



INTERACTIVE COMPUTER MODEL FOR TRAINING AND DISPENSING ANTIBIOTICS

Attached is a copy of our Interactive Computer Model for Training and Dispensing Antibiotics as part of our Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI). It is in EXCEL format. It is best used as a Training Tool; but, it can also be used as a Dispensing Log. We recommend that you save this file on your hard drive. You may also want to consider creating a work file to avoid unforeseen errors. In this way the original document can be retrieved additionally, this could facilitate the integration of new, updated guidance from the FDA, the CDC, FL DOH, or the Palm Beach County Health Department (PBCHD).

When first opening the file, click on "Enable Macros." The first thing you'll see is a facsimile of the Registration Form. Across the bottom will be tabs for "Registration," "Reference Tables," and "Saved Data."

By clicking on the "Reference" tab you'll be able to see all of the reference components, from "Current Preferred Antibiotic" to "Default Weight," and "Coded listing medication to which one has Allergies." Most immediately, though, there will be a message that states the name of the Primary Medication which will be the basis for all dispensing decisions. To change the "Current Preferred Antibiotic, click on the " go to the orange section and click on the name that's there. A drop down will appear with a listing of medication options. At present only Doxycycline and Cipro are the drugs of choice. An Amoxicillin will be prepared should susceptibility testing demonstrate that it may be used as a preventative or treatment.

You will also notice a colored column with the names of the Antibiotics that are AVAILABLE. Notice that Amoxicillin has not and should not be checked until the particular strain of Anthrax has been tested and it has been determined that it is sensitive/susceptible to it. The CDC and the FL DOH will provide this information as soon as tests have been completed.

Following the "Availability" section are the Dosing characteristics for Doxycycline (green), Cipro (pink), and Amoxicillin (blue) if/when it may be dispensed. Notice that there are two dosing sections according to weight – the top section for tablets and capsules; the bottom section for suspensions should they be provided by the CDC.

Certain characteristics may be changed, based on authoritative instructions from the FDA, CDC, FL DOH or PBCHD. There are "buttons" next to the various details which permit the changes to which they are adjacent. For example, the Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for Anthrax is 10 days. If official determination has been made to continue Treatment for an additional fifty (50) days, click on the "button" and make the desired change. Similarly, if there was a release of a different toxin, say Plague, the PEP would be 7 days. Click the "button" and proceed with entering the number "7," for "number of days."

On June 21, 2011, the FDA issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) which exactly specified how Doxycycline is to be prepared for Home Use for Anyone Who Cannot Swallow Pills. Pending the availability of similar guidelines, we have prepared dosing charts for Cipro and Amoxicillin,

according to presently available clinical pharmacology sources. If and when changes are desired, click on the correct “button” to make the associated changes.

Specified amounts of water are to be mixed with one crushed tablet or capsule of antibiotic. The tables in the Dispensing Model indicate how much of this Water Mixture is to be used for a child according to his/her weight. This amount of Water Mixture is to be placed in a separate bowl for one dose of medication. The parent may add any food the child likes to help sweeten the Water Mixture, in order to make the mixture more palatable. One full dose will be the specified amount of Water Mixture based on the child’s weight plus whatever food was added.

The following table provides the guidelines for the Water Mixture from which the child’s dose is taken, plus the maximum amount of sweetened food that could be added to make one full dose.

Number of Teaspoons for:	Doxycycline	Cipro(floxacin)	Amoxicillin
Water Mixture	4 teaspoons	5 teaspoons	5 teaspoons
Food Sweetener (up to)	3 teaspoons	5 teaspoons	5 teaspoons

Notice that we have prepared dispensing guidelines for Suspensions of Doxycycline, Ciprofloxacin, and Amoxicillin. The CDC and the FL DOH will decide if any of the Suspensions will be made available through the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).

The Registration Tab is to the left of References at the bottom: A rendition of a blank Registration Form will appear after clicking. First thing to check for is the “Relevant Symptoms” box to make sure that the reference period is 48 hours. This is set for Anthrax. If the toxin is Plague, the critical period for worsening symptoms is 12 hours. If Plague is the case, then the Reference Table will have to be changed to “12” (in Column B).

The Registration Form may be used as a Log for listing all household members for a particular family and then “Save and Clear” at the bottom of the Form. For speed, in dispensing, one can just enter the vital details before clicking on “Calculate” to determine the dispensing characteristics that are unique to the “Reference Tables” that make up this Interactive Program.

Click on the “Saved Data” tab to bring up a summary listing of all Registration Forms that have been “Saved and Cleared,” earlier. These saved data will provide detailed information on the number of Households that have been processed, how many people, the number of those were dispensed each of the antibiotics. Time references may also be found in the “Saved Data.”

We suggest doing some testing of the “calculated” dispensing details by entering various drug allergies for a particular listed individual. Repeat the age and weight for a child, and then one each separate line insert the medication to which that individual is allergic. When ready, click “Calculate.” Dispensing decisions will be made based on Allergy and Medication Available.

The main challenge for using this computer-based program is the number of laptops that will be available at the POD and whether or not there is a printer that is dedicated to the laptops. At best it is most helpful as a training aid. If ONE laptop is available at the POD, it can be used for guidance in answering a dispensing question.

Any questions? Please contact me at the address listed below.

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