



**Scottish
Ambulance
Service**

Working in Partnership with Universities



Patient Group Direction PGD208

FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OR SUPPLY OF **CO-AMOXICLAV**

Staff Grade:	Qualified and Year Two Trainee: Advanced Paramedic Practitioners Advanced Nurse Practitioners (Urgent and Primary Care)
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Document Author(s) / Owner	
Version	1.0
Issue Date	28/03/2025
Review Date	28/03/2028
Division / Organisation Wide	Advanced Practice (Urgent & Primary Care) only

Health Care Professionals must be HCPC or NMC registered and authorised by name under this PGD before attempting to treat any patient according to it and have signed the relevant declaration.

Before using this PGD, healthcare professionals must ensure they are working within their scope of practice and be competent in the treatment of patients identified as suitable for inclusion under this PGD.

“Your scope of practice is the limit of your knowledge, skills and experience and is made up of the activities you carry out within your professional role. As a health and care professional, you must keep within your scope of practice at all times to ensure you are practising safely, lawfully and effectively. This is likely to change over time as your knowledge, skills and experience develop.” (HCPC 2024)

Staff should not deviate from their training, guidelines and scope of practice without taking professional clinical advice. All staff are expected to maintain their fitness to practice and undertake appropriate professional development to allow them to be fit for the role in which they are practising.

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1. Document Control Sheet

1.1 Key Information

Title:	Patient Group Direction PGD208
	Co-Amoxiclav
Date published / issued:	28/03/2025
Date effective from:	01/05/2025
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Author:	
Owner:	
Approver:	Medicines Management Group
Contact:	
Filename / location:	TBA

1.2 Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes	Name	Changes Marked
0.1	29/08/2024	Initial draft		N/A
0.2	30/01/2025	Use of Vitamin K agonists moved from exclusions to cautions		No
1.0	26/03/2025	Updated to approved version no., guidance comments removed		Yes
1.0	01/05/2025	First issue – supersedes entry in PGD005a		Yes

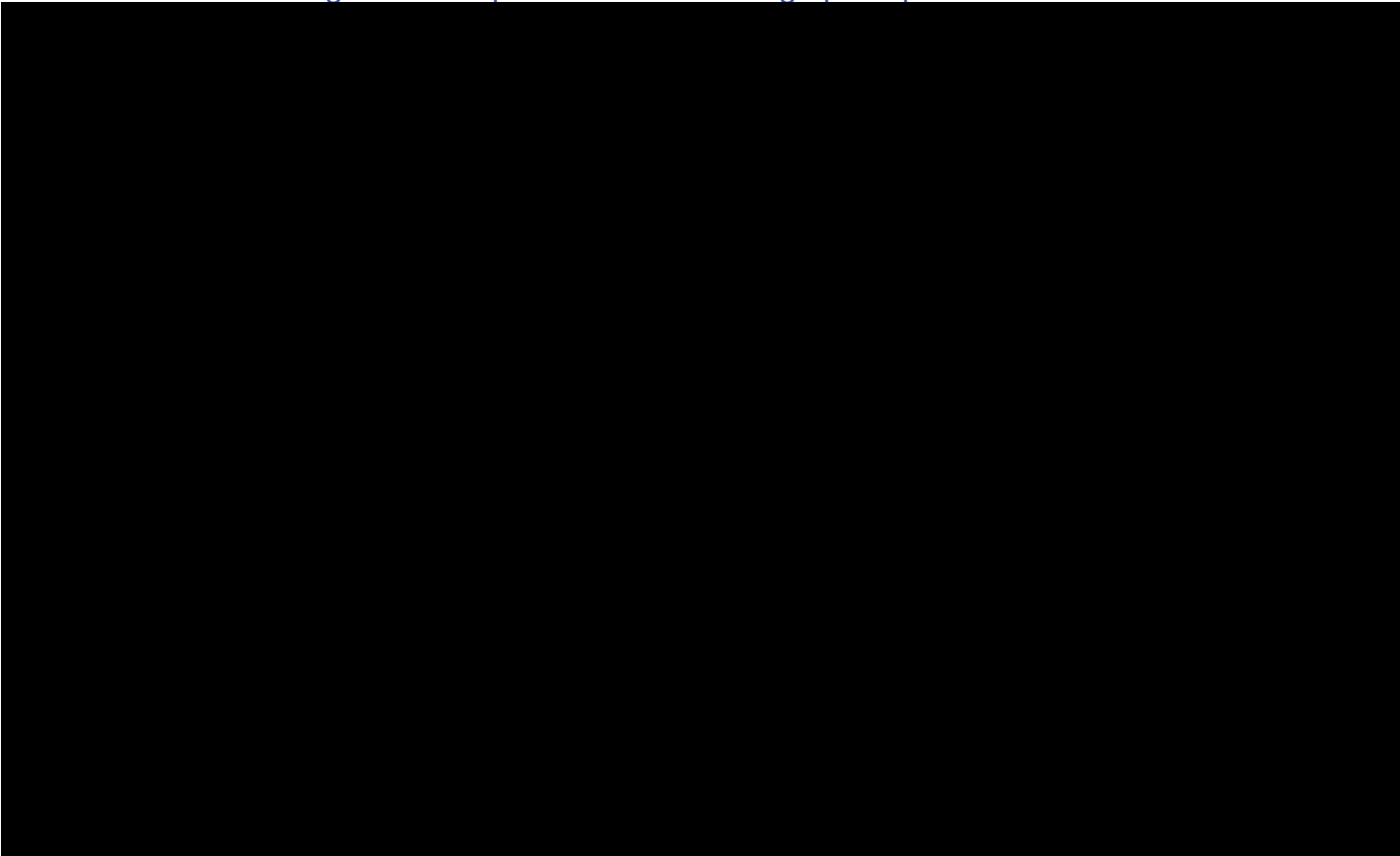
1.3 Approvals: This document requires the following approvals:

