

Letterkenny University Hospital - LUH Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy/Guidelines: Management of Contacts of Invasive Haemophilus Influenzae B Disease

Management of Contacts of Invasive Haemophilus Influenzae B Disease

1. **Immediately notify** all cases of suspected invasive Hib disease to the local **Public Health Department** 071 - 9852900 (contact out-of-hours through Ambulance Control 081501999), without waiting for microbiological confirmation.
2. **Public Health will advise on the management of contacts and suspected outbreaks** .
3. The following is provided for information:

Chemoprophylaxis: Indicated for **all** household contacts (irrespective of age, immunisation history, pregnancy or breastfeeding) in the following situations (and for up to four weeks after exposure):

 - If there are any unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated children under the age of 10 years.
 - If there are any persons at increased risk of invasive Hib disease (asplenia, hyposplenism, immunocompromised etc.).
 - Play-group, crèche or school contacts aged less than 10 years: when 2 or more cases occur within 2 months, chemoprophylaxis should be offered to all room contacts, both adults and children.
 - Index patients aged <10 years with confirmed or probable invasive Hib disease treated with an antibiotic other than cefoTAXime or cefTRIAXone should receive ciprofloxacin prior to hospital discharge.
 - Index cases of any age treated with an antibiotic other than cefoTAXime or cefTRIAXone should receive ciprofloxacin chemoprophylaxis prior to hospital discharge if there is a vulnerable individual in the household.
 - Vaccination: In addition to prophylaxis, unvaccinated or partially vaccinated contacts should complete the age-appropriate vaccination schedule.
4. **For more comprehensive guidance see the RCPI's [Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland](#)**

References:

1. *Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland*
<https://www.rcpi.ie/Healthcare-Leadership/NIAC/Immunisation-Guidelines-for-Ireland> . Chapter 7-
Haemophilus influenzae type b (updated July 2018)
2. *HPSC Guidelines for the Early Clinical and Public Health Management of Bacterial Meningitis (including meningococcal disease) Jan 2012 (revised Nov 2016)*