

# What to do after your child's antibiotic challenge

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

## What medicines has my child had today?

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

## What did today show?

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

## What happens now?

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

## What happens if my child has an allergic reaction at home?

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

- **STOP** the antibiotic and treat with an antihistamine such as chlorphenamine or cetirizine.
- If you are able, please take some photos of the rash that occurs.
- **Do not give any more doses of the antibiotic.**
- Once your child is settled, please call the allergy service to report the reaction.

**If your child has redness and peeling of the skin, particularly the mouth, around the eyes, STOP the antibiotic and seek medical help.**

## What happens if my child has a more severe allergic reaction?

If your child shows any signs or symptoms of a more severe allergic reaction such as coughing, wheezing, breathlessness, throat tightening or collapse (known as anaphylaxis) **dial 999 for an ambulance immediately.**

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

**Do not give your child anymore of the antibiotic.**

## What happens when my child has finished the course of antibiotics?

We will call you following the course of antibiotics at home to check that your child has been well whilst taking the medicine. If this is the case, we will then write to your GP and yourself 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: <https://www.zesty.co.uk/practices/childrens-allergy-nurse-helpline> or contact the allergy service, **t:** 020 7188 9783, Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

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

**t:** 020 7188 3003 10am to 5pm, Monday to Friday      **e:** [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). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

**t:** 020 7188 8801 (PALS)      **e:** [pals@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@gstt.nhs.uk)  
**t:** 020 7188 3514 (complaints)      **e:** [complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk)

### NHS 111

Offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day.

**t:** 111      **w:** [www.111.nhs.uk](http://www.111.nhs.uk)

### NHS Choices

Provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make choices about your health.

**w:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

### Get involved and have your say: become a member of the Trust

Members of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the organisation on a voluntary basis. We count on them for feedback, local knowledge and support. Membership is free and it is up to you how much you get involved. To find out more, and to become a member:

**t:** 0800 731 0319      **e:** [members@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:members@gstt.nhs.uk)      **w:** [www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership](http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership)

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