

# Antimicrobial Prescribing Guidelines for Primary Care in Ireland

## Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Amoxicillin<sup>1</sup>

Age	Normal dose	Maximum dose	Maximum dose check (average weight for age)
<b>1-11 months</b>	125mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	30mg/kg per dose to be given 3-times daily	1 month (4.3kg) 125mg 3-times daily 11 months (8kg) 250mg 3-times daily
<b>1-4 years</b>	250mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	30mg/kg per dose to be given 3-times daily	1 year (9kg) 250mg 3-times daily 4 years (16kg) 500mg 3-times daily
<b>5-11 years</b>	500mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	30mg/kg per dose to be given 3-times daily	5 years (18kg) 500mg 3-times daily 11 years (35kg) 1g 3-times daily
<b>12-17 years</b>	500mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	1g 3-times daily	1g 3-times daily

Available Formulations: Amoxicillin powder for suspension 125mg/5mL, 250mg/5mL and 125mg/1.25mL; capsules 250mg and 500mg. See Chapter 9.1.1 Penicillins (Amoxicillin).

## Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Phenoxymethylpenicillin (Penicillin V)<sup>1</sup>

Age	Normal dose	Maximum dose	Maximum dose check (average weight for age)
<b>1-11 months</b>	62.5mg per dose to be given 4-times daily	12.5 mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	11 months (8kg) max. 100mg 4-times daily
<b>1-5 years</b>	125mg per dose to be given 4-times daily	12.5 mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	1 year (9kg) max. 125mg 4-times daily 5 years (18kg) max. 225mg 4-times daily
<b>6-12 years</b>	250mg per dose to be given 4-times daily OR 333mg per dose to be given 4-times daily (Calvepen tablet)	12.5 mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	6 years (20kg) max. 300mg 4-times daily 12 years (39kg) max. 600mg 4-times daily
<b>12 years and older, adults</b>	500mg per dose to be given 4-times daily OR 666mg per dose to be given 4-times daily (Calvepen tablet)	12.5 mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	Max. 1200mg 4-times daily

Available Formulations: Phenoxymethylpenicillin powder for oral suspension/solution 125mg/5mL, 250mg/5mL; tablets 250mg, 333mg and 666mg (333mg Calvepen tablet = 300mg phenoxymethylpenicillin). See Chapter 9.1.1 Penicillins (Phenoxymethylpenicillin).

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## Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Co-Amoxiclav (amoxicillin/clavulanic acid)<sup>1</sup>

### Three times daily (TDS) 125/31.25mg per 5mL Oral Suspension Dosing Table

Combined amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 156mg per 5mL contains 125mg amoxicillin and 31.25mg clavulanic acid per 5mL.

**Warning:** In the small number of instances where Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid is indicated, a twice daily preparation of amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 400/57mg per 5mL is not recommended for first-line therapy.

### Children aged less than 12 years

Weight	Mild-moderate infection 8.3 mg/kg* TDS		Severe infection 16.7 mg/kg* TDS	
	Dose in mg	Dose in mL	Dose in mg	Dose in mL
2kg	17mg* TDS	0.5mL TDS	33mg* TDS	1.1mL TDS
3kg	25mg* TDS	0.8mL TDS	50mg* TDS	1.6mL TDS
4kg	33mg* TDS	1.1mL TDS	67mg* TDS	2.1mL TDS
5kg	42mg* TDS	1.3mL TDS	84mg* TDS	2.7mL TDS
6kg	50mg* TDS	1.6mL TDS	100mg* TDS	3.2mL TDS
7kg	58mg* TDS	1.9mL TDS	117mg* TDS	3.7mL TDS
8kg	66mg* TDS	2.1mL TDS	134mg* TDS	4.3mL TDS
9kg	75mg* TDS	2.4mL TDS	150mg* TDS	4.8mL TDS
10kg	83mg* TDS	2.7mL TDS	167mg* TDS	5.4mL TDS
11kg	91mg* TDS	2.9mL TDS	184mg* TDS	5.9mL TDS
12kg	100mg* TDS	3.2mL TDS	200mg* TDS	6.4mL TDS
13kg	108mg* TDS	3.5mL TDS	217mg* TDS	7mL TDS
14kg	116mg* TDS	3.7mL TDS	234mg* TDS	7.5mL TDS
15kg	125mg* TDS	4mL TDS	251mg* TDS	8mL TDS

\*NB: Dose expressed as amoxicillin/clavulanic acid combined i.e. 156mg = 125mg amoxicillin + 31.25mg clavulanic acid per 5mL.

### Children aged 2 -12 years and weighing less than 40kg

Age	Mild-moderate infection		Severe infection	
	Dose in mg	Dose in mL	Dose in mg	Dose in mL
1-5 years (over 15kg)	156mg* TDS	5mL TDS	312mg* TDS	10mL TDS
6-12 years**	312mg* TDS	10mL TDS	624mg* TDS	20mL TDS

\*NB: Dose expressed as amoxicillin/clavulanic acid combined i.e 156mg = 125mg amoxicillin + 31.25mg clavulanic acid in 5 mL.

