



# Nurse Administration of Intramuscular Benzathine Benzylpenicillin G for Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease

## 1. Background

A Structured Administration and Supply Arrangement (SASA) is a written direction of the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) that authorises Registered Nurses, under Part 6 of the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016, to administer or supply a medicine to patients in specified circumstances, in accordance with clinical guidelines and without a medical prescription or order.

## 2. Policy Statement

A Registered Nurse that is employed or contracted by WACHS to provide services relating to the management of acute rheumatic fever (ARF) or rheumatic heart disease (RHD) can supply and administer intramuscular Benzathine Benzylpenicillin G (BPG) in accordance with this policy and as per the *Nurse administration of intramuscular Benzathine Penicillin G (BPG) for the Rheumatic Heart Disease Program SASA*.

Nurses must be registered with AHPRA, be up to date with all their mandatory training and must have completed the following WACHS Learning and Development Declaration Packages (via [Capabiliti LMS](#)):

- Rheumatic Heart Disease - Administering Bicillin (RHDAB EL2), and
- Rheumatic Heart Disease - Health Worker Modules (CL20 EL2)

This policy covers nurses who are working in hospitals, public and community health units, child health clinics, nursing posts, remote area clinics and school health settings for WACHS.

## 3. Definitions

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>ARF</b>   | Acute Rheumatic Fever                              |
| <b>BPG</b>   | Benzathine Benzylpenicillin G                      |
| <b>CHIS</b>  | Community Health Information System                |
| <b>CPR</b>   | Cardiopulmonary resuscitation                      |
| <b>EDRMS</b> | Electronic Documents and Records Management System |
| <b>RHD</b>   | Rheumatic Heart Disease                            |
| <b>SASA</b>  | Structured Administration and Supply Arrangement   |
| <b>WACHS</b> | Western Australia Country Health Service           |

## 4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Registered Nurse is responsible for working within their scope of practice, including adhering to WACHS's, and all other relevant operational guidelines, policies and legislative requirements. The Registered Nurse is to manage health conditions including the administration of medication and to deliver education that supports the health of the individual, families and communities.

## 5. Compliance

Compliance with this policy is mandatory. Failure to comply may constitute a breach of the WA Health Code of Conduct (Code). The Code is part of the [Integrity Policy Framework](#) issued pursuant to section 26 of the [Health Services Act 2016](#) and is binding on all WACHS staff.

## 6. Records Management

### Electronic Documents and Records Management System (EDRMS)

All records both clinical and non-clinical are to be stored in the approved EDRMS and in line with the [Health Record Management Policy](#).

### Community Health Information System (CHIS)

For WACHS staff using the CHIS, the recording of BPG administration should align with the data entry standards and clinical user guides located on the [CHIS Resources](#) intranet page.

### RHD Register

[Mandatory reporting requirements](#) outline ARF and RHD as notifiable conditions in Western Australia as of 19 June 2015. All possible, probable and confirmed cases must be notified to the WA RHD Register using the [notification form](#). This includes when there is clinical suspicion of ARF (i.e. diagnosis not yet confirmed) and for recurrent episodes.

## 7. Evaluation

Evaluation of this policy is to be carried out by the WA RHD Register and Control Program Manager and Clinical Nurse Specialist.

## 8. Standards

### [National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards](#)

Medication Safety Standard: 4.1a, 4.1c, 4.2b and 4.4

## 9. Legislation

[Health Services Act 2016 \(WA\)](#)

[Health \(Rheumatic Heart Disease Register of Western Australia\) Regulations 2015](#)

[Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016](#)

[Public Health Act 2016 \(WA\)](#)

## 10. References

1. [SASA - Administration of intramuscular Benzathine Penicillin G for RHD and ARF](#)
2. [WACHS, WA Rheumatic Heart Disease Register \(2020\)](#).
3. [Rheumatic Heart Disease Australia \(RHDA\), RHDA website \(2020\)](#).
4. [Department of Health, Australian Government, SoNG Guidelines \(2019\)](#)

## 11. Related Policy Documents

WACHS [Documentation - Clinical Practice Standard](#)

WACHS [Medication Administration Policy](#)

## 12. Related WA Health System Policies

Nil

## 13. Policy Framework

[Clinical Governance, Safety and Quality](#)

[Clinical Services Planning and Programs](#)

**This document can be made available in alternative formats  
on request for a person with a disability**

|                     |                                       |                        |                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Contact:</b>     | Clinical Nurse Specialist (M. Morton) | <b>EDRMS Record #</b>  | ED-CO-20-70066  |
| <b>Directorate:</b> | Health Programs                       | <b>Date Published:</b> | 29 October 2020 |
| <b>Version:</b>     | 1.00                                  |                        |                 |

Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.