

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK | HEALTH ADVISORY | July 22, 2025

Bicillin® Recall Information for North Dakota

Background

On July 10, 2025, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals sent a [letter](#) to key individuals and organizations regarding a recall of Bicillin® L-A (Penicillin G Benzathine Injectable Suspension).

Due to the limited scope of this recall, organizations that stock Bicillin® L-A (Penicillin G Benzathine Injectable Suspension) should promptly check their inventory to determine whether they possess any of the affected lots. If any impacted product is identified, the organization should follow the provided instructions to contact Sedgwick (on behalf of Pfizer) for reimbursement and replacement medication.

The North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Division of Disease Control and Forensic Pathology (DCFP) is currently monitoring the impact of this recall on access to effective treatment for syphilis. At this time no shortage of Penicillin G Benzathine Injectable Suspension (PCN) has been identified in North Dakota.

Key Facts and Recommendations

HHS is actively monitoring the situation with the goal of maintaining sufficient statewide supply for treatment of syphilis, prioritizing pregnant individuals and infants. Injectable long-acting benzathine penicillin G remains the *only* recommended treatment for syphilis during pregnancy and for infants exposed to syphilis. Therefore, these patients should be prioritized for treatment.

HHS Recommends the Following Priority Actions:

- Review communication from Pfizer to assess if your current inventory is affected: [Bicillin® LA URGENT: DRUG RECALL](#).
- Assess your organizational supply, forecast your need, and reserve sufficient injectable long-acting benzathine penicillin G for priority patients. Reach out to

your distributors and to Pfizer directly to state your need for additional medication, if necessary.

- Evaluate organizational capacity to purchase and dispense [Lentocilin© and Extencilline](#), two alternative formulations that were approved by U.S. FDA for temporary importation because of prior shortages.
- Choose doxycycline for treatment of non-pregnant people with syphilis to help preserve injectable long-acting benzathine penicillin G supplies for pregnant patients and infectious partners. Doxycycline can be given at a dose of 100mg orally two times a day for two weeks (for early syphilis) or for four weeks (for late latent syphilis or latent syphilis of unknown duration) See [CDC's treatment recommendations](#) for more information. Individuals treated with doxycycline should have a test of cure at 3 and 6 months.
- Institute systems-level approaches to steward the use of injectable long-acting benzathine penicillin G and encourage the use of alternative antimicrobials for other infectious diseases.
- Accurately stage syphilis infections to ensure appropriate dosing of antimicrobials. Clinicians with questions about syphilis clinical management should review the [CDC 2021 STI Treatment Guidelines](#), or contact an infectious diseases specialist, HHS DCFP at 701-328-2378, or the National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Center (NNPTC) [STD Clinical Consultation Network](#).
- If you cannot get injectable long-acting benzathine penicillin G to treat pregnant patients or their contacts, contact the HHS DCFP at 701-328-2378.
- For more information regarding syphilis in your jurisdiction, please visit [Data | Health and Human Services North Dakota](#)