

Infectious Smiles

VOL 15

Focus on Anti-infectives



Dentists in Australia are prescribing some antibiotics inappropriately and there is a preference for moderate-to broad-spectrum agents.

Literature has shown dentists tend to overprescribe antibiotics and do not always prescribe in accordance with recommended guidelines. Unnecessary prescribing is one major factor that contributes to the development of antibiotic resistance. The aim of the present study was to assess the antibacterial prescribing patterns of dentists in Australia from 2013 to 2016.

Data on dental antibacterial prescriptions dispensed under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) from 2013 to 2016 was accessed and prescribing trends analysed. The prescribing rates were standardized to the dose and population.

Amoxicillin was the most commonly dispensed antibiotic, accounting for approximately 65% of all antibacterials from 2013 to 2016, while phenoxymethylpenicillin accounted for only 1.4% of prescriptions in 2016. There were low but significant quantities of dispensed antibiotic prescriptions that do not fit with current guidelines.

The data suggest that dentists in Australia are prescribing some antibiotics inappropriately and there is a preference for moderate- to broad-spectrum agents. The current PBS dental schedule is inconsistent with prescribing guidelines and may contribute to inappropriate prescribing.

Reference

1. Teoh L et al. Aust Dent J. 2018 May 13. doi: 10.1111/adj.12622.

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POWERED BY

Children > 12 years old

AUGMENTIN 625 DUO

Amoxicillin 500mg + Clavulanic acid 125mg Tablets IP

The **edge** that continues

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IN/CAM/0060/18 | Date of preparation: September 2018

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