

ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP

- **Source checking** – likely cause?
- **Empiric** ABx or other ABx used in past 13 days
- **Pathogen** resistance (M/C/S)
- **Sensitivities** to abx (i.e. anaphylaxis, angioedema)
- **Indwelling** devices
- **Special** considerations? – immunodef, recent surgery

Consider oral antibiotics when patient is:

- afebrile (for 24 – 48 hours),
- CRP and/or WCC trending down,
- haemodynamically stable,²
- tolerating oral intake and has no absorption issues³

A switch from intravenous to oral antimicrobials can result in decreased risk of intravenous line infection, thrombophlebitis and may lead to earlier discharge from hospital

RESPIRATORY			Step Down
CAP inc. aspiration <i>(w/ CXR changes)</i> Treat for 7 days total	Low severity	Amoxicillin 1g TDS PO +/- doxycycline 100mg PO BD	nil
	Mod severity	Benpen 1.2g QID IV + doxycycline 100mg PO BD	Amoxicillin TDS
	Sev severity	Ceftriaxone 2g IV OD + azithromycin 500mg IV OD (3-5 days)	Specialist advice Amoxicillin TDS Cefuroxime 500mg PO BD <i>(if penicillin allergy)</i> Azithromycin PO daily
HAP Treat for 7 days total	Low MRO risk + mild	- Augmentin PO BD - Cefuroxime 500mg PO BD - Ceftriaxone 1g IV daily (if oral not tolerated)	Augmentin PO BD
	High MRO risk + mod/severe	Pip-taz 4.5g IV q6hrly +/- vancomycin (if MRSA risk)	Specialist advice Augmentin PO BD
	Anaerobe risk	Ceftriaxone 2g IV daily + Metronidazole 500mg IV q12hrly (i.e. severe periodontal disease, lung abscess, empyema, large parapneumonic effusion, necrotising pneumonia)	Specialist advice Augmentin PO BD to complete course Metronidazole 400mg PO BD (if needed)
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM			
Bacterial meningitis	General	Ceftriaxone 2g IV BD + dexamethasone 10mg IV q6hrly (ideally dex before ceftriaxone)	Augmentin PO BD to complete course
	Special considerations	- Listeria risk – add benpen 2.5g IV q4hrly - B-lactam resistant streptococci – add IV vancomycin	Amoxicillin TDS
HSV encephalitis		Acyclovir 10mg/kg IV q8hrly (14-21 days)	Specialist advice
GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM			
Cholangitis / acute acalculous cholecystitis	General	Ampicillin 2g IV q6hrly + gentamicin STAT (if gentamicin CI --> replace with 2g ceftriaxone IV daily)	Augmentin PO BD to complete course
	Chronic biliary obstruction	Add metronidazole 500mg IV q12hrly	Metronidazole 400mg PO BD (if needed)
	Cholangitis	5 day course (post biliary drainage) OR 7-10 days (if not for drainage)	
Diverticulitis / peritonitis 2° perforation	General	Ampicillin 2g IV q6hrly + Gentamicin + Metronidazole 500mg IV q12hrly (if gentamicin CI --> replace with 2g ceftriaxone IV daily)	
	Severe	Pip taz 4.5g IV q6hrly	Specialist advice
GENITOURINARY TRACT			
Acute cystitis	General	Trimethoprim 300mg PO daily (3 days - female, 7 days – male)	nil
	If recent ABx	Cefalexin 500mg PO BD (5 days - female, 7 days – male)	nil
Acute pyelonephritis	Mild	Augmentin PO BD for 10-14 days	nil
	Severe	Ampicillin 2g IV q6hrly + gentamicin STAT (if gentamicin CI --> replace with 2g ceftriaxone IV daily)	Based on MCS Cefalexin 500mg PO BD (if sensitivities unsure)
SKIN & SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS			
Cellulitis <i>(for 5-10 days)</i>	Mild	Flucloxacillin 500mg PO QID for 5 days	nil
	Moderate (outpatient/HITH)	Cefazolin 2g IV daily + probenecid 1g PO daily <i>(increase circulating volume of cefazolin by reducing renal tubular excretion)</i>	Cefalexin 500mg PO QID
	Severe (admission)	IV flucloxacillin 2g IV q6hrly OR cefazolin 2g IV Q8hrly - add IV vancomycin if MRSA risk	Flucloxacillin 500mg PO QID

***avoid PO therapy** as initial Rx for meningitis, endocarditis, osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, S. aureus bacteremia

****Gentamicin 7mg/kg (if septic shock) and 4-5mg/kg IV (impaired renal function)**

- **avoided in:** renal impairment, pregnancy, ototoxicity risk, neuromuscular disease (MG, MND – as aminoglycosides worsen neuromuscular blockade), elderly patients, or when prolonged therapy or drug level monitoring is required

*****Vancomycin IV = 25mg/kg loading dose then 15mg/kg IV BD (if normal renal function + BMI < 30) → check trough level immediately prior to 4th dose**

******Escalating to carbapenems – covers ESBL producing enterobacters, anaerobes (exc. ertapenem)) - but NOT MRSA, VRE**