Table 4

Empirical antibiotic choices (adapted from The UK joint specialist societies guideline on the management of meningitis and meningococcal sepsis in immunocompetent adults 3)

Preferred choice Alternative

Adults < 60 years of age

Cefotaxime 2 g 6 hourly
OR
Ceftriaxone 2 g 12 hourly

Adults ≥ 60 years of age

Cefotaxime 2 g 6 hourly
OR
Cefotaxime 2 g 6 hourly
OR
Ceftriaxone 2 g 12 hourly
OR
Ceftriaxone 2 g 12 hourly
OR
Ceftriaxone 2 g 12 hourly
AND
Co-trimoxazole 10-20 mg/kg (of the trimethoprim component) in four

divided doses

Amoxicillin 2 g 4 hourly