BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

STI/HIV Services
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Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (Lentocilin S 1200)
For Treatment of Syphilis

Benzathine Benzylpenicillin is also known as penicillin G benzathine. One dose of benzathine benzylpenicillin is prepared and given as two injections in the hip/buttock areas and is usually adequate to treat infectious syphilis. However, if the infection has been present for more than one year, or for an unknown length of time, then three doses of benzathine benzylpenicillin (penicillin G benzathine) are needed; these injections are given once a week over three weeks. Healthcare providers are encouraged to consult the BCCDC Syphilis Physicians to confirm syphilis staging/diagnosis and recommended treatment.

Allergies

- Tell your healthcare provider if you have allergies to penicillins or cephalosporins:
  - e.g. penicillin V-K and amoxicillin (Amoxil®)
  - e.g. cefoxitin
- Tell your healthcare provider if you have an allergy to soy, soy-containing products (e.g., tofu, soy milk, soy sauce, teriyaki sauce, Worcestershire sauce, soybeans) or peanuts. Lentocilin S 1200 contains soy phospholipids which may trigger an allergic reaction in individuals with severe soy or peanut allergies.
- Tell your healthcare provider if you have an allergy to lidocaine (local anesthetic) or have a history of cardiovascular, hepatic or renal dysfunction

Pregnancy and Chest/Breastfeeding

- Please consult the BCCDC STI Physicians before administering Lentocilin S to an individual who is pregnant or chest/breastfeeding.

Caution

- **Drug Interactions**: Please note that individual drug interactions are not listed in this document. If you are taking any prescription, non-prescription, herbal, or recreational products, please discuss with your healthcare provider.

Last review by BCCDC Pharmacy: March 2026

Care of Yourself After Treatment

- You will be asked to wait in the clinic for 15 minutes after your Lentocilin S injections.
- If you have any reactions after treatment (e.g. rash, itchiness, or breathing difficulties), please inform a staff member immediately.
- If these symptoms occur after leaving the clinic, please seek emergency care immediately (call 9-1-1 or go to a hospital or urgent care centre).

Side Effects

- You may get mild, temporary pain at the injection site.
- You may have diarrhea after treatment.
- Some may get a **Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction**: fever, chills, muscle aches, headache, or fatigue.
    - A Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction is a set of temporary side effects that may occur a few hours after treatment of syphilis. Not everyone will have this reaction.
    - Do not be alarmed, this is **not an allergic response** and usually ends in 24 hours.
    - Take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (Advil®), if needed to help relieve symptoms.
- If these effects don't go away or get worse, please contact your healthcare provider.

Stages of Syphilis

- Treatment and follow-up recommendations are based on how long the syphilis infection has been present in your body. Your healthcare provider will inform you of what stage of syphilis you have, and what treatment is required. You may also receive a call from a nurse on behalf of Public Health to discuss partner follow-up and recommendations for follow-up testing.

If you have any questions or need more information, please visit www.smartsexresource.com or contact your healthcare provider.

SmartSex Resource: Syphilis