Penicillin G Benzathine (Bicillin® L-A) IM Injectable Shortage:

Situation:

Penicillin G benzathine (Bicillin® L-A) is on national shortage with an anticipated resolution in 2024. Bicillin® L-A 2.4 million units (MU) is the recommended, first line treatment for syphilis and the <u>only</u> recommended treatment for syphilis in pregnancy.

Background:

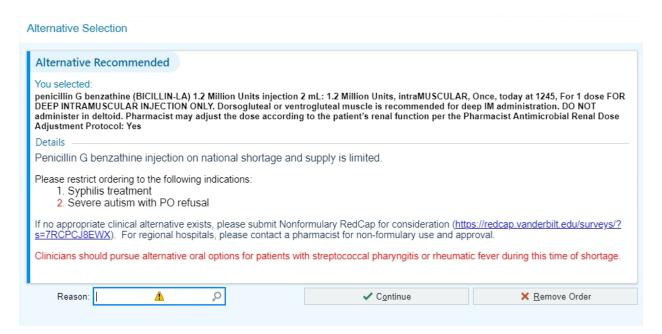
- 1.2 and 2.4 MU syringes are expected to have intermittent releases although there may be periods of reduced supply.
- 600,000 unit syringes are on critical shortage with resolution anticipated in April 2024.

Assessment:

- Bicillin® L-A will be restricted to:
 - 1. Treatment of syphilis in adults and infants/children:
 - Conserve first line options for primary, secondary, tertiary, early and latent syphilis.
 - Conserve the only option for pregnant patients exposed to or diagnosed with syphilis.
 - 2. Severe autism with PO refusal
- Clinicians should pursue alternative oral options for patients with streptococcal pharyngitis or rheumatic fever during this time of shortage.

Recommendations:

• An LMA will be placed on all Bicillin® L-A orders.



• An order attestation will also be added to confirm Bicillin® L-A for syphilis, severe autism with PO refusal, or approved via the nonformulary process.