant colleagues. Information correct at time of production 21/12/22.

COMMUNITY PHARMACIES - Please print and ensure all staff including pharmacists and locum pharmacists have this document made available to them during the festive period.

Please find attached the 5 Department of Health & Social Care [Serious Shortage Protocols](#) (SSP's) (Reference numbers SSP043-SSP047) relating to the ongoing supply issues with phenoxymethylpenicillin.

It is imperative that patients who have been prescribed an antibiotic receive a timely supply of an appropriate medication. As advised previously, it is the responsibility of all healthcare professionals to ensure prompt resolution to any supply issues encountered.

Actions Required

Community Pharmacy Teams:

- All pharmacists should read and familiarise themselves with the SSPs in case they are required to be utilised.
- Patients are to receive timely supply of an appropriate antibiotic.
- Where the prescribed antibiotic is available from your pharmacy, you should supply via usual processes.
- Where phenoxymethylpenicillin is prescribed and is not available pharmacists should use the SSPs, as the legal framework, to supply a clinically appropriate alternative antibiotic.
- Where a patient/carer presents at your pharmacy looking for an acute GP prescription for antibiotics, but you have not received one, Emergency Care Summary (ECS) must be checked to confirm if a medication has been prescribed. Where prescribing is confirmed via ECS the CPUS V29 PGD can be used to supply prescribed antibiotic or a clinically appropriate alternative via the SSPs.
- The above actions should limit the need to contact GMED out of hours, but where a prescription generated by primary care or GMED relating to an antibiotic does require clinician discussion, pharmacies should call 01224 558002.

Clarithromycin Supplies for Community Prescriptions:

- NHS Grampian are providing the secondary care hub pharmacies (listed below) with small supplies of clarithromycin 125mg/5ml and 250mg/5ml solutions (expected deliveries Thursday 22/12). Community Pharmacies may liaise with their nearest hub pharmacy to ensure they can dispense for the patient, or alternatively may obtain required bottles from the hub pharmacy to supply to patients directly.
- Please note there is no charge for this stock so all prescriptions MUST be endorsed as no fee accordingly.

Secondary Care Hub Pharmacies

Bairds, Woodside	Aberdeen	pharm.bairdswoodside4127@nhs.scot	01224 484688/ 01224 487717
Peterculter	Aberdeen	pharm.peterculter4143@nhs.scot	01224 732214
Bairds, Fraserburgh	Aberdeenshire	pharm.bairdsfraserburgh4007@nhs.scot	01346 513372
Largues, Huntly	Aberdeenshire	pharm.largue4310@nhs.scot	01466 792728
Michies, Banchory	Aberdeenshire	pharm.michiebanchory4115@nhs.scot	01330 822524
Michies, Stonehaven	Aberdeenshire	pharm.michiestonehaven4168@nhs.scot	01569 762298
Strachans, Banff	Aberdeenshire	pharm.strachanbanff4121@nhs.scot	01261 812404
Websters, Peterhead	Aberdeenshire	pharm.websterpeterhead4259@nhs.scot	01779 473449
Wills, Inverurie	Aberdeenshire	pharm.wills4317@nhs.scot	01467 620475
Bishopmill, Elgin	Moray	pharm.bishopmill4075@nhs.scot	01343 547393
Roths	Moray	pharm.rothes4145@nhs.scot	01340 831233

- In addition, NHS Grampian is also providing limited clarithromycin supplies to a selection of pharmacies in Grampian who are open 25th/26th December:

Pharmacies open Christmas Day/Boxing Day (limited hours)

Braehead Pharmacy (open 25/12)	Aberdeen
Holburn Pharmacy (open 25/12)	Aberdeen
Boots Bon Accord Centre (open 26/12)	Aberdeen
Boots Garthdee (open 26/12)	Aberdeen
Asda Portlethen (open 26/12)	Aberdeenshire
Boots Springfield, Elgin (open 26/12)	Moray

Primary Care:

- Where the prescriber is aware of live antibiotic stocks in their local community pharmacy, prescribe according to availability of antibiotics and in line with [interim clinical guidance](#).
- Where the prescriber is not aware of antibiotic stocks in the patients' preferred pharmacy, phenoxymethylpenicillin should be prescribed, at the clinically appropriate strength, dose and quantity, (where no allergy) to allow pharmacies to enact the linked SSP's and supply an appropriate antibiotic to the patient if necessary.

Out of Hours (GMED):

- NHS Grampian have supplied GMED with stocks of phenoxymethylpenicillin / amoxicillin / clarithromycin liquids which they may utilise to make supplies to patients when seen and out with usual pharmacy trading hours.
- Consider the most appropriate route of supply to minimise any delay.
- A list of Grampian community pharmacy festive opening hours is available on the [community pharmacy website](#).
- Clinicians are asked to follow the guidance above for primary care actions; -
 - Where the prescriber is aware of live antibiotic stocks in their local community pharmacy, prescribe according to availability of antibiotics and in line with [interim clinical guidance](#) (attached).
 - Where the prescriber is not aware of antibiotic stocks in the patients' preferred pharmacy, phenoxymethylpenicillin should be prescribed, at the clinically appropriate strength, dose and quantity, (where no allergy) to allow pharmacies to enact the linked SSP's and supply an appropriate antibiotic to the patient if necessary.