

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

**Chloramphenicol eye drops 0.5% and eye ointment 1%**

By registered health care professionals for

**Treatment of Suspected bacterial conjunctivitis**

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

**PGD NUMBER 145**

### **1. Change history**

| <b>Version number</b> | <b>Change details</b>                             | <b>Date</b>    |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| 1                     | Original PGD ratified                             | June 2021      |
| 2                     | Minor Word changes to improve clarity of document | September 2023 |
|                       |   |                |

## 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   |      |           |      |
| Deputy to<br>Chief Pharmacist/<br>Pharmaceutical Adviser     |      |           |      |
| Senior Paramedic   |      |           |      |
| Director of Nursing  |      |           |      |
| GP Adviser   |      |           |      |
| Senior Microbiologist<br>(if PGD contains<br>antimicrobials) |      |           |      |

## 5. 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](#)

|   | <b>Requirements of registered Healthcare professionals working under the PGD</b>  |
|---|---|
| <b>Qualifications and professional registration</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>Pharmacists must be practising in Manx Care authorised premises i.e. contracted pharmacy premises</li> </ul>                                     |
| <b>Initial training</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge of current guidelines and the administration of the drug specified in this PGD/BNF and of the inclusion and exclusion criteria</li> <li>Training which enables the practitioner to make a clinical assessment to establish the need for the medication covered by this PGD</li> <li>Local training in the use of PGDs</li> </ul> |
| <b>Competency assessment</b>                        | Staff will be assessed on their knowledge of drugs and clinical assessment as part the competency framework for registered health professionals using PGDs  |
| <b>Ongoing training and competency</b>              | 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  |

## 6. Clinical Conditions

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| <b>Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies</b> | Treatment of Suspected bacterial eye infections  |
| <b>Inclusion criteria</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chloramphenicol eye ointment 1% - Adult or children (2 years and over) presenting with bacterial conjunctivitis</li> <li>Chloramphenicol eye drops 0.5% - Adults and children (3 months and over)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Exclusion criteria</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children under the age of 2 years (for Chloramphenicol 1% eye ointment. Children Under the age of 3 months for Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops (to exclude misdiagnosis of post-partum herpetic infection)</li> <li>Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients</li> <li>Myelosuppression during previous exposure to chloramphenicol</li> <li>Known personal or family history of blood dyscrasias including aplastic anaemia</li> <li>Any recent course of treatment (ie. within the last 4 weeks)</li> <li>Pregnancy</li> <li>Breastfeeding</li> </ul> |

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| <b>Cautions (including any relevant action to be taken)</b> | Do not use with contact lenses<br><br>A detailed list of cautions is available in the SPC, which is available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk">www.medicines.org.uk</a> and BNF <a href="https://bnf.nice.org.uk">https://bnf.nice.org.uk</a>   |
| <b>Arrangements for referral for medical advice</b>         | Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment  |
| <b>Action to be taken if patient excluded</b>               | Patient should be referred to a more experienced clinical practitioner for further assessment  |
| <b>Action to be taken if patient declines treatment</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• This information must be documented in the patients' health records</li> <li>• Any patient who declines care must have demonstrated capacity to do so</li> <li>• Where appropriate care should be escalated</li> </ul> |

## 7. Details of the medicine

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| <b>Name, form and strength of medicine</b>             | Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops or 1% eye ointment   |
| <b>Legal category</b>                                  | Prescription Only Medicine (POM)  |
| <b>Indicate any <u>off-label use</u> (if relevant)</b> | None  |
| <b>Route/method of administration</b>                  | Topical eye drops or ointment   |
| <b>Dose and frequency</b>                              | <p><b>To the eye using eye drop:</b><br/>Apply 1 drop four times a day for 5 days. For severe infections apply 1 drop every 2 hours for the first 48 hours and then reduce to four times a day for the remainder of the course</p> <p><b>To the eye using eye ointment:</b><br/>Apply four times daily for 5 days</p>   |
| <b>Quantity to be administered and/or supplied</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 bottle of chloramphenicol eye drops or</li> <li>• 1 tube of chloramphenicol eye ointment</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Maximum or minimum treatment period</b>             | Use for 2 days after symptoms resolve or maximum 5 days   |
| <b>Storage</b>   | Store at Room temperature for the eye ointment or in a refrigerator at the temperature between 2 to 8°C for the eye drops   |
| <b>Adverse effects</b>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• angioedema</li> <li>• bone marrow disorders</li> <li>• eye stinging</li> <li>• fever</li> <li>• paraesthesia</li> <li>• skin reactions</li> </ul> <p>A detailed list of adverse reactions is available in the SPC, which is available from the electronic Medicines Compendium website: <a href="http://www.medicines.org.uk">www.medicines.org.uk</a> and BNF <a href="https://bnf.nice.org.uk">https://bnf.nice.org.uk</a></p> |

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| <b>Records to be kept</b> | The administration of any medication given under a PGD must be recorded within the patient's medical records |
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## 8. Patient information

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|---|---|
| <b>Verbal/Written information to be given to patient or carer</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal information must be given to patients and or carers for all medication being administered under a PGD</li> <li>• Where medication is being supplied under a PGD, written patient information leaflet must also be supplied</li> <li>• A patient information leaflet is available on request</li> <li>• Patients should be advised not to wear contact lenses when they have an eye infection.</li> <li>• Discard container after completing the 5 day course of treatment.</li> <li>• Seek further advice if any adverse reactions develop</li> <li>• Seek further advice from GP if patient has had repeated eye infections</li> </ul> |
| <b>Follow-up advice to be given to patient or carer</b>           | If symptoms worsen, you become unwell, or your symptoms do not improve within 48 hours, seek medical advice immediately   |

## 9. Appendix A

| References  |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. British National Formulary (BNF) available online: <a href="https://bnf.nice.org.uk">https://bnf.nice.org.uk</a></li> <li>2. Nursing and Midwifery "The code" available online: <a href="https://www.nmc.org.uk">https://www.nmc.org.uk</a></li> <li>3. Current Health Care Professions Council standards of practice</li> <li>4. General Pharmaceutical Council standards</li> <li>5. The General Optical Council</li> <li>6. Electronic medicines compendium available online: <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk">https://www.medicines.org.uk</a></li> <li>7. Manx Care, Antimicrobial Guidelines for Management of Infections in Primary Care 2019</li> </ol> |

## 10. Appendix B

| Health professionals agreed to practice  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each registered healthcare professional will hold their own Competency framework which will be signed and agreed by their mentor</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul> |