

Lentocilin™ S 1200 (benzathine benzylpenicillin) for Syphilis Treatment

Background

Due to a critical shortage of the antibiotic Bicillin® L-A (1.2 million units / 2 mL) in Canada, and given the medical necessity of this drug, Health Canada has permitted the exceptional, temporary importation and sale of the Portuguese-authorized product **Lentocilin™ S 1200; 1.2 million units / 4 mL**, supplied with English-only labels¹.

Health Canada has issued a Health Product Risk Communication (HPRC) for foreign-labelled drug products imported under exceptional supply measures, available at <https://recalls-rappels.canada.ca/en/alert-recall/importation-portuguese-authorized-lentocilin-s-1200-1-200-000-iu-4-ml-due-current>¹⁻⁴

Please use this product **in place of Bicillin® L-A** according to the criteria set out by Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care.⁵

About Lentocilin™

Lentocilin™ has the same active ingredient (benzathine benzylpenicillin), strength (1.2 million units) and route of administration (intramuscular) as Bicillin® L-A. However, Lentocilin™ has a different formulation, dosage form, reconstitution requirement, and presentation than Bicillin® L-A.

Please be aware that **Lentocilin™**

- Comes in powder form and requires reconstitution in a diluent containing lidocaine hydrochloride 1.5%. Lidocaine is contraindicated in patients with **hypersensitivity to lidocaine** or its inactive ingredients; hypersensitivity to other amide-type local anesthetics (i.e., BUPivacaine, ROPivac)
- Contains soy phospholipids and may cause hypersensitivity reactions (e.g., urticaria, anaphylactic shock) in patients with a history of allergy to soybeans. It may cause hypersensitivity reactions in patients with a history of **allergy to soybeans**.
- Lentocilin™ is contraindicated in patients with previous hypersensitivity reactions to **penicillins, cephalosporins and other beta-lactam antibiotics**
- Once reconstituted, **4 mL (1.2 million units per 4 mL)** is administered by deep IM injection to each **ventrogluteal (VG) sites**. A complete dose is 2.4 million units (8mL) and requires **2 syringes**.
- Is recommended to be administered with an **18-gauge needle** due to the viscosity of the product.

Dosage (for adults and adolescents weighing ≥ 40 kg)

- Primary, secondary and early latent syphilis: 2.4 million units in a single dose (injection at two different sites). Late latent syphilis or of unknown duration: 2.4 million units (injection at two different sites) weekly for 3 consecutive weeks.

With each Lentocilin™ box (1.2 million units), the following additional supplies are provided:

- 2 × 5 cc syringes
- 1 ampoule breaker
- 2 alcohol swabs
- 2 × 18-gauge (non-safety engineered) detachable needles for reconstitution and drawing up the medication

Safety-engineered needles for administration:

- 2 × 18-gauge, 1.5" needles

- 1 × 19-gauge, 1.5" needle

Reconstitution Instructions

- Video reference: <https://vimeo.com/1167439458?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=cj>
- Swab the rubber cap of the powdered medication vial.
- Holding the glass ampoule of diluent, shake or tap it to move the contents to the bottom.
- Using an ampoule breaker, snap the cap off the glass diluent ampoule—breaking away from the grey dot on the stem.
- Using a standard (non-safety engineered) 18-gauge needle attached to a 5-cc syringe, draw up the diluent from the ampoule.
- Without touching the powdered medication inside the vial, slowly inject the diluent along the inner wall of the vial.
- Remove and discard the syringe and needle. Slowly rotate the vial between your hands for 20 seconds to allow the medication to reconstitute. **Do not shake.**
- Using a new 5 cc syringe and standard 18-gauge needle, draw up the contents of the vial.
- The final total volume is slightly over **4 mL** and contains **1.2 million units** of benzathine penicillin G.
- Repeat above steps with the second prepackaged box to prepare the second syringe.
- The product should be administered immediately after reconstitution to avoid clumping.

Administration

- Change the needle to an **18 or 19-gauge, 1.5" safety-engineered needle** for deep intramuscular (IM) administration to the ventrogluteal site.
 - Although the product monograph recommends an 18-gauge needle, other sources have recommended a smaller gauge; therefore, a 19-gauge needle is also provided.
- Inject slowly (about 1 mL per 10 seconds) with a constant flow rate to prevent needle blockage.
- Additional needles are provided in case the medication clumps prior to or during administration.

Documentation

Report the administration of Lentocilin™ on the **STBBI Provider Report Form** (https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/surveillance/docs/mhsu_6781.pdf) and send by CONFIDENTIAL FAX 204-948-3044 (Manitoba Health Surveillance Unit). Enter as Benzathine Penicillin G 2.4 million units but specify “Lentocilin”, which allows Lentocilin™ and Bicillin® to be distinguished in eChart. For public health providers entering directly into **Public Health Information Management System (PHIMS)**, Lentocilin™ has been added to the medication drop down list for syphilis treatment and is configured to flow to eChart.

Additional Information on Lentocilin™

1. Health Canada Recall and Alert Advisory: <https://recalls-rappels.canada.ca/en/alert-recall/importation-portuguese-authorized-lentocilin-s-1200-1-200-000-iu-4-ml-due-current>
2. SeptaLife, *Lentocilin S 1200 Product Monograph (English)* https://septalife.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/SMPC_Septa_30012026.pdf
 - French: https://septalife.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/SMPC_Septa_30012026_2520-2520FR.pdf
3. Health Canada & SeptaLife (March 3, 2026). *Risk Communication Information (English)*. https://septalife.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/HPRC_Penicillin-G-Benzathine_English_Final-HC-review-2026-03-02.pdf
 - French: https://septalife.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/HPRC_Penicillin-G-Benzathine_French_Final-HC-review-2026-03-02.pdf
4. SeptaLife *Lentocilin S 1200 Reconstitution Video* <https://vimeo.com/1167439458?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=cj>
5. Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care (February 2026). *Updates to Health Care Providers*: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/hcp.html>