

Health PEI: Provincial Antibiotic Advisory Team Empiric Antibiotic Treatment Guidelines for Sepsis Syndromes in Adults

- COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA
- HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED PNEUMONIA
- INTRA-ABDOMINAL INFECTION
- URINARY TRACT INFECTION (WITH AND WITHOUT A FOLEY CATHETER)
- CELLULITIS, ERYSIPELAS, AND NECROTIZING FASCIITIS
- DIABETIC FOOT INFECTION
- MENINGITIS AND ENCEPHALITIS
- FEBRILE NEUTROPENIA
- *CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE* INFECTION
- UNKNOWN SOURCE OF INFECTION
- INTRODUCTORY LETTER THAT WAS SENT TO PRACTITIONERS

General notes for this document:

- 1) These guidelines recommend antimicrobial therapy for empiric treatment. Antibiotics are to be adjusted based on cultures and clinical response.
- 2) Severe penicillin allergy: Avoid piperacillin/tazobactam and cephalosporins, but meropenem is reasonable to give in severe sepsis or greater even with history of penicillin/ampicillin anaphylaxis but with close observation. References since 2006 suggest cross reaction ~1% or less. Consult Infectious Disease if in doubt for clarification or alternatives.
- 3) Renal impairment: Doses of antibiotics are for patients with normal renal function. Dose adjustment of some of the antibiotics may be required for patients with renal impairment.
- 4) For pregnancy: These guidelines do not specifically address contraindicated antimicrobials (including fluoroquinolones).
- 5) XDRO = eXtensively drