



Department of Health

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TO: Local Health Department, Community Health Center, Urgent Care, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Infectious Disease, Internal Medicine, Primary Care, Pediatrics, Dermatology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pharmacies, and HIV Care

FROM: New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention and Epidemiology

Health Advisory: Procaine Penicillin G Shortage

On September 16, 2016, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) verified a national shortage of Procaine Penicillin G injectable (IM) due to manufacturing issues. Procaine Penicillin G IM is one of the recommended treatments for congenital syphilis infection. It is also an alternative treatment for both ocular syphilis and neurosyphilis. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working with FDA drug shortage staff and the manufacturer to address the situation. More information about Procaine Penicillin G IM availability may be found at the FDA Drug Shortage Website:

http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/drugshortages/dsp_ActiveIngredientDetails.cfm?AI=Penicillin G Procaine Injection&st=c&tab=tabs-1.

If Procaine Penicillin G IM is not available and until normal supplies return, consult the CDC [2015 STD Treatment Guidelines](#) for other available and recommended regimens of penicillin to treat congenital syphilis, listed below, in addition to recommended regimens for neurosyphilis and ocular syphilis.

Proven or highly probably Congenital Syphilis

Recommended Regimen

Aqueous crystalline penicillin G 100,000 – 150,000 units/kg/day, administered as 50,000 units/kg/dose IV every 12 hours for the first 7 days of life and every 8 hours thereafter for a total of 10 days.

Possible Congenital Syphilis

Recommended Regimen

Aqueous crystalline penicillin G 100,000 – 150,000 units/kg/day, administered as 50,000 units/kg/dose IV every 12 hours for the first 7 days of life and every 8 hours thereafter for a total of 10 days.

OR

Benzathine penicillin G 50,000 units/kg/dose IM in a single dose.

Call the NYS Clinical Education Initiative's STD Center of Excellence at 866-637-2342 to access expert medical consultation on diagnosis, treatment and management of syphilis.

Please contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention and Epidemiology at (518) 474-3598 or by e-mail at stdc@health.ny.gov for additional assistance.