Name	Date	Version
National Advanced Practice Clinical Lead	30/01/2025	1.0
Medicines Management Group	30/01/2025	1.0
Pharmaceutical Advisor	03/03/2025	1.0
Medical Director	27/02/2025	1.0

1.4 Distribution: This document has been distributed to:

Name	Date	Version
Medicines Management Group	28/03/2025	1.0
Advanced Practice Leadership Team	28/03/2025	1.0
All Advanced Practitioners (UPC) & trainees	28/03/2025	1.0

1.5 Names and signatures of professionals drawing up the protocol



1.6 Professional / Advisory groups which have approved the protocol

Scottish Ambulance Service Medicines Management Group	Date	30/01/2025
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2. Using this PGD for Administration and/or Supply of Medicines

3. Characteristics of Staff

Qualifications required	HCPC or NMC registered, qualified and year two trainee: Advanced Paramedic Practitioners Advanced Nurse Practitioners (in Urgent and Primary Care)
Specific or additional experience / training required	<p>Undertaken an SCQF Level 11 module in Advanced Clinical Assessment (or equivalent) which included a period of supervised practice and signed off as competent. Passed all relevant written and practical assessments and ratified by a university exam board.</p> <p>Familiarisation with the signs and symptoms of conditions listed in “Criteria for Inclusion” in this PGD and possible differential diagnoses.</p> <p>Familiarisation with the use of Co-Amoxiclav, its indications, contra-indications and other details.</p>
Continuing training requirements	<p>The clinician should be aware of any changes to the evidence base for treatment conditions listed in “Criteria for Inclusion” below.</p> <p>The individual clinician is responsible for their own CPD and for keeping up to date with the use of medicine(s) in this PGD.</p>
Other	You must be authorised by name under the current version of this PGD before you attempt to work to it

