SYPHILIS TREATMENT (Bicillin® L-A) Quick Tips

The first-line agent for treatment of syphilis is long-acting penicillin G benzathine 2.4 million units (mu) IM (Bicillin® L-A). Penicillin g sodium and other short-acting or controlled-release penicillins are NOT adequate to cure syphilis.

Bicillin® L-A comes in pre-filled syringes
Reconstitution is NOT required
Each pre-filled syringe of Bicillin® L-A contains 1.2 million units of medication

A complete dose of 2.4 million units IM requires TWO syringes

Administer Bicillin® L-A as a divided dose of 1.2 million units IM bilaterally to the left and right VENTROGLUTEAL (preferred) muscle or DORSOGLUTEAL muscle only. DO NOT administer to the deltoid or quadriceps muscles.

Please review side effects and contraindications with the client prior to administration. All information can be found on the BCCDC penicillin g benzathine (Bicillin® L-A) medication handout:

Depending on the stage of infection, a single dose of 2.4 million units may be adequate or the patient may require three doses given weekly to a total of 7.2 million units. For treatment recommendations or if you have any other questions, call the BCCDC Syphilis desk at 604-707-5607.