

## Procedure: Administration of Bicillin Injections in the Community

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### Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that Rheumatic Fever Clients receive their prophylactic treatment of Rheumatic Fever in a safe and timely manner. The desired outcomes being

- The drug will be administered on the due date, or 10 to 14 days early (when the client is going away), to the correct client by a Registered Nurse as per CMDHB medication policy.
- The risk of reoccurrence of RHF is minimised
- The client will receive ongoing RHF education
- The Registered Nurse will provide ongoing monitoring of the client's health status at time of treatment.

### Responsibility

Registered Nurse who has successfully completed the credentialing process for medication, standing orders and has a current CPR certification.

### Frequency

As per RHF client's prescription

### Associated Documents

Other documents relevant to this procedure are listed below:

<b>NZ Legislation</b>	<a href="#">The Medicines Act 1981</a> <a href="#">Medicines Regulations 1984</a> <a href="#">Misuse of Drugs Act 1975</a> <a href="#">Misuse of Drugs Regulations 1977</a> <a href="#">HPCA Act (2003)</a>
<b>CMDHB Clinical Board Policies</b>	<a href="#">Home Based or Community Visiting Policy</a> <a href="#">Standard Precautions Policy</a> <a href="#">Medications Policy</a>

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## Procedure: Administration of Bicillin Injections in the Community, Continued

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### Associated Documents (continued)

<b>NZ Standards</b>	None
<b>Organisational Policies</b>	<a href="#">Guideline for the management of Anaphylaxis in the community – Adults</a>  <a href="#">Guideline for the management of Anaphylaxis in the community - Child</a>  <a href="#">Home Visiting Policy (NASC)</a>  <a href="#">Standing Orders for Administration of Adrenaline for Children (contact Nurse Leader)</a>  <a href="#">Standing Orders for Administration of Adrenaline for Adults (contact Nurse Leader)</a>  <a href="#">Intramuscular Injection - Procedure</a>
<b>Other related documents</b>	<a href="#">New Zealand Guidelines for Rheumatic Fever</a>

### Equipment

- The client's current prescription
- Bicillin 1.2 mu cartridge and administration needle
- Lignocaine 2%
- Injection box and contents including cold pack
- Adrenalin syringes, needles and anaphylaxis policy, standing orders
- Sharps container
- Mobile phone
- Client's file
- Buzzy device including frozen wings
- Blood Pressure equipment and thermometer. BSL meter if client is a diabetic

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## Procedure: Administration of Bicillin Injections in the Community, Continued

### Procedure

Step	Action
1.	Client/caregiver to be phoned prior to the visit to ensure that the client is at home/school/workplace and arrange an approximate time of visit. If attending district nurse clinic a reminder phone call may be required prior to the date.
2.	Prepare Bicillin and Lignocaine as per prescription in the office prior to leaving. Check preparation with another registered nurse Label syringe with medication sticker containing medication dose, time, date, signature Place in cold pack in injection box along with Buzzy and frozen wings
3.	Identify client following medication policy. Where the client is under 16 prior to administration follow the listed process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the child, his/her full name and date of birth</li> <li>Confirm the identification with another responsible person, i.e. caregiver, school receptionist</li> <li>Document in the child's notes the name of the person who identified the child</li> <li>Confirm that written consent for treatment has been obtained for the child to be given bicillin injection at school.</li> </ul>
4.	Check client's allergy status at each visit. Ask about any reaction following the last injection. If the client reports any symptoms of allergy from previous injection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Withhold injection</li> <li>Document reaction to injection in the client treatment notes</li> <li>Notify GP and the Community support worker who will arrange a review at the Rheumatic fever clinic.</li> </ul>
5.	Check the prescription for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The prescription is current</li> <li>The dosage to be administered</li> <li>Frequency of administration e.g. 21 or 28 days. This should be recorded clearly on client's care plan.</li> <li>check notes for date of last injection</li> </ul>

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## Procedure: Administration of Bicillin Injections in the Community, Continued

### Procedure (continued)

Step	Action
6.	<p><b>Check weight for children prior to giving injection:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For children less than 30 kg check weight monthly and record in progress notes.</li> <li>Notify Rheumatic Fever secretary (or do we notify consultant either directly or via community workers) when the child's weight becomes over 30kg to obtain a new prescription (<b>children under 30kg receive 0.6mu, over 30kg receive 1.2 mu</b>).</li> <li>Children over 30kg weigh 3/12 monthly.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>NB. Check the amount of adrenaline that needs to be administered, if required, for the current weight and record as per Standing Orders for Children and Adults</u></b></p>
7.	If the client is on Warfarin medication, record on the care plan the INR therapeutic range. Before administration check their INR level on Concerto or patient if self testing. Document level in client's progress notes. If patient has not been tested regularly re-engage with primary care provider to re establish regular testing regime.
8.	Explanation is given to client and support person regarding procedure. Utilise age appropriate distraction /relaxation techniques.
9.	Position client where they are most comfortable lying or sitting down.
10.	Hand hygiene prior to preparation of medication as per CMDHB policy.
11.	Prepare Bicillin injection. as per manufacturers instructions. Warm to room temperature prior to administration.
12.	Alcohol swab selected injection site if required. Allow to dry before proceeding. Assemble Buzzy apply to injection site for 1 minute and then move the Buzzy proximal to the injection site maintaining contact with skin. Client or other will need to hold Buzzy

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### Procedure (continued)

Step	Action
13.	Administer into ventrogluteal, dorsogluteal area of buttock or Vastus Lateralis or thigh, alternating on each administration. Deliver medication slowly preferably over 2-3 minutes. <i>(Bicillin should <b>not</b> be given into the Deltoid muscle of the upper arm)</i>
14.	Dispose of the syringe in sharps container. Do not recap used syringe but plastic protector on bicillin needles can be pushed close over needle. If the client is not at home, the full syringe is to be disposed of in the sharps container. <i>Do not return to the medication fridge as per OH&amp;S and Pharmacy guidelines.</i> Complete hand hygiene as per CMDHB policy.
15.	Apply firm pressure to injection site until bleeding stops and then apply band aid.
16.	Observations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe client for at least 10 minutes after injection administration for any signs and symptoms of an adverse reaction.</li> <li>• Inform client/support person of signs and symptoms of allergic reaction and how to access emergency help if required.</li> <li>• Follow guideline for management of anaphylaxis in the community for child or adult if required.</li> </ul>

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### Procedure (continued)

17.	<p>Follow up for next visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give client a yellow appointment card with date of next due injection. Encourage use of personal calendar to record date of next injection.</li> <li>• If the client is going overseas, ensure that the client can obtain medication overseas; give the client a written letter and a summary of their medical history to take with them.</li> <li>• If the client is going to an area within New Zealand transfer the client with a referral, prescription and medical history to appropriate nursing/medical colleague.</li> </ul>
18.	<p>Complete documentation which is to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• update of current health status</li> <li>• site that injection was given</li> <li>• any reaction from the injection or procedure</li> <li>• update care plan as required</li> <li>• health education given</li> <li>• date of next visit/injection</li> <li>• Update general assessment form at least <b>every 12 months</b> or before if there are any changes to client's health status.</li> <li>• Liaise with other providers as required as some clients are seen at school and home addresses at different times.</li> </ul>

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### References (Evidence Based Practice)

[New Zealand Guidelines for Rheumatic Fever \(2006\)](#)

### Definitions

Terms and abbreviations used in this document are described below:

Term/Abbreviation	Description
DN	District Nurse
IM	Intramuscular
RHF	Rheumatic Fever

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