

Think Medicines!

Issue 5
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Safety

Errors in BNF 70 and BNF for Children 2015-2016

- Several errors have been identified in the most recent publications of the BNF and BNF for Children.
- Errors are being corrected in the on-line version as they are identified.
- Errors documented below may impact on patient safety in Primary Care. A complete list of errors identified can be found at <http://www.bnf.org/corrections/>.

WHERE POSSIBLE USE THE ON-LINE VERSION IN PREFERENCE TO THE PRINTED EDITIONS

- It is key to note that as with any edition, other errors may still remain to be identified.
- All corrections to date have been made in the digital version.

CO-AMOXICLAV 400/57 SUSPENSION

Age range for treatment with co-amoxiclav 400/57 suspension (Child 2-6 years) has been omitted in the printed version of BNFC 2015-2016 and should read as follows:

BY MOUTH USING ORAL SUSPENSION

CHILD 2-6 years (body-weight 13-21 kg) 2.5 mL twice daily, doubled in severe infection.

If you continue to use the printed versions of BNF 70 and BNF for Children 2015-16, please print the correction sheets **WEEKLY** from the following link and stick them into your copy: <http://www.bnf.org/corrections/>.

Corrections should be updated at least weekly to ensure you are aware of all errors identified.

ERYTHROMYCIN

The dosage information for erythromycin in the printed version of BNFC 2015-2016 is incorrect for the indication of acne and should read as follows:

Indication: Acne

BY MOUTH

CHILD 1 month-2 years: 250 mg once daily, alternatively **125 mg** twice daily.

MAGNESIUM GLYCEROPHOSPHATE

The dosage information for magnesium glycerophosphate the printed version of BNFC 2015-2016 is incorrect and should read as follows:

Indication: Hypomagnesaemia

BY MOUTH

CHILD 1 month-11 years Initially **50 mg/kg** 3 times a day, dose to be adjusted as necessary.

ERYTHROMYCIN

The dosage information for erythromycin in the printed version of BNF 70 and BNFC 2015-2016 is incorrect in relation to dosing in child splenectomy patients (**Child 2- 7 years**) leading to potentially life threatening pneumococcal infection. It should read as follows:

BY MOUTH:

CHILD 2-7 years: 250 mg twice daily, antibiotic prophylaxis is not fully reliable. It may be discontinued in those over 5 years of age with sickle-cell disease who have received pneumococcal immunisation and who do not have a history of severe pneumococcal infection.

CLINDAMYCIN

The dosage information for oral clindamycin in the printed version of BNF 70 is incorrect and should read as follows:

Indication: Staphylococcal bone and joint infections such as osteomyelitis; Peritonitis; Intra-abdominal sepsis; Meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) in bronchiectasis; bone and joint infections, and skin and soft-tissue infections; Erysipelas or cellulitis in penicillin-allergic patients (alternative to macrolides)

ADULT 150-300 mg every 6 hours; increased if necessary up to **450 mg** every 6 hours, increased dose used in severe infection.

