

## Post-exposure prophylaxis

Drug	Dose	Duration	+/- Notes
Doxycycline	<p><b>Children under 12 years:</b>  <b>4.4mg/kg</b> as a single dose                      Max. 200mg dose</p> <p><b>Adults and children over 12 years of age:</b>                      200mg as a single dose</p>	Single dose	See additional information section below for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safety statement on use of doxycycline in children</li> <li>2. Sample calculation for paediatric dosing &amp; administration advice</li> </ol>

- As infection risk is low & Lyme disease is readily treatable once symptoms develop, watchful waiting in case of contraindication to doxycycline (e.g. in pregnancy) is recommended instead of prophylaxis.
- There is no data available to support the use of amoxicillin as an alternate prophylactic antibiotic.

## Antibiotic treatment for Lyme disease

### Early onset/ erythema migrans without evidence of disseminated disease

Drug	Dose	Duration	+/- Notes
<b>1st choice</b>			
Doxycycline	<p><b>Children aged 8-12 years:</b>  <b>2.2mg/kg</b> every 12 hours                      (max. 100mg every 12 hours)</p> <p><b>Adults and children over 12 years of age:</b>                      100mg every 12 hours</p>	10 days	<p><b>Contraindicated in pregnancy</b></p> <p>Take with a glass of water and sit upright for 30 minutes after taking. Can take with food or milk if gastritis is an issue.</p> <p>Avoid excessive sunlight or artificial UV light due to risk of photosensitivity. Advise use of sunscreen/sunblock.</p> <p>Absorption of doxycycline significantly impaired by antacids, iron/calcium/magnesium/zinc-containing products and should be separated by at least 2 hours.</p>

**First alternative (1<sup>st</sup> line choice in pregnancy and children under 8 years of age)**

Amoxicillin	<p><b>Children under 12 years:</b> 30mg/kg every 8 hours (max. 500mg every 8 hours)</p> <p><b>Adults and children over 12 years of age:</b> 500mg every 8 hours</p>	14 days	<p>Not suitable in penicillin allergy</p> <p>Liquid preparations available (sugar- free): 250mg/5ml 125mg/5ml</p>
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#### Second alternative

Azithromycin	<p><b>Children 6 months - 12 years of age*:</b> 10 mg/kg every 24 hours (max 500mg every 24 hours) Children &gt; 45kg dose as per adults.</p> <p><b>Adults and children over 12 years of age:</b> 500mg every 24 hours</p>	7 days	<p>Liquid preparation available: 200mg/5ml (contains sucrose)</p> <p>To be taken one hour before or two hours after food/antacids.</p> <p>*Children under 6 months seek specialist opinion.</p>
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#### Early disseminated disease or later stage infection

Refer to microbiology or infectious disease specialist