

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS GUIDANCE

GENERAL POINTS

- This guidance applies to ADULT patients ONLY
- STOP and think before you prescribe antibiotics. Does your patient actually have an infection that requires treatment?
- Normal renal and hepatic function assumed – adjust doses if necessary.
- For pregnant patients refer to [Pregnancy and Postnatal Antibiotic Woman](#)
- For all other infections refer to [Hospital Antibiotic Man](#) or [Primary Care Antibiotic Man](#) or [Antibiotic Website](#)
- Refer to [MicroMan](#) for 'Antibiotic Rules of Thumb' and basic microbiology information on common infections
- Guidance on taking sexual history, testing and referral criteria is available in TSRH Primary Care Guidance p4 (add link)

FEMALE



Pregnant patients:

Refer to [Pregnancy and Postnatal Antibiotic Woman](#)

Chlamydia (uncomplicated)	Doxycycline 100mg bd (7 days). If intolerant: azithromycin 1g od day 1 then 500mg od for 2 days
Gonorrhoea	Refer to Sexual and Reproductive Health Service. If patient will not attend contact TSRH team for advice.
Gonorrhoea (sexual contacts)	A full sexual health screen should be offered but antimicrobial treatment should not be prescribed without testing. Antimicrobial resistance is very high.
Vulvovaginal candidiasis	Fluconazole 150mg as a single dose plus clotrimazole 1% cream 2-3 times daily or Clotrimazole 500mg pessary stat plus clotrimazole 1% cream 2-3 times daily Recurrent : >4 episodes/year - send HVS marked "recurrent thrush" to microbiology and consider referral to Genito-Urinary Medicine if need advice on further management. Exclude predisposing factors.
Bacterial vaginosis	Metronidazole 400mg bd (7 days) or 2g single dose Recurrent : Consider referral to Genito-Urinary Medicine
Trichomoniasis	Metronidazole 400mg bd (7 days) or 2g single dose
Vaginal discharge	Follow flow chart in TSRH Primary Care Guidance
Genital herpes (HSV)	First episode: Aciclovir 400mg 3 times daily (5 days) Recurrent: <i>Symptomatic treatment</i> - if non severe (see patient info leaflet) <i>Episodic treatment</i> – aciclovir 800mg 3 times daily (2 days) Suppressive: If > 6 recurrences/year and highly symptomatic discuss suppressive therapy with patient. Aciclovir 400mg bd for 12 months then treatment interruption. Await >2 recurrences before considering reintroducing suppressive therapy. Consider referral to Genito-urinary medicine if need advice on further management.
Patient info leaflet	
Genital warts (HPV)	Consider no treatment – 30% will resolve in <6 months Podophyllotoxin 0.5% solution or 0.15% cream – bd for 3 days then 4 days rest repeated for 4-5 cycles - suitable for soft, non keratinised, external genital warts. Unlicensed for perianal warts. Cream may be easier to apply to vulval or perianal warts Imiquimod 5% cream – 3 times weekly for up to 16 weeks - suitable for both keratinised and non keratinised, external genital and perianal warts (not recommended for internal use). Latex condoms may be weakened if in contact with podophyllotoxin or imiquimod. Cryotherapy – if available and trained clinician
Syphilis	Refer to Genito-Urinary Medicine
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	Refer to separate guidance for full advice, referral criteria, inpatients and pregnant patients Outpatient treatment: ensure appropriate investigations are sent including self or clinician taken vulvovaginal swab for Chlamydia and Gonococcal PCR. <i>High risk of GC or <18 years</i> – IM ceftriaxone 500mg IM single dose then doxycycline 100mg bd + metronidazole 400mg bd (14 days) <i>Low risk of GC</i> - Ofloxacin 400mg bd + metronidazole 400mg bd (14 days)

Warning:
podophyllotoxin and imiquimod treatments contraindicated in pregnancy

MALE



Chlamydia (uncomplicated)	Doxycycline 100mg bd (7 days). If intolerant: azithromycin 1g od day 1 then 500mg od for 2 days
Gonorrhoea	Refer to Sexual and Reproductive Health Service. If patient will not attend contact TSRH team for advice.
Gonorrhoea (sexual contacts)	A full sexual health screen should be offered but antimicrobial treatment should not be prescribed without testing. Antimicrobial resistance is very high.
Trichomoniasis	Metronidazole 400mg bd (7 days) or 2g single dose
Urethritis (non gonococcal)	Doxycycline 100mg bd (7 days) if contraindicated or not tolerated: Azithromycin 500mg day 1 then 500mg daily for 2 days
Genital herpes (HSV)	as per female section above
Genital warts (HPV)	as per female section above
Syphilis	Refer to Genito-Urinary Medicine
Epididymo-orchitis	Send MSSU, gonorrhoea & chlamydia tests. If STI likely (<35 or new partner in last 3mth) doxycycline 100mg bd (14 days). If UTI likely (>35 and no new partner) ofloxacin 200mg bd or ciprofloxacin 500mg bd (14 days). Refer to full guidance document.

BBV

HIV	Refer to HIV team. For other queries email ta.y.u.h.b.a.r.v.s.e.r.v.i.c.e@nhs.net . To check drug interactions www.hiv-druginteractions.org
HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis following sexual exposure (PEPSE)	Refer to Sexual Health Clinic (A&E if out of hours)
HIV Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)	Assessment and prescribing done by Sexual and Reproductive Health Service
Hepatitis B or C	Refer to Hepatitis team

Sexual Health Clinics Contact details: 01382 425542 **BBV&SH Website (link to be added)**
MOT (MenOnlyTayside) Clinics: see [website](#)
Oncall TSRH consultant: 07740937069 **TRSH advice email:** ta-y-uhb.TSRH@nhs.net