Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996

Drug Therapy Protocol – Communicable Diseases Program

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Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996
Drug Therapy Protocol – Communicable Diseases Program

I, Jeannette Rosita Young, pursuant to the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, sections 164A(c), 171(3), 174(4) and 175(6) certify this document as the Drug Therapy Protocol – Communicable Diseases Program.

Circumstances and conditions

1. During a declared public health emergency in relation to an infectious medical condition:
   - a pharmacist may, as part of the person’s pharmaceutical duties, administer or supply the restricted drugs (other than vaccines) listed in Appendix 1 column 1;
   - an Indigenous health worker, while practising in an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community in an isolated practice area may, as part of the person’s Indigenous health worker duties, administer or supply the restricted drugs (other than vaccines) listed in Appendix 1 column 1;
   - an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, while practising in an isolated practice area in a Hospital and Health Service or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health service may, as part of the person’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner duties, administer or supply the restricted drugs (other than vaccines) listed in Appendix 1 column 1;
   - a Queensland Ambulance Service Officer who is a paramedic 1 or 2 may, as part of the person’s ambulance duties, obtain, possess, administer or supply the restricted drugs (other than vaccines) listed in Appendix 1 column 1;
   - a Queensland Ambulance Service Officer who is a paramedic 3, 3 (ECP) or 4 may, as part of the person’s ambulance duties, obtain, posses, administer or supply the restricted drugs listed in Appendix 1 column 1;
   - a registered nurse, as part of the person’s nursing duties, may administer or supply the restricted drugs listed in Appendix 1 column 1;

and may do these things only for persons identified as being exposed or potentially exposed to an infectious medical condition, and only:
   - by a route of administration for the drug stated in Appendix 1, column 2; and
   - subject to the conditions for the drug stated in Appendix 1 column 3 (if any); and
   - in accordance with a Health Management Protocol developed and approved by the Chief Health Officer Queensland Health that meets the requirements in Appendix 2 (the relevant protocol) 1.

2. The relevant Health Management Protocol and Australian Immunisation Handbook must be available to the pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse at the time the pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse is acting under this Drug Therapy Protocol.

4. Before administering or supplying a restricted drug, the pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse must be familiar with the contra-indication(s) and known side effects of the drug, and advise the patient accordingly.

5. If Consumer Medicine Information is available for a particular restricted drug, the pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse must, where reasonably practicable, offer the information to each person to whom the pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse administers or supplies the drug.

1 Unless, if in the opinion of the pharmacist, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Indigenous health worker, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse such actions would be of detriment to the patient. In such instances, a doctor must be consulted.
Certification
Drug Therapy Protocol – Communicable Diseases Program QH-DTP-CDP-01:2019

Certified at Brisbane on this 4th day of April 2019.

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
Department of Health

Notes:
(a) The pharmacist, Indigenous health worker, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner, Queensland Ambulance Service Officer or registered nurse must be aware that practising within the Drug Therapy Protocol does not relieve that person of their legal responsibility or accountability for that person’s actions and may not provide immunity in case of negligence.
(b) All other provisions of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 such as the packaging and labelling requirements for dispensed medicines apply.
(c) The certified written policy ‘Packing or repacking of scheduled medicines in rural hospitals or isolated practice areas’ dated 19 October 2019 applies.
## Appendix 1

### Antivirals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled Substances</th>
<th>Approved Route Of Administration</th>
<th>Restrictions/Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oseltamivir phosphate</td>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>For use only in relation to an infectious medical condition to persons identified by the Chief Executive or delegate or officer appointed for such purpose under the <em>Public Health Act 2005</em>, as being exposed or potentially exposed to an infectious medical condition during a declared public health emergency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zanamivir</td>
<td>Inhalation</td>
<td>For administration or supply only to persons described by the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vaccines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled Substances</th>
<th>Approved Route Of Administration</th>
<th>Restrictions/Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza vaccine</td>
<td>As per the current Australian Immunisation Handbook</td>
<td>For use only in relation to an infectious medical condition to persons identified by the Chief Executive or delegate or officer appointed for such purpose under the <em>Public Health Act 2005</em>, as being exposed or potentially exposed to an infectious medical condition during a declared public health emergency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For administration or supply only to persons described by the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For administration only by registered nurses and Queensland Ambulance Service Officers who are paramedic levels 3, 3(ECP) and 4.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 2

Health Management Protocol – Minimum Requirements

1. The employer must have and use a current Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol that supports and details the clinical use, administration and/or supply of restricted drugs listed in Appendix 1 of this Drug Therapy Protocol.

2. The Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol must be developed by the Department of Health area responsible for communicable diseases and may include the involvement of other identified professional personnel as considered appropriate by the Department.

3. Following a period of two years or sooner if considered necessary, the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol must be reviewed by the Department of Health area responsible for communicable diseases.

Content of a Health Management Protocol

The Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol clearly identifies the procedures for clinical assessment, management and follow-up of patients, including the recommended drug therapy for the relevant clinical problem and includes the following:

1. The people allowed to be treated under the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol and the indications for treatment.

2. The pre-treatment assessment process that includes the situations when medical referral/consultation must occur and documented assessment for contraindications and precautions regarding the restricted drug.

3. The requirement for documented consent of the person being administered the restricted drug.

4. The requirement that the dose, method of administration, duration of use for the restricted drugs listed in Appendix 1 is to be in accordance with the Australian approved product information unless instructed by a medical officer or as directed by the Department of Health for liquid paediatric dose forms. In the case of vaccines, the requirements of the current Australian Immunisation Handbook and National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5 are to be complied with.

5. The type of equipment and management procedures required for management of an emergency associated with the use of the restricted drug.

6. The process for monitoring and reporting adverse events.

7. The procedures in relation to storage of restricted drugs and labelling for supplied medicines.

8. The process for the provision of written information to the person (or parent of a child) being administered or supplied with the restricted drug that includes how the medicine is to be used and when and how to seek help.

9. The requirement for keeping records of restricted drugs administered under this DTP.

Endorsement of the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol by the Chief Health Officer

1. A new or reviewed Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Health Management Protocol must be endorsed and dated by the Chief Health Officer.

2. The Queensland Health Pandemic Influenza Communicable Diseases Protocol shall be effective for a maximum of two (2) years from the date of endorsement by the Chief Health Officer.

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i Where the paediatric formulation is compounded