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**MEDICAL DIRECTIVE**  
**Cefixime for Gonorrhea Drug Prophylaxis**

**Approved by/Date: Medical Advisory Committee – June 26, 2012**

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**Authorizing physician(s)**

Physician of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Care Centre (DV/SACC)  
Emergency Department Physicians (LH Oshawa Only)

**Authorized to who**

Registered Nurses working at the DV/SACC who have been certified as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). Nurses that hold the knowledge, skill and judgment that work within the DV/SACC Program.

**Patient Description / Population**

Any sexual assault client over 12 years of age when vaginal or anal penetration with a penis has occurred and/or is uncertain or does not remember the sexual assault, regardless of condom use or ejaculation.

**Medical Directive Description/Physician's Order**

Cefixime 800 mg once orally

**Specific conditions/circumstances that must be met before the Directive can be implemented**

- Client must be registered to DV/SACC
- DV/SACC standard sexual assault and health history must be completed by the RN in consultation with the client
- Obtain consent for prophylactic treatment and explain to the client that cefixime is prophylactic in the absence of lab results
- Explain options regarding sexually transmitted infections (STIs) treatment and testing (take medication now and be retested in 3 weeks or not take medication now and be tested in one week)
- Assess for any client allergies to medication, specifically penicillin or cephalosporins. Do not give cefixime if client has an allergy to these drugs
- Advise client of possible side effects, especially gastrointestinal disturbances. Advise client cefixime can be taken with food
- Inform client they should be retested for STIs in 3 weeks following completion of cefixime administration
- Obtain urine BHCG and check results

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Originating Committee: Emergency Program Council, March 26, 2012  
Medical Advisory Committee: June 26, 2012

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**Contraindications to the implementation of the Directive**

- Client has known allergies to cefixime, penicillin or cephalosporins.
- The use of cefixime during pregnancy or in lactating women has not been clearly studied. The DV/SACC physician (or Emergency Physician if not available) for alternative treatment.

**Identify relevant Delegated Control Act or Added Skill associated with this Directive**

None

**Documentation requirements**

- Document medication administration as per Lakeridge Health Policy
- Document on client treatment and follow-up form, client should be retested in 3 weeks following completion of cefixime administration

**Review/Evaluation Process (how often/by who)**

Review to be done on a biannual basis. Review to be conducted by the DV/SACC Medical Director and the DV/SACC RN

**Related Documents**

Azithromycin for Gonorrhea Drug Prophylaxis when a Client is Allergic to Penicillin or Cephalosporin

**References**

- Ontario Network of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centres- Medical Guidelines for HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis for Sexual Assault Survivors (2011)
- Ontario Network of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centres- Medical Directives (2011)
- College of Nurses of Ontario (2012)
- Public Health Agency of Canada-Public health information update on the treatment for gonococcal infection (2011)