



MEDICATION SAFETY COMMUNIQUÉ

Subject:	Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 400/57mg per 5 mL suspension (CURAM DUO® and AUGMENTIN DUO®) shortage																
Purpose of this Notice:	Information																
Issued by:	Pharmacy Department	Issue Date:	11 th of August 2023														
Approved by:	Leith Lilley, Acting Director Pharmacy, QCH																
Issue and Impact within CHQ:	<p>The TGA has advised that there will be a nation-wide shortage of the “CURAM DUO” and “AUGMENTIN DUO” suspension manufactured by Sandoz and Aspen pharmaceuticals, respectively, until December 2023. CHQ Pharmacy does not have enough stock to last until this shortage is resolved. Central Pharmacy are securing overseas supply of an alternative brand approved by the TGA for S19A exemption to cover anticipated usage during the shortage. Anticipated time of delivery mid-September 2023.</p> <p>Local Community Pharmacies may not be able to procure stock during the period of the shortage. Be aware that patients may not be able to source this medication from community pharmacies and may need to collect supply from a Queensland Health Hospital Pharmacy.</p>																
Target Audience:	Action Required:																
All CHQ Staff	<p>Antimicrobial stewardship principles should be applied to all paediatric patients requiring amoxicillin/clavulanate suspension.</p> <p>Option 1: All patients requiring amoxicillin/clavulanate AND who can swallow tablets or have an enteral feeding tube should receive amoxicillin/clavulanate tablets. The tablet can be crushed and dispersed in water or mixed with soft food (or masking agents such as ice cream, jam, chocolate topping, custard) when prescribed in doses of 250mg/62.5mg, 500mg/125mg or 875mg/125mg.</p> <p>Option 2: The recommended amoxicillin/clavulanate alternatives as endorsed by CHQ Infectious Diseases (ID) team are as follows:</p> <table><tr><th>Indication</th><th>Appropriate alternative* (*Review microbiology and susceptibility results and clinical condition to inform choice)</th></tr><tr><td>Retropharyngeal abscess</td><td>Cefalexin</td></tr><tr><td>Animal bites</td><td>Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole and Metronidazole</td></tr><tr><td>Peri-orbital cellulitis with sinusitis</td><td>Cefalexin</td></tr><tr><td>Facial cellulitis (dental origin) or dental abscess</td><td>Amoxicillin and Metronidazole</td></tr><tr><td>Pulmonary exacerbation of Cystic fibrosis or Non CF Bronchiectasis</td><td>Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole Or Azithromycin (daily dosing)</td></tr><tr><td>All other indications</td><td>Seek ID advice on suitable antimicrobial choice</td></tr></table>			Indication	Appropriate alternative* (*Review microbiology and susceptibility results and clinical condition to inform choice)	Retropharyngeal abscess	Cefalexin	Animal bites	Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole and Metronidazole	Peri-orbital cellulitis with sinusitis	Cefalexin	Facial cellulitis (dental origin) or dental abscess	Amoxicillin and Metronidazole	Pulmonary exacerbation of Cystic fibrosis or Non CF Bronchiectasis	Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole Or Azithromycin (daily dosing)	All other indications	Seek ID advice on suitable antimicrobial choice
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Contact for further information:	<p>Please contact the Infectious Diseases Team on 07 3068 4421 or the AMS Pharmacist on 0436 815 492, if you need assistance with selecting an alternative antibiotic choice. Please contact Pharmacy - Claire George (Clinical Lead – Materials Management) on 07 3068 1945 if you have any questions regarding supply.</p>																