4. Clinical Situations / Conditions to Which the Patient Group Direction Applies

Definition of conditions / situations to be treated	Prophylaxis of infection in human or animal bites
Criteria for inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults 16 years and over • Appropriate safety-netting can be made • Human or animal bites if not being referred to hospital
Criteria for exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children under 16 years of age • Informed non-consent • Known allergy to penicillin or excipients of the drug* • Known allergy to cephalosporin* • Known allergy to Clavulanic acid* • Purulent wounds where a culture swab would be required, or open wounds requiring deep cleansing and/or closure • Patients with known renal impairment with eGFR <30 mL/minute (CKD stage 4 or 5)* • History of Co-Amoxiclav or penicillin associated jaundice / hepatic dysfunction* • Pregnancy • Known or suspected glandular fever, cytomegalovirus, or acute / chronic lymphocytic leukaemia* • 3 days before or after taking the Oral typhoid vaccine • Significantly unwell or injured patients or those requiring further assessment (blood tests, swabs, x-ray, etc.) or admission <p>* If excluded for these reasons consider suitability for Doxycycline and Metronidazole. See PGDs 213 and 222 for guidance</p>
Action if patient is excluded or declines treatment	Document in ePR / patient record. Discuss alternatives with patient / carer as appropriate and advise on risks of declining treatment. Consider referral to primary or urgent care or a community pharmacy. If necessary, consider referral or transfer to a suitable receiving unit.

5. Description of Treatment (including dosage and administration)

Name, form(s) and strength(s) of medicine	Co-Amoxiclav 625mg (500/125mg) tablets
Legal status	POM
Is the use outwith the SmPC?	No
Storage requirements	Room temperature
Route(s) / method(s) of administration	Tablets by oral administration only – may be taken with or without a drink
Dose and frequency of administration	625mg (one tablet) 3 times a day for 3 days
Maximum dose and number of treatments	<p>Per notes above.</p> <p>Supply may be boxes of 15 or 21 x 625mg or 500/125mg tablets, clinicians should be aware of this when using the above guidance and supply the correct quantity (nine tablets).</p>

6. Cautions and Identification & Management of Adverse Reactions

Cautions	<p>Should be used with caution in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renal impairment / CKD – if known renal impairment only use if recent eGFR is known to be over 30mL/minute. If known to be lower consider alternative antibiotic or refer to GP or a SAS prescriber• Patients taking any of the anticoagulants Warfarin, Phenindione or Acenocoumarol, especially if their INR is known to be high• Patients taking:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Allopurinol (use alternative antibiotic if possible)○ Methotrexate (use alternative antibiotic if possible)
Drug interactions	<p>All drugs known to have adverse interactions with Co-Amoxiclav are exclusions to treatment under this PGD and noted above</p>
Identification and management of adverse reactions	<p>The risk of true penicillin allergy is under 10% of treated individuals, with the risk of anaphylactic reactions less than 0.05%. Patients with a history of atopic allergies (e.g. asthma, eczema, hayfever) are at higher risk. Anaphylactic reactions should be managed as per standard protocol / JRCALC guidance.</p> <p>Common or very common side-effects include: Diarrhoea, Nausea, Skin reactions, Thrombocytopenia, Vomiting</p> <p>Uncommon: Antibiotic associated colitis, Arthralgia, Dizziness, Dyspepsia, Headache, Leucopenia</p> <p>Rare or very rare: Agranulocytosis, Angioedema, Haemolytic anaemia, Hepatic disorders, Nephritis tubulointerstitial, Neutropoenia, Seizures, especially in renal impairment, Severe cutaneous adverse reactions</p> <p>A detailed list of adverse reactions can be found in the product's SmPC and PIL, see references below.</p> <p>Any adverse reactions, and action taken, are to be recorded in the patient's notes and other appropriate documentation e.g.: clinical incident form, Yellow Card scheme, etc.</p>

