



This patient group direction (PGD) must only be used by registered health professionals who have been named and authorised by their organisation to practice under it. The most recent and in date final signed version of the PGD should be used.

Patient Group Direction (PGD)

For the administration or supply of

Atropine Sulfate Injection 600mcg in 1ml

By registered health care professionals for

Management of Symptomatic Bradycardia

Throughout the Manx Care and those contracted by the Manx Care where appropriate within practice

PGD NUMBER 141

1. Change history

Version number	Change details	Date
1	Original PGD ratified	June 2021

2. Medicines practice guideline 2: *Patient group directions*

Refer to the relevant sections of NICE medicines practice guideline 2: *Patient group directions* as stated in the blank template notes. For further information about PGD signatories, see the NHS and Manx Care [PGD website FAQs](#)

3. PGD development

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for people developing PGDs](#)

Job Title & organisation	Name	Signature	Date
Author of the PGD			
Member of the PGD working group			

4. PGD authorisation

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for people authorising PGDs](#)

Job Title	Name	Signature	Date
Medical Director			
Chief Pharmacist/ Pharmaceutical Adviser			
Senior Paramedic			
Director of Nursing			
GP Adviser			
Senior Microbiologist (if PGD contains antimicrobials)			

5. PGD adoption by the provider

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for people authorising PGDs](#)

Job title and organisation	Signature	Date	Applicable or not applicable to area

6. Training and competency of registered healthcare professionals, employed or contracted by the Manx Care, GP practice or Hospice

Refer to the [NICE PGD competency framework for health professionals using PGDs](#)

	Requirements of registered Healthcare professionals working under the PGD
Qualifications and professional registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered healthcare professionals, working within or contracted by the Manx Care, GP practice or Hospice who are permitted staff groups outlined within the current PGD policy Pharmacists must be practising in Manx Care authorised premises i.e. contracted pharmacy premises
Initial training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of current guidelines and the administration of the drug specified in this PGD/BNF and of the inclusion and exclusion criteria Training which enables the practitioner to make a clinical assessment to establish the need for the medication covered by this PGD Local training in the use of PGDs
Competency assessment	Staff will be assessed on their knowledge of drugs and clinical assessment as part the competency framework for registered health professionals using PGDs
Ongoing training and competency	The registered health care professionals should make sure they are aware of any changes to the recommendations for this medication; it is the responsibility of the registered health care professionals to keep up to date with continuing professional development. PGD updates will be held every two years

7. Clinical Conditions

Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies	Symptomatic Bradycardia
Inclusion criteria	<p>Symptomatic Bradycardia in the presence of ANY of these adverse signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons over the age of 16 years • Absolute bradycardia (pulse <40bpm) • Systolic blood pressure below expected for age • Paroxysmal ventricular arrhythmias requiring suppression • Inadequate perfusion causing confusion etc • Bradycardia following return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC)
Exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons under 16 years • Patients with the mental capacity who choose to decline • Absence of the above conditions • Suspected hypothermia • Patients not haemodynamically compromised • cardiac transplants • Allergy or hypersensitivity to Atropine
Cautions (including any relevant action to be taken)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tachycardia may be induced following myocardial infarction (MI) which will increase the myocardial oxygen demand therefore worsening ischaemia. ONLY treat bradycardia in a patient with an MI if it is causing issues with perfusion DO NOT use small (<100microgram) doses as they may cause paradoxical bradycardia • Not known to be harmful in pregnancy - use with caution • May suppress lactation, small amounts present in milk - use with caution
Arrangements for referral for medical advice	Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment
Action to be taken if patient excluded	Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment
Action to be taken if patient declines treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A verbal explanation should be given to the patient on: the need for the medication and any possible effects or potential risks which may occur as a result of refusing treatment • This information must be documented in the patients' health records • Any patient who declines care must have demonstrated capacity to do so • Where appropriate care should be escalated

8. Details of the medicine

Name, form and strength	Atropine 600mcg in 1ml Injection
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of medicine	
Legal category	Prescription Only Medicine (POM)
Indicate any <u>off-label use</u> (if relevant)	None
Route/method of administration	Intravenous (IV) use is for specialists ONLY
Dose and frequency	Atropine IV dose (rapid bolus) – adults ≥16 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.6 mg IM (= 600 micrograms = 1ml) Atropine • Maximum 3mg
Quantity to be administered	0.5–1.2 mg, repeat doses may be necessary
Maximum or minimum treatment period	Maximum cumulative dose 3mgs
Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect from light • Store at less than 25 °C
Adverse effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdominal distension • Anhidrosis • Anxiety • Arrhythmias • Bronchial secretion decreased • Dysphagia • Gastrointestinal disorders • Hallucination • Hyperthermia • Movement disorders • Mydriasis • Speech disorder • Taste loss • Thirst
Records to be kept	The administration of any medication given under a PGD must be recorded within the patient’s medical records

9. Patient information

Verbal/Written information to be given to patient or carer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal information must be given to patients and or carers for all medication being administered under a PGD • Where medication is being supplied under a PGD, written patient information leaflet must also be supplied • A patient information leaflet is available on request
Follow-up advice to be given to patient or carer	If symptoms do not improve or worsen or you become unwell, seek medical advice immediately

10. Appendix A

References
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. British National Formulary (BNF) available online: https://bnf.nice.org.uk 2. Nursing and Midwifery (2018) “The code” available online: https://www.nmc.org.uk 3. Current Health Care Professions Council standards of practice 4. General Pharmaceutical Council standards 5. The General Optical Council 6. Electronic medicines compendium available online: https://www.medicines.org.uk

11. Appendix B

Health professionals agreed to practice

- Each registered healthcare professional will hold their own Competency framework which will be signed and agreed by their mentor
- A mentor is defined within the Manx Care policy as any ward/area managers, sisters, senior nurses, GPs, pharmacists or senior paramedics who has completed the PGD training themselves