\*\*In 6- 12 years you may wish to consider a twice daily dosing formulation of amoxicillin-clavulanic acid to reduce volume of suspension necessary for correct dose. Consult with pharmacist to calculate dose.

### Children aged 2 -12 years and weighing less than 40kg

625mg TDS (tablet formulation: 625 mg = amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 500/125 mg) or 624mg TDS (20mL TDS of amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 125/31.25mg per 5mL)

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### Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Flucloxacillin<sup>1</sup>

Age	Normal dose
<b>1 month-1 year</b>	62.5-125mg per dose to be given 4-times daily
<b>2-9 years</b>	125-250mg per dose to be given 4-times daily
<b>10-17 years</b>	250-500mg per dose to be given 4-times daily

Available Formulations: Flucloxacillin powder for oral suspension 125mg/5mL and 250mg/5mL; capsules 250mg and 500mg. See Chapter 9.1.1 Penicillins (Flucloxacillin).

### Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Clarithromycin<sup>1</sup>

Approximate Age	Weight	Dose*
<b>1-2 years</b>	8-11kg	62.5mg per dose to be given twice daily
<b>3-6 years</b>	12-19kg	125mg per dose to be given twice daily
<b>7-9 years</b>	20-29kg	187.5mg per dose to be given twice daily
<b>10-12 years</b>	30-40kg	250mg per dose to be given twice daily

(\*dose is based on 7.5mg/kg per dose twice daily)

Available Formulations: Clarithromycin granules for oral suspension 125mg/5mL and 250mg/5mL; tablets 250mg and 500mg. Prolonged release tablets are not recommended in children. See Chapter 9.1.4 Macrolides (Clarithromycin).

### Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Cefalexin<sup>1</sup>

Age	Normal dose	Maximum dose	Maximum dose check (average weight for age)
<b>1-11 months</b>	75mg-125mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	17mg/kg/per dose to be given 3-times daily	1 month (4.3kg) 75mg 3-times daily 11 months (8kg) 125mg 3-times daily
<b>1-4 years</b>	125mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	17mg/kg/per dose to be given 3-times daily	1 year (9kg) 150mg 3-times daily 4 years (16kg) 250mg 3-times daily
<b>5-11 years</b>	250mg per dose to be given 3-times daily	17mg/kg/per dose to be given 3-times daily	5 years (18kg) 300mg 3-times daily 11 years (35kg) 500mg 3-times daily
<b>12-17 years</b>	500mg per dose to be given 3-times daily		1-1.5g to be given 3 to 4 times daily (max. 1g 4-times daily)

Available Formulations: Cefalexin powder for oral suspension 125mg/5mL and 250mg/5mL; 250mg and 500mg capsules. See Chapter 9.1.2 Cephalosporins, Carbapenems, Monobactams (Cefalexin).

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### Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Nitrofurantoin<sup>1</sup>

NOTE: For uncomplicated urinary tract infections in children, duration of treatment, 3 days.

Age	Normal dose	Dose check (average weight for age) 0.75mg/kg 4-times daily (round to nearest 5mg)
<b>3 – 5 months</b>	0.75mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	(5-7kg) 5mg to be given 4-times daily
<b>6 months-3 years</b>	0.75mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	6 months (8kg) 5mg to be given 4-times daily 3 years (14kg) 10mg to be given 4-times daily
<b>4-7 years</b>	0.75mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	4 years (16kg) 10mg to be given 4-times daily 7 years (23kg) 15mg to be given 4-times daily
<b>8-12 years</b>	0.75mg/kg per dose to be given 4-times daily	8 years (26kg) 20mg to be given 4-times daily 12 years (39kg) 30mg to be given 4-times daily
<b>Older than 12 years, adults</b>	50mg to be given 4-times daily	

Available Formulations: 50mg and 100mg capsules. See Chapter 9.1.8 Drugs Used In Urinary Tract Infections (Nitrofurantoin).

Unlicensed oral suspension available for children. Consult with pharmacist regarding availability and price.

### Antibiotic Prescribing for Children: Trimethoprim<sup>1</sup>

Age	Normal dose 4mg/kg twice daily	Dose check (average weight for age) 4mg/kg twice daily
<b>6 weeks – 5 months</b>	4mg/kg per dose to be given twice daily	6 weeks (5kg) 20mg twice daily 5 months (7kg) 30mg twice daily
<b>6 months – 3 years</b>	4mg/kg per dose to be given twice daily	6 months (8kg) 30mg twice daily 3 years (14kg) 60mg twice daily
<b>4-7 years</b>	4mg/kg per dose to be given twice daily	4 years (16kg) 60mg twice daily 7 years (23kg) 90mg twice daily
<b>8-12 years</b>	4mg/kg per dose to be given twice daily	8 years (26kg) 100mg twice daily 12 years (39kg) 160mg twice daily
<b>Older than 12 years, adults</b>	200mg twice daily	

Available Formulations: Trimethoprim oral suspension 10mg/mL; tablets 100mg and 200mg. See Chapter 9.1.8 Drugs Used In Urinary Tract Infections (Trimethoprim).

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