





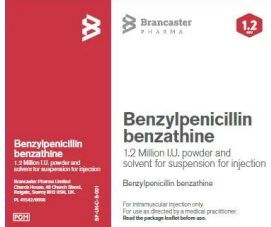



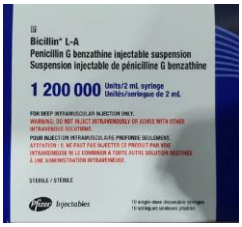


Benzathine benzylpenicillin G Administration (BPG) “Tips and Tricks”

Long-acting BPG is a critical medicine for treatment of Streptococcus A (Strep A), syphilis infections and acute rheumatic fever prevention. Due to ongoing international shortages of the pre-filled Bicillin L-A product usually used in Australia, several alternative products have been sourced for use. This document has been developed to provide preparation and administration guidance for all BPG products used in Australia.

ALL products contain the same active medication, and should be used for the same indications, at the same dose indicated, same time, and same frequency (e.g. every 21 to 28 days for acute rheumatic fever prevention).

BRAND NAME	BICILLIN L-A	BRANCASTER	EXTENCILLINE	LENTOCILLIN	BENZETACIL	BICILLIN L-A
						
Country of Registration	Australia	United Kingdom	France	Portugal	Spain	Canada
Product image						
Status	TGA Registered *National shortage*	NONE <i>Section 19A lapsed</i>	NONE <i>Section 19A lapsed</i>	Access via Section 19A	Access via Special Access Scheme	NONE <i>Section 19A lapsed</i>
PBS/S100 listed	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Presentation	600,000 units/1.17mL and 1,200,000 units/2.3mL (prefilled syringes) Supplied in box of 10	1 vial containing 1,200,000 units (powder for reconstitution) Supplied as single units	1 vial containing 1,200,000 units (powder for reconstitution) Supplied as single units	1 vial containing 1,200,000 units (powder for reconstitution) Supplied as single units	1 vial containing 1,200,000 units (powder for reconstitution) Supplied as single units	1,200,000 units/2mL (prefilled syringe) Supplied in box of 10

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BRAND NAME	BICILLIN L-A	BRANCASTER	EXTENCILLINE	LENTOCILLIN	BENZETACIL	BICILLIN L-A
Diluent supplied	Not applicable	Water for injection	Water for injection	Lidocaine 1.5%	NONE	Not applicable
Reconstitution	Not required	3.5mL Water for Injection OR 3.5mL Lidocaine ¹ 1%	4mL Water for Injection OR 4mL Lidocaine ¹ 1%	4mL Lidocaine ¹ 1.5% OR 4mL Water For Injection	4mL Water For Injection OR 4mL Lidocaine ¹ 1%	Not required
		Dilute with Water For Injection if client is allergic, intolerant or contraindicated to Lidocaine				
Total volume when reconstituted ²	Not applicable	4.5mL	5mL	4.8mL	4.8mL	Not applicable
Store in fridge	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Needle gauge for administration	21G needle is recommended.					
Tips for reconstitution	Not applicable	Shake gently for at least 20 seconds, until an even suspension forms.	Shake gently for at least 20 seconds, until an even suspension forms.	Slowly inject the diluent down wall of the vial. Do not inject the diluent directly into the powder. Carefully rotate vial between your hands for 30 seconds to make an even suspension. Do not shake.	Shake gently until an even suspension forms. It may take several minutes.	Not applicable
		<p align="center">To avoid the needle becoming blocked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once reconstituted, apply new 21G needle - Administer the injection immediately after reconstitution - Administer slowly and steadily <p align="center">If the needle becomes blocked during administration, with client consent, use an 18G needle to administer remaining contents at a separate site.</p> <p align="center">Do not attempt a 3rd injection from the same syringe if previous 2 attempts failed</p>				

¹Clinician should determine use of lidocaine vs use of water for injection including patient preference and tolerance. Lidocaine may need to be prescribed (even when provided as the diluent). Check local protocols and Standing Orders for administration of BPG and use of lidocaine.

²Overall, 5 mL has been cited for adults as the maximum volume for a single IM injection, with lower maximums proposed for adult patients with less-developed or small muscle mass. *Hopkins, Una, and Claudia Y. Arias. Oncology Nurse Advisor, Jan.-Feb. 2013*