Antibacterial Prophylaxis for Dental Procedures

Cardiac Conditions for which Endocarditis Prophylaxis is Recommended

- Prosthetic heart valves (bio or mechanical)
- Rheumatic valvular heart disease
- Previous endocarditis
- Unrepaired cyanotic congenital heart disease (includes palliative shunts and conduits)
- Surgical or catheter repair of congenital heart disease within 6 months of repair procedure.

Antibacterial Regimen for Dental Procedures (plus Tonsillectomy/Adenoidectomy)

Amoxycillin 2g (child: 50mg/kg up to 2g):
- Orally, 1 hour before the procedure OR
- IV, just before the procedure OR
- IM, 30 minutes before the procedure.

For penicillin allergy or if a penicillin- or cephalosporin-group antibiotic, taken more than once in the previous month (including those on long-term penicillin prophylaxis for rheumatic fever):

Clindamycin 600mg (child: 15mg/kg up to 600mg):
- Orally, 1 hour before the procedure OR
- IV, over at least 20 minutes, just before the procedure OR
- IM, 30 minutes before the procedure OR
- Clarithromycin 500mg (child: 15mg/kg up to 500mg) orally, 1 hour before the procedure.

Notes:
Clindamycin is not available in syrup form in New Zealand.
Beware of potential interactions between clarithromycin and other medications.
If the antibacterial agent is inadvertently not administered before the procedure, it may be administered up to 2 hours after the procedure.

Dental Procedures (plus Tonsillectomy/Adenoidectomy) for which Endocarditis Prophylaxis is Recommended

- All dental procedures that involve manipulation of gingival tissue or the periapical region of teeth or perforation of the oral mucosa.*

*The following procedures and events do NOT need prophylaxis:
- Routine anaesthetic injections through non-infected tissue
- Taking dental radiographs
- Placement of removable prosthetic or orthodontic appliances
- Adjustment of orthodontic appliances
- Placement of orthodontic brackets
- Shedding of deciduous teeth
- Bleeding from trauma to the lips or oral mucosa.

Chart based on the evidence-based, best practice New Zealand Guideline for Prevention of Infective Endocarditis Associated with Dental and Other Medical Interventions (2008), produced by The National Heart Foundation of New Zealand and The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand.