



## Protocol Review Evidence used and rationale

**Protocol name:** Congenital Syphilis Protocol

**Rationale:** The changes in this protocol reflect the prophylactic treatment changes for low risk infant in the updated Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) Neonatology, *Syphilis: Investigation and management of the neonate born to a mother with syphilis* 1 June 2021. This updated protocol clarifies the interpretation of pathology and action at the 3 month follow up of the low risk infant and for the 6 month high risk infant.

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**Review / Input from:** Sexual and Reproductive Health Subcommittee (SRH-SC)

### **Discussion Points:**

- The prophylactic syphilis treatment guidelines for low-risk infants in the updated CAHS guidelines is based on the weight of the infant
  - **≥3kg** single dose **IMI** Benzathine Penicillin 50,000 unites/kg
  - **<3kg** commence **IV** Benzylpenicillin and contact Paediatric Infectious Diseases Team for a treatment plan
- No further follow up if the 3 month follow up for low risk infant has a non-reactive RPR and a negative EIA **and** TPPA. This has changed from a non-reactive RPR and a negative EIA/TPPA.
- Interpretation and action after the 6 month assessment for a high risk infant requires no clinical signs detected, RPR is non-reactive and EIA and TPPA are negative

### **Resources and References:**

- Child and Adolescent Health Service Neonatology, *Syphilis: Investigation and management of the neonate born to a mother with syphilis* 1 June 2021, <https://www.cahs.health.wa.gov.au/~media/HSPs/CAHS/Documents/Health-Professionals/Neonatology-guidelines/Syphilis-Investigation-and-Management-of-the-Neonate-Born-to-a-Mother-with-Syphilis.pdf?thn=0>
- Perth Children's Hospital *Benzathine Benzylpenicillin (Benzathine Penicillin G) Monograph -Paediatric* April 2021, <https://pch.health.wa.gov.au/-/media/Files/Hospitals/PCH/General-documents/Health-professionals/ChAMP-Monographs/Benzathine-Benzylpenicillin.pdf>