

NHS PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES - ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Assessment and Treatment of Skin Infections Associated with Injection Site Complications e.g. Cellulitis and Wound Infections.

1. Introduction

The objective of the assessment and treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications such as cellulitis and wound infections, by means of a patient group direction (PGD) for Co-Amoxiclav, is to provide a timely and appropriate service for patients in the treatment of their condition and to identify patients who need onward referral to other NHS services.

- 1.2 Treatment will be provided to any individual who meet the criteria set out in the PGD and who wish to receive care following assessment by a community pharmacist.

2. Background to the Service

- 2.1 Injection site complications are not uncommon in those who inject drugs. People who inject drugs have consistently been the one group in the community who have been identified in Fife as at risk from *S. aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) bloodstream infections. Timely and accessible treatment is an important factor in reducing SAB rates and hospital admissions in this group of patients.

3. Service aims

- 3.1 To provide timely and appropriate access to treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications in patients eighteen years of age and over.
- 3.2 To provide triage and onward professional to professional referral of patients with symptoms outside of the criteria for treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications as defined in the PGD.
- 3.3 To provide services with the appropriate assurances to antibiotic stewardship.

4. Service outline and standard

- 4.1 A service to treat skin infections associated with injection site complications service is available on the basis of assessment and locally agreed criteria.
- 4.2 The patient's eligibility for skin infection treatment associated with injection site complications will be assessed in accordance with national and local guidance.
- 4.3 The community pharmacy contractor will be responsible for the provision of advice (both written and verbal) to the patient as appropriate.

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Service Specification for Treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications | | Version 1 2022 |
| NHS Fife Pharmacy | Page 1 of 5 | Review due: April 2023 |

4.4 Pharmacies must have a suitable clinical area in which to provide the service. A consultation room is the preferred area but it is recognised that using this space may not be desirable. The clinical area must comply with the minimum requirements set out below:

- 4.4.1 The clinical area must be clearly designated as an area for confidential consultations
- 4.4.2 It must be distinct from the general public areas of the pharmacy premises
- 4.4.3 It must be an area where both the person receiving services and the pharmacist providing those services are able to sit down together and talk at normal speaking volumes without being overheard by any other person (including pharmacy staff), other than a person whose presence the patient requests or consents to (such as a carer or chaperone).

4.5 A seven day course of Co-amoxiclav tablets 625mg (500/125mg) (amoxicillin 500mg, clavulanic acid 125mg) will be available to any patient who meets the inclusion criteria contained within the Patient Group Direction (PGD).

For those unable to swallow tablets:

A 7 day course of Co Amoxiclav 250/62.5 suspension (Both bottles must be reconstituted according to manufacturer's instructions).

4.6 Supply will be facilitated via the "Healthboard Local Service" option on the Universal Claim form (UCF)

Community Pharmacies providing the assessment and treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications service must also ensure that they have;

- Adequate staff provision to ensure dispensary functions and pharmaceutical services are not compromised due to the service.
- Appropriate administrative support to undertake initial discussions with potential patients and assist with data collection.
- Have indemnity cover for all staff involved in service delivery.

4.7 The community pharmacist will be responsible for referring patients who are excluded from treatment under the PGD to other service providers where appropriate, e.g. GP or OOH service

4.8 The community pharmacist will maintain patient medication records via the pharmacy PMR system of the episodes of care.

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Service Specification for Treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications | | Version 1 2022 |
| NHS Fife Pharmacy | Page 2 of 5 | Review due: April 2023 |

- 4.9** The community pharmacist will be responsible for the provision of a user-friendly, person centred, non judgemental and confidential service.
- 4.10** The part of the pharmacy used for provision of the service will provide a sufficient level of privacy and safety, as set out in **4.4**.
- 4.11** The Pharmacist will, where possible and with the patient's consent, notify the patient's General Practitioner where they have supplied their patient with Co-Amoxiclav.
- 4.12** The community pharmacist/contractor will display material within the pharmacy advertising the service.
- 4.13** The community pharmacy contractor will be responsible, where appropriate, for counselling the client on other public health & related messages. Written information should also be available on these topics.

5. Training requirements

- 5.1** All pharmacists that will deliver this service via the PGD must complete NHS Fife approved training on skin infections. Training for completion includes the Scottish Drug Forum e-learning course on "Bacterial Infections and Drug use" and "How are your sites" E-Learning - Scottish Drugs Forum (sdftraining.org.uk) plus the NES Pharmacy First module e-learning module on skin infections. [Skin Conditions Overview for NHS Pharmacy First Scotland | Turas | Learn](#) Training events will also be organised by NHS Fife for attendance.
- 5.2** The community pharmacy contractor will ensure that staff involved in delivery participate in any local training programmes (including update training) as identified by NHS Fife in accordance with agreed local standards.
- 5.3** The community pharmacy contractor has a duty to ensure that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service are aware of and operate within local guidelines e.g. Formulary.

6. Service Remuneration

- 6.1** A fee of £20 will be paid for the service providing treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications as defined by NHS Fife.
- 6.2** Payment for service provision shall be made on the submission of a fully completed NHS Fife claim form. Information for audit and evaluation purposes may also be gathered and must be completed before any payment can be made by NHS Fife.
- 6.3** The pharmacist/contractor will sign and complete and submit a claim form by email each month to Pharmacy Services –

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Service Specification for Treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications | | Version 1 2022 |
| NHS Fife Pharmacy | Page 3 of 5 | Review due: April 2023 |

fife.fifepharmacycommpharm@nhs.scot

7. Monitoring and evaluation

- 7.1** It is a requirement of the service that appropriate records are kept and maintained by the community pharmacy contractor to enable verification of service provision and training requirements and provide information to NHS Fife for internal and external audit and evaluation purposes.
- 7.2** A standard operating procedure should be in place in the pharmacy and cover all aspects of service provision.
- 7.3.** An evaluation of the service will be undertaken 12 months post implementation.

8. Pharmacy premises criteria

Key requirements are:

- Chair(s)
- Wheelchair/disabled access
- Safe & secure storage of data/documentation
- Suitable clinical area in which to provide the service, as set out in **4.4**.

Background information:

- a) RPS Medicines, Ethics and Practice (current edition)
- b) NHS Fife Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy for personal information
- c) NHS Fife Patient Group Direction 321 for Community Pharmacists to Supply Co-Amoxiclav 625mg to patients 18 years of age and older for the treatment of Skin Infections associated with injection site complications

Acknowledgement

Adapted by NHS Fife based on documents produced by NHS Forth Valley.

Date Service Specification issued: (version 1)
Review date: Apr 2023

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Service Specification for Treatment of skin infections associated with injection site complications | | Version 1 2022 |
| NHS Fife Pharmacy | Page 4 of 5 | Review due: April 2023 |

Contract Agreement

Pharmaceutical services- Additional services

Assessment and Treatment of Skin Infections Associated with Injection Site Complications e.g. Cellulitis and Wound Infections.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Contractor representative | Signature | Name (block capitals) |
| Trading name of pharmacy | | |
| Contractor Code | | |
| Date | | |
| Review Date : | <i>For office use only</i> Financial code: | |

Please return signed contract agreement before commencement of service on to:
Pharmacy Services
Email: **fife.fifepharmacycommpharm@nhs.scot**