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| <p>IN THIS ISSUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Physicians Wanted! ▪ Bicillin® L-A for the Treatment of Syphilis | <p>FROM</p> <p>David Mowat, MBChB MPH FRCPC Medical Officer of Health</p> |
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Physicians Wanted!

Peel Public Health is looking for physicians with an interest in working in Healthy Sexuality Clinics.

These clinics, located across Peel region, provide the opportunity to focus on adolescent sexual health and women's health issues.

Key responsibilities include providing:

- Birth control options – training in IUD insertion will be provided if required
- STI testing and treatment for both men and women
- Pregnancy options counselling and referrals
- Consultations with nurses practicing under medical directives to perform delegated acts

Physicians work with nursing support and are hired on a contract basis at a rate of \$100/hour.

If you are interested in regular part-time hours and/or occasional clinic coverage, please contact:

Dr. Connie Chen, Medical Director
Healthy Sexuality Program
Region of Peel
connie.chen@peelregion.ca

Bicillin® L-A for the Treatment of Syphilis

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) is now supplying public health units with Bicillin® L-A (Benzathine penicillin G) for the treatment of Syphilis. **Benzathine Benzylpenicillin is no longer available.**

Syphilis Treatment Guidelines

| Stage of Infection | Treatment |
|--|---|
| All non-pregnant adults: • Primary • Secondary • Early Latent (<1 yr Duration) | Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM as a single dose (Penicillin allergic- Doxycycline 100mg PO bid x 14 days) |
| All non-pregnant adults: • Late latent • Latent of unknown duration • Cardiovascular and other tertiary syphilis, not involving CNS | Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM weekly for 3 weeks (Pencillin allergic- Doxycycline 100mg PO bid x 28 days) |

Refer to *Canadian Guidelines on STI* for:

- treatment of pregnant women
- neurosyphilis
- additional information on stage-appropriate treatment:

The guidelines are available at:

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/std-mts/sti-its/pdf/510syphilis-eng.pdf>

Ordering Bicillin® L-A

Primary care physicians can order Bicillin® L-A on an as-needed basis from Peel Public Health. The three-dose treatment will be sent in a single order. Bulk ordering is available for infectious disease specialists working within Peel hospitals. Bicillin® L-A will be delivered to the hospital pharmacy.

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To obtain Bicillin® L-A:

- Complete the *Bicillin Order Form*.
- Return the *Bicillin Order Form* by fax to the fax number indicated on the bottom of the order form.
- Pick up the order 5 days later at the specified pick-up location.
- **Note:** temperature logs will no longer be required at the time of order unless requested by Peel Public Health. Instead the new *Bicillin Order Form* will include a statement verifying that MOHLTC requirements for storage and handling are being met. The form must be signed by a physician or designate.

NOTE: Bicillin® L-A orders will NOT be directly received or processed by the Vaccine Order Desk.

Preparation & Storage Requirements

Bicillin® L-A is supplied in preloaded syringes. This product must be stored and maintained in accordance with cold chain guidelines between +2.0°C to +8.0°C.

Bicillin® L-A Pick-up Requirements

When picking up Bicillin® L-A please:

- Bring enough hard-sided coolers to accommodate all Bicillin® L-A ordered.
- Use freezer packs and a thermometer to pre-cool coolers to a temperature between +2.0 °C and +8.0°C.
- Ensure that the cooler contains:
 - A minimum-maximum thermometer
 - Ice packs or ice blankets
 - Bubble wrap for insulation