

**BASHH CEG**  
**Update to the management of gonorrhoea**  
**and pelvic inflammatory disease in children**  
**(November 2013)**

This document updates the advice on gonorrhoea written in the 2010 BASHH CEG guideline *Management of STIs and related conditions in children and young people 2010*<sup>1</sup>

Please note that this is for guidance only and that the CEG advises that specialist pharmacy advice should be obtained before prescribing for children.

**Uncomplicated Gonorrhoea**

**Neonates**

- Ceftriaxone is now not licensed for neonates under 41 weeks postmenstrual age because of the risk of precipitation in urine and lungs. Therefore IV Cefotaxime is recommended in line with CDC guidance from the USA<sup>2</sup>. Expert paediatric advice is required regarding dosage.

**Child 1 month - <2 years**

- Ceftriaxone 125mg intramuscularly single dose in children who weigh less than 45 kg
- or Spectinomycin 40 mg/kg IM single dose [unreliable in pharyngeal infection]

**Child 2-12 years**

- Ceftriaxone 125mg IM single dose in children who weigh less than 45 kg or 250mg IM stat if weight is over 45Kg
- or Spectinomycin 40 mg/kg IM single dose (maximum dose 2g) [unreliable in pharyngeal infection]

**Child >12 years**

- Ceftriaxone 500mg IM single dose plus Azithromycin 1g po stat
- or Cefixime 400mg po stat (unlicensed) if patient refuses IM treatment/needle phobic plus Azithromycin 1g po stat
- or Spectinomycin 2g IM in a single dose [unreliable in pharyngeal infection] plus Azithromycin 1g po stat
- or Azithromycin 2g stat in if unable to take standard therapy  
or
- Ciprofloxacin po 500mg ( *if micro-organism sensitive to a quinolone*, but should not be used if the child is still growing unless there is no alternative) plus Azithromycin 1g po stat

## Gonococcal PID\*

### **Child 2 –12 years**

- Ceftriaxone 125mg intramuscularly single dose in children weighing less than 45 kg followed by oral Erythromycin 250mg bd plus oral Metronidazole ( dose according to child's weight) both for 2 weeks

### **Child >12 years**

- Ceftriaxone 500mg IM single dose followed by oral Doxycycline 100mg bd plus oral Metronidazole 400mg bd both x 2 weeks

\* Ceftriaxone IM stat is also used in PID treatment in

- areas of high GC prevalence
- for contacts of GC
- positive microscopy for GC
- severe disease
- high index of suspicion

If the patient refuses or is needle phobic, Cefixime 400mg po stat may be used as an alternative

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## References

1. Management of STIs and related conditions in children and young people [2010] available at <http://www.bashh.org/BASHH/Guidelines/Guidelines/BASHH/Guidelines/Guidelines.aspx>
2. 2010 STD Treatment guidelines , Centers for Disease Control and Prevention available at <http://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2010/default.htm>