

# What to do after your child's antibiotic challenge

This leaflet explains what happens now that your child has had an oral (by mouth) antibiotic challenge in hospital.

## What medicines your child has had today

Today (..... / ..... / .....), your child has had a drug challenge to .....  
..... and received a total dose of .....

## What were the results?

Your child did not show any signs or symptoms of an immediate type allergic reaction while on the unit today.

## What happens now?

It is important to take the antibiotic for a **further** ..... **days** at home, to capture any signs of a delayed allergic reaction.

## What to do if your child has an allergic reaction at home

If any signs of an allergic reaction occur during the next 3 days, such as itching, redness, swelling or a rash

- **stop** the antibiotic and give an antihistamine such as chlorphenamine or cetirizine
- **do not give any more doses of the antibiotic.**
- take some photos of the rash that occurs, if you can
- Once your child is settled, call the allergy service to report the reaction

If your child's skin has redness and is peeling, particularly the mouth, or around the eyes, **stop** the antibiotic and seek medical help.

## What to do if your child has a more severe allergic reaction

**Call 999 immediately for an ambulance** if your child shows any signs or symptoms of a more severe allergic reaction (known as anaphylaxis), such as:

- coughing
- wheezing
- breathlessness
- throat tightening
- collapse

If your child has ever been issued an adrenaline autoinjector (epipen, Jext or Emerade) for this type of allergic reaction, follow their emergency plan.

**Do not give your child any more of the antibiotic.**

## After your child has finished the course of antibiotics

We will call you after the course of antibiotics at home, to check that your child has been well while taking the medicine. If this is the case, we will then write to you, and your child's GP, to say that your child is **not** allergic to the antibiotic, and this can be prescribed if needed in the future.

### Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's antibiotic challenge, please book a nurse telephone call-back by accessing our online calendar, [web my.drdoctor.co.uk/clinic/childrensallergynursehelpline](http://web.my.drdoctor.co.uk/clinic/childrensallergynursehelpline)

Or call, [phone 020 7188 9783](tel:02071889783), Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

For more information on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit, [web www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets](http://web.www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets)

### Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline, [phone 020 7188 3003](tel:02071883003), Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm [email letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk)

### Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), [phone 020 7188 8801](tel:02071888801) [email pals@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@gstt.nhs.uk). To make a complaint contact the resolution department [phone 020 7188 3514](tel:02071883514) [email complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk)

### Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch, [phone 020 7188 8815](tel:02071888815) [email languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk)

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