

***About your medication***

**PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN**

(LPV® , Abbocillin V® , Cilicaine V®  
250mg, 500mg tablets, capsules  
30mg/mL suspension)

**OR**

**AMOXYCILLIN**

(Amoxil® , Cilamox® , Moxacin® ,  
Alphamox® ,  
250mg, 500mg capsules  
25mg/mL and 50mg/mL suspension  
100mg/mL paediatric drops  
3g sachets)

*Other brands may be available*

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## WHAT ARE PHENOXYMETHYLPENICILLIN AND AMOXYCILLIN?

Phenoxymethylpenicillin and Amoxycillin are antibiotics belonging to a class of drug called penicillin antibiotics. Phenoxymethylpenicillin is often referred to as just 'penicillin'. They are only available with a doctor's prescription.

## WHAT IS IT FOR?

Phenoxymethylpenicillin and amoxycillin are used to treat or prevent bacterial infections. Some types of infections they are used for are:

- inner or middle ear (otitis media)
- mild lung infections (pneumonia)
- sinuses (sinusitis)
- skin infections
- throat (tonsillitis/pharyngitis)

Phenoxymethylpenicillin and amoxycillin may also be used to prevent heart valve infections or to prevent infections after someone has had their spleen removed.

## HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICINE

It is important that this medication is taken only as directed and not given to other people.

It is important to give the full course of treatment.

### Phenoxymethylpenicillin

- Usually given four times a day (ideally every six hours). For prevention of infection it may be given only once or twice a day.
- Should be given on an empty stomach (one hour before each meal and at bedtime if the dose is four times a day).

### Amoxycillin

- Usually given three times a day (ideally every eight hours).
- It does not matter if amoxycillin is given with food or on an empty stomach. It may be given with food if stomach upset occurs.
- If you are using the mixture, measure the dose accurately with an oral syringe or measuring cup/ spoon.

## WHAT TO DO IF A DOSE IS MISSED

If you miss a dose of phenoxymethylpenicillin or amoxycillin it can be given as soon as you remember. If it is close to the next dose, leave out the missed dose and continue as usual from that dose. **Do not double-up on any doses.**

## STORING THE MEDICINE

It is important to keep these medicines locked away out of the reach of children. Do not keep the medicine in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in other damp, warm places because this may make them less effective. Store in a cool, dry place, away from heat and direct light. The suspensions should be kept on a high shelf in the refrigerator.

## USE OF OTHER MEDICINES

Care must be taken when using phenoxymethylpenicillin or amoxicillin with some other medications. Check with your child's doctor or pharmacist before giving any prescription medicine or medicine purchased without prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket, or health food shop. Talk to your child's doctor or pharmacist about possible interactions with any over-the-counter or complementary medicines or recreational substances (e.g. alcohol)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Do not stop giving phenoxymethylpenicillin or amoxicillin without first checking with the doctor. Finish the full course even if the infection has cleared up and your child feels better.
- Do not use phenoxymethylpenicillin or amoxicillin if your child has had an allergic reaction to any penicillin antibiotics.

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Side effects can occur while taking phenoxymethylpenicillin or amoxicillin. Some of these are not serious and will go away with time or after the dose has been changed. Others are more serious and require you to check with your doctor.

### Less serious side effects include:

- nausea and vomiting
- heartburn
- diarrhoea
- oral thrush or fungal infection (white, furry, sore tongue or mouth)

**More Serious** (Contact doctor *as soon as possible* if any of the following occur):

- sore mouth or throat, mouth ulcers
- unusual bleeding or bruising
- profuse, watery diarrhoea, even after stopping the medication

**Allergic reaction** (Stop medicine and see doctor immediately):

- Skin rash, itching or hives, swollen mouth or lips, wheezing or difficulty breathing

*IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT*



***Your Child's Doctor via the RCH Switchboard  
on 03 9345 5522***

**OR**

***Pharmacy Department on 03 9345 5492  
IN CASE OF POISONING OR OVERDOSE CONTACT  
POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE 13 11 26  
(24 hour service)***

This leaflet answers some common questions about your child's medicine. It does not contain all available information. It does not take the place of talking to your child's doctor or pharmacist. The leaflet may differ from information in the manufacturer's Consumer Medicine Information. The information in this leaflet reflects the usage of medicine under medical supervision by patients of The Royal Children's Hospital. Medicine may be used in children in different ways or for different reasons than in adults - for more information see the leaflet "[Medicines for Children](#)". This leaflet includes information current at the time of review of the document – OCTOBER 2010.