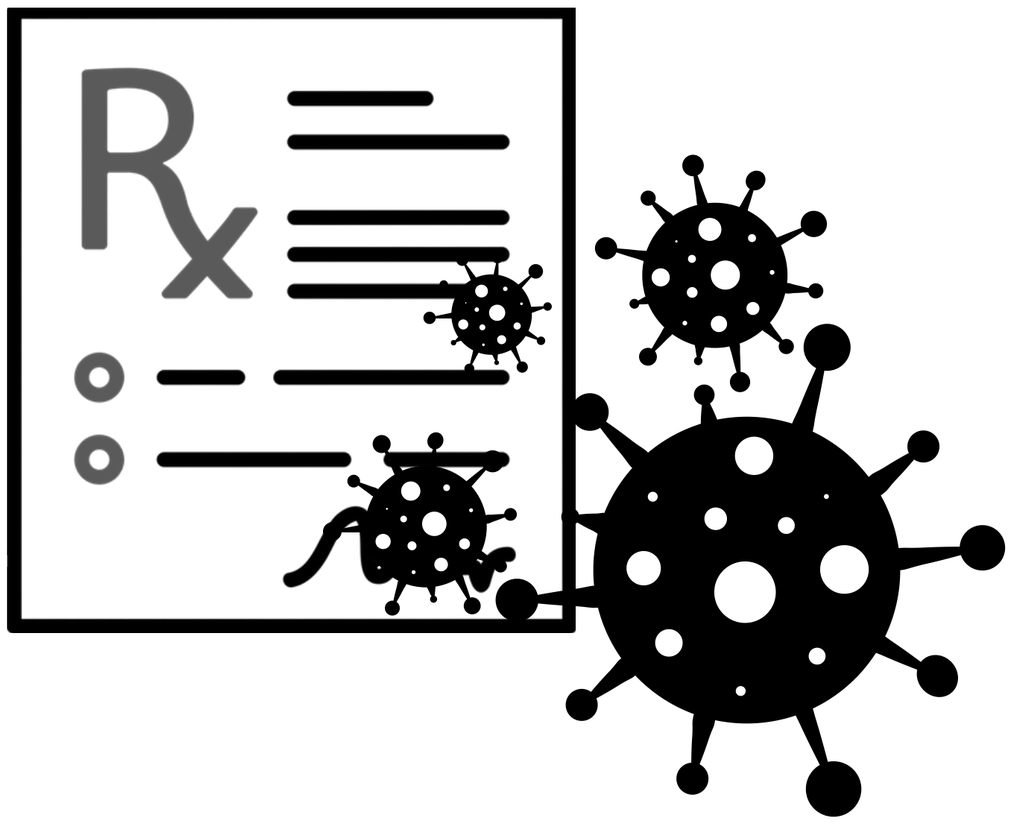
INVASIVE GROUP A STREPTOCOCCUS (iGAS) CHEMOPROPHYLAXIS

iGAS CHEMOPROPHYLAXIS

iGAS infections can cause severe manifestations such as Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome, soft-tissue necrosis (e.g. necrotizing fascitis) and meningitis.

Pharmacists can support patients, identified by public health, by assessing and prescribing antibiotics. Chemoprophylaxis within 7 days can reduce the risk of developing severe symptoms.



PROCESS

1. Patients identified as high risk by Public Health are provided with a letter stating their close contact status.
2. Asymptomatic cotacts are instructed to seek a prescription for iGAS chemoprophylaxis from an appropriate prescriber (e.g. pharmacist)
3. A pharmacist assesses and prescribes an appropriate single course of antibiotics in alignment with the medSask PAR and the patient-specific letter issued by the Medical Health Officer or Public Health.

DOCUMENTATION

Documentation needs to occur on the PAR - iGAS Disease Chemoprophylaxis.

PAR must be sent to the primary care practitioner and any other practitioners whose care is impacted by prescribing.

BILLING

Eligible for any Saskatchewan resident with a valid Health Services Number (excluding residents of Special-care homes)

- Invasive Group A Strep. Fee: **$25.00**
- **Maximum of FOUR (4) claims** in a 365-day period per patient

Billing Code: 00951677

NOTES

A copy of the letter to support the pharmacist's prescribing must be maintained.

The Communicable Disease Control Manual section (2-40) contains information on this important public health program.

This tool is intended as a quick reference to support practice. Pharmacists should review and be familiar with SCPP and DPEBB policy, including general policies for prescribing authority.

All pharmacists are authorized to prescribe under this Level II prescriptive authority. Before prescribing, pharmacist are required to read and understand the Communicable Disease Control Manual section (2-40) - Group A Streptococcal Disease (invasive) through self-directed study.