

Physicians Orders Requested regarding Prophylactic Antibiotics

Patient _____ DOB _____

Antibiotic Premedication: New Guideline - Prevention of Infective Endocarditis

On April 19, 2007 the American Heart Association (AHA) published its updated recommendations for the prevention of infective endocarditis in heart patients scheduled to undergo dental procedures. The new guideline will significantly affect surgery practice patterns and simplify the management of many patients.

Contrary to long-held beliefs, the AHA's review of more than 50 years of scientific literature revealed that there is no definitive evidence that the prophylactic use of antibiotics prior to dental procedures prevents infective endocarditis (IE). Given that all drugs carry risks and that the bacteria that cause IE might become resistant to antibiotics, AHA now recommends that prophylactic antibiotic use be reserved for those patients who would have the worst outcomes if IE were contracted, such as patients with artificial heart valves, a history of endocarditis, certain serious congenital heart conditions and heart transplant patients who develop a problem with a heart valve.

In light of these findings we are requesting that patients who have previously been required to take antibiotics prior to dental procedures consult their physicians as to their recommendations regarding their specific medical condition and necessity of antibiotics.

Please advise as to the current status of the above named patient regarding prophylactic antibiotic requirements and the preferred regimen.

Patient requires Prophylactic Antibiotics due to diagnosis of: _____

Pt. requires Prophylactic Antibiotics using the following regimen:

Pt. no longer requires Prophylactic Antibiotics as of _____ (Date)

Physician's Signature _____ Date _____

Please fax completed information to: David M. Ferguson, DDS, MSD at 512-454-4350
Or mail to 4310 Medical Parkway Ste 201, Austin, Texas 78756

If you have questions please contact our office at: 512-454-6861