

Choice of agent for chemoprophylaxis for a contact of Group A streptococcus case

Group	Drug	Dose	Duration
Adult first line			
All adults ≥18 years	Phenoxyethylpenicillin (Penicillin V)	500mg PO every 6 hours	10 days
	or Amoxicillin	500mg PO every 8 hours	10 days
Adult second line (penicillin allergy)			
Adults including non-pregnant women	Clarithromycin* [^]	250mg PO every 12 hours	10 days
Pregnant women and mothers within 28 days of giving birth	Erythromycin* [^]	500mg PO every 6 hours	10 days
Child first line			
Infant 1 to 11 months**	Amoxicillin	125mg PO every 8 hours	10 days
Child 1 to 4 years	Amoxicillin	250mg PO every 8 hours	10 days
Child 5 to 17	Amoxicillin	500mg PO every 8 hours	10 days
Child second line (penicillin allergy)			
Birth to 6 months	Clarithromycin* [^]	7.5 mg/kg PO every 12 hours	10 days
6 months to 17 years	Clarithromycin* [^]	7.5 mg/kg PO every 12 hours to a maximum of 250mg every 12 hours	10 days
Adolescents (under 18 years) who are pregnant or within 28 days of giving birth	Erythromycin* [^]	As per pregnant women dosing above – if very low body weight, consider lower dose and consult a pharmacist.	10 days

* Where susceptibilities are available, these should be reviewed to ensure the prescribed agent remains active.

** Please seek specialist advice for dosing for premature infants

[^] Clinicians should check for potential significant interactions with other prescribed medications and discuss with a local microbiologist if macrolides are not felt to be appropriate.