

Conditions for administering treatment under the Structured Administration and Supply Arrangements: [Treatment of Syphilis Infection by Registered Nurses](#) and [Treatment of Syphilis Infection by Aboriginal Health Practitioners](#)

The Structured Administration and Supply Arrangement (SASA) enable Registered Nurses and Aboriginal Health Practitioners to administer treatment for syphilis infection in confirmed and/or symptomatic cases and sexual contacts of confirmed cases.

Treatment Conditions

For practitioners treating patients for syphilis under the SASA, the following treatment conditions must be noted and observed:

- a. Evidence that the current syphilis infection has not been previously treated is obtained by patient-history taking and/or referring to the patient's previous syphilis tests and/or seeking information from the local Public Health Unit or Communicable Disease Control Directorate, WA Department of Health;
- b. Venous blood **must** be taken for syphilis serology testing in a laboratory on the same day as the treatment is administered;
- c. Advice and approval from a medical practitioner is obtained prior to administering treatment to patients who are pregnant, co-infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), are suspected to have latent or tertiary syphilis or have symptoms of neuro syphilis as listed in The Silver Book; or where there is any doubt as to the currency of infection or need for treatment; and
- d. Cases suspected as being late latent or tertiary syphilis are referred to a medical practitioner for on-going, individual management after the first dose of benzathine penicillin has been administered.

Treatment notes

- The authorised treatment is benzathine penicillin: 2 x 900mg preloaded injections, given in each buttock at the same time.
- Patients with a known allergy to penicillin must not be treated under this SASA. Patients with a known allergy to penicillin should be referred to a medical practitioner for treatment and management.
- Jarish-Herxheimer reaction is a common reaction to treatment in patients with primary and secondary syphilis. Patients should be alerted to the possibility of this reaction and reassured accordingly.
- For management of any reported adverse events - seek further advice from a medical practitioner.