7. Patient Advice and Documentation

Patient advice (verbal and written)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment plan and gain consent • Clinician should inform the patient / carer of the realistic timeframe for improvement of symptoms being treated • Patients using an oral contraceptive should be informed that while Co-Amoxiclav does not affect it directly, if they have the side effect of vomiting or diarrhoea this may reduce their protection from pregnancy • Must complete the whole course, even if feeling better • Must see medical practitioner if symptoms worsen or do not resolve within the expected timeframe • Patients taking any of the anticoagulants Warfarin, Phenindione or Acenocoumarol should inform their INR clinic of the use of Co-Amoxiclav at the next appointment • Advise to contact GP / nurse / pharmacist / out-of-hours service if unexpected side effects or adverse reactions occur • Advised to call 999 if any life-threatening side-effects occur • Patients should be given a copy of the manufacturer's Patient Information Leaflet where available or signposted to an electronic copy if not • Patients should be advised to maintain adequate hydration
Arrangements for referral to medical advice	Local arrangements apply
Additional facilities / supplies required	<p>Drinking water (if required).</p> <p>Doxycycline and Metronidazole together is the preferred second choice antibiotic to Co-Amoxiclav for all indications listed in this PGD. If the patient is excluded from this PGD refer to both PGD213 and PGD222 for suitability.</p> <p>Co-Amoxiclav is available as 312mg/5ml oral suspension for patients unable to swallow tablets. It is not covered by this PGD so if required refer to the patient's GP or a SAS prescriber.</p>
Monitoring	No specific monitoring required
Follow up	Human or animal bites not being referred to hospital must be reviewed within 24-48 hours

Details of treatment records required

The ePR, or other patient record, must contain the following:

- Name of the HCP using this PGD
- Patient's name, address and date of birth. CHI number is also preferred
- Name of medication and expiry date
- Date and time of administration / supply
- Dose, form and route of administration
- For supplied medicine:
 - Dose and frequency to take
 - Number of items supplied
- That it is administered and/or supplied under this PGD and not prescribed or via an exemption

The ePR, or other patient record, must also contain:

- The patient's medical and medication history
- Medication and safety-netting / worsening advice given to the patient / carer

All records should be clear, legible and contemporaneous.

8. References and Further Reading

NICE Medicines Practice Guideline MPG2: Patient group directions

[Overview](#) | [Patient group directions](#) | [Guidance](#) | [NICE](#)

General guidance on antimicrobial stewardship

[Antimicrobial stewardship](#) | [Medicines guidance](#) | [BNF](#) | [NICE](#)

Antimicrobial prescribing guidance by health board

[Antimicrobial Prescribing | Right Decisions \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#)

Co-Amoxiclav in BNF

[Co-amoxiclav](#) | [Drugs](#) | [BNF](#) | [NICE](#)

Co-Amoxiclav on EMC

[Co-Amoxiclav 500/125mg tablets SmPC \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)

[Co-Amoxiclav 500/125mg Tablets Patient Information Leaflet \(medicines.org.uk\)](#)

BNF Treatment Summaries

[Antibacterials, principles of therapy](#) | [Treatment summaries](#) | [BNF](#) | [NICE](#)

[Penicillins](#) | [Treatment summaries](#) | [BNF](#) | [NICE](#)

NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS)

[Bites - human and animal](#) | [Health topics A to Z](#) | [CKS](#) | [NICE](#)

NICE Clinical Guidelines

[NG184 Human and animal bites: Antimicrobial prescribing](#) | [Guidance](#) | [NICE](#)

[NG184 Human and animal bites: Visual summary \(nice.org.uk\)](#)

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9. Signed Declarations (if electronic system is not used)

Individual Authorisation		Staff Copy
PGD No & Title:		PGD208 Co-Amoxiclav
Individual	Staff Member Name	
	Pay Number	
	Role	Advanced Paramedic/Nurse Practitioner (Urgent & Primary Care)
	HCPC / NMC Number	
	Signature	
	Date	

By signing I confirm that I have read and understood the above Patient Group Direction and confirm that I have necessary competence, training and knowledge to apply the Patient Group Direction. I will ensure my competence is updated as necessary. I will retain a copy of the Patient Group Direction to ensure that it is readily available to me in the clinical setting in which supply or administration of the medicine will take place. I understand that it is the responsibility of a health care professional to act in accordance within the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) “Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics” and “Standards of Proficiency” or, in accordance with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) “The Code”, “Standards for Competence for Registered Nurses” and “Standards for Medicines Management” including re-validation every three years to maintain registration with the NMC, and to keep an up to date record of training and competency.

Individual Authorisation		SAS Copy
PGD No & Title:		PGD208 Co-Amoxiclav
Individual	Staff Member Name	
	Pay Number	
	Role	Advanced Paramedic/Nurse Practitioner (Urgent & Primary Care)
	HCPC / NMC Number	
	Signature	
	Date	

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