



**Patient Group Direction for the supply of  
Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops to named patients registered with the  
Minor Ailment Service attending Community Pharmacies in  
NHS Borders**

**This document authorises the supply of Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops by pharmacists to named patients registered on the Minor Ailment Service who meet the criteria for inclusion under the terms of the document**

**The pharmacist seeking to supply Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops must ensure that all clients have been screened and meet the criteria before supply takes place**

**The purpose of this Patient Group Direction is to allow the supply of the prescription only medicine pack of Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops on the Minor Ailment Service**

**PGD previously approved: February 2012**

**This direction was authorised on: October 2015**

**The direction will be reviewed by: October 2017**

**Clinician Responsible for Training and Review: Lead Pharmacist –  
Community and Social Care**

**PGD reviewed by: Adrian Mackenzie, Robert Murray**

**Patient Group Direction for the supply of Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops to named patients registered with the Minor Ailment Service attending Community Pharmacies in NHS Borders**

**1. This Patient Group Direction relates to the following specific preparation:**

Name of medicine, Strength, Formulation	Chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops
Legal status	POM Prescription Only Medicine
Storage	Store between 2°C and 8°C
Dose	Adults and children 1 years and over - Apply one (1) drop at least every two (2) hours then reduce frequency as infection is controlled and continue for 48 hours after healing. Sleep need not be interrupted in order to administer the drops.
Route/method	Ocular
Frequency	Adults and children 1 years and over - Apply one (1) drop at least every two (2) hours then reduce frequency as infection is controlled and continue for 48 hours after healing
Total dose Quantity (Maximum/Minimum)	Maximum 5 days treatment (10ml bottle)
Advice to Patients	<p>Supply Patient Information Leaflet.</p> <p>Contact lenses should be removed during period of treatment.</p> <p>Continue for at least 48 hours after the eye appears normal.</p> <p>Store in a fridge (between 2-8°), and keep cap tightly closed between applications.</p> <p>Discard 28 days after opening.</p>
Relevant Warnings	<p>Side Effects</p> <p>Occasional : Transient stinging on instillation.</p> <p>Rare : Allergic reaction (persistent burning, swelling of lids)</p>

## 2. Clinical condition

Clinical Condition to be treated	Conjunctivitis will give the sensation of a gritty or itchy eye or eyes, with possibly a purulent discharge or crusting of the eyelid margins. It will only have been present for a few days and is not associated with any reduction in vision. The affected eye(s) will often look <u>slightly</u> red/infected, but this is not usually very marked. Pain is not a feature of simple conjunctivitis.
Criteria for inclusion	Presentation in Community Pharmacy with a need for treatment of symptoms of bacterial conjunctivitis, and registered for the Minor Ailment Service (MAS).
Criteria for exclusion	Patient not participating in MAS. Children under 1 year. Pregnancy, Breast feeding Known hypersensitivity to chloramphenicol, benzalkonium chloride or disodium edetate. Recurrence of symptoms within last three months
Action if excluded/ Referral criteria	Refer to GP Urgent Referral should also be made if patient presents with an eye <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- if painful, rather than itchy or gritty</li> <li>- if reduced visual acuity</li> <li>- if eye looks cloudy</li> <li>- if pus level visible in anterior chamber</li> <li>- if any history of trauma to eye, or grinding, immediately prior to onset of symptoms</li> <li>- if possibility of foreign body on/in eye</li> <li>- if history of welding without eye protection immediately prior to onset of symptoms</li> <li>- if no improvement within 48 hours</li> <li>- any signs of photophobia</li> </ul> Routine referral should be considered if patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- pregnant</li> <li>- breast feeding</li> <li>- present for more than 2 weeks despite self care measures with no urgent referral symptoms</li> </ul>
Action if declines	Document refusal in PMR and if patient declines alternative management refer to the GP.
Interactions with other medicaments and other forms of interaction	Chymotrypsin will be inhibited if given simultaneously with chloramphenicol.

### **3. Records-A CP2 form should be generated and the consultation recorded on the Pharmacy PMR**

#### **1. The following records should be kept (either paper or computer based)**

The GP practice

The patient name and CHI number

The medicine name, dose, route, time of dose(s), and where appropriate, start date, number of doses and or period of time, for which the medicine is to be supplied or administered

The signature and printed name of the approved healthcare professional who supplied or administered the medicine

Whether patient met the inclusion criteria and whether the exclusion criteria were assessed

Quantity supplied / received and current stock balance

#### **2. Preparation, audit trail, data collection and reconciliation-**

Stock balances should be reconcilable with Receipts,

Administration, Records and Disposals on a patient by patient basis.

#### **3. Storage-** Store between 2-8°C

#### **4. Professional Responsibility -**

- ❖ All Health Professionals will ensure he/she has the relevant training and is competent in all aspects of medication, including contra-indications and the recognition and treatment of adverse effects. He/she will attend training updates as appropriate.
- ❖ Pharmacist must be registered with the GPhC and contracted to provide the Minor Ailment Service.
- ❖ Sources of Evidence used for the PGD creation should be stated

#### **5. References**

- ❖ British National Formulary (BNF) current edition  
<https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/>
- ❖ Borders Joint Formulary (BJF)  
[http://intranet/new\\_intranet/microsites/index.asp?siteid=65&uid=1](http://intranet/new_intranet/microsites/index.asp?siteid=65&uid=1)

