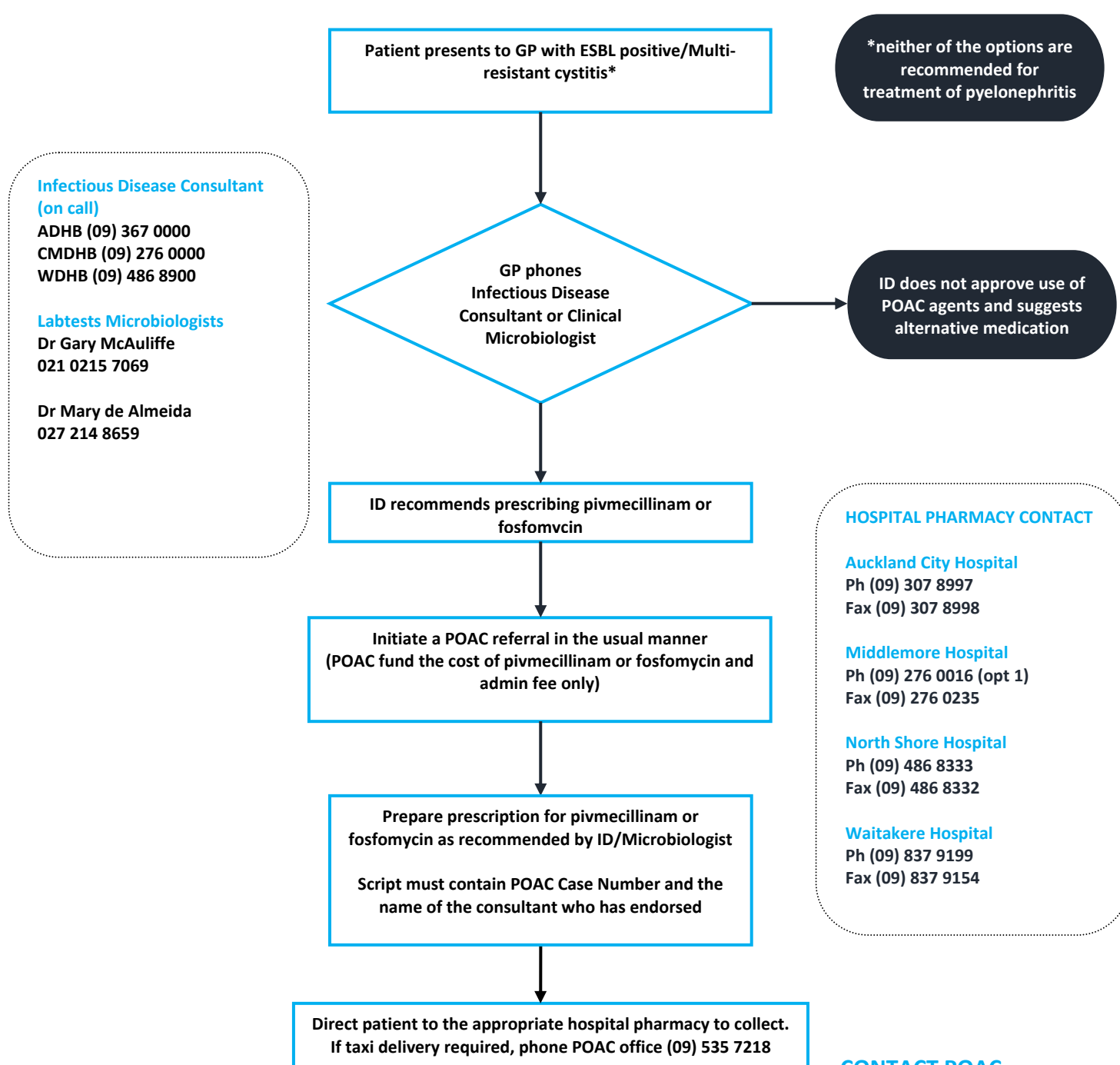


POAC REFERRAL PROCESS

Funding of oral treatments for cystitis caused by multi-resistant bacteria



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Funding of oral treatments for cystitis caused by multi-resistant bacteria

Information for GPs

Multi-resistant organisms are an increasing problem in NZ, particularly in the Auckland area.

Oral *pivmecillinam* and *fosfomycin trometamol* are indicated in the treatment of cystitis due to a Gram negative organism that is resistant to commonly prescribed oral antibiotics. For example, oral *fosfomycin* has been used to treat uncomplicated ESBL positive *E. coli* and *Klebsiella spp.* cystitis in primary care thus avoiding an acute hospital admission for IV antibiotics. Gram negative bacilli expected to be resistant to these agents include *Morganella*, *Acinetobacter* and *Stenotrophomonas*.

These agents are not useful in patients with pyelonephritis because they do not achieve effective levels in the blood or tissue and therefore will not cure kidney infection.

Pivmecillinam and fosfomycin are not licensed or funded in NZ but are available from MMH, ACH and NSH pharmacies.

POAC will pay:

- the full amount of the drug that would normally be charged to the patient
- a POAC administration fee

Pivmecillinam dosing: 400mg stat dose, followed by 200mg TDS for 3 days (10 x 200mg tablets).

Fosfomycin dosing: 3g stat dose which may be repeated on day 4 on ID advice. Each sachet should be dissolved in approx. half a cup of cool water or juice.

Both agents are well tolerated and have a low incidence of harmful side-effects. However, development of bacterial resistance under therapy may occur which makes them unsuitable for sustained monotherapy of severe infections.

Pre-requisites

Consultant recommendation: endorsement must be obtained from either an Infectious Diseases Consultant or Clinical Microbiologist at MMH, ACH, NSH, or Labtests.

Drug collection: the drug must be collected from MMH, ACH, NSH or WTK hospital pharmacy

POAC Case No: the patient must be provided with a prescription which includes the POAC case number and name of recommending Consultant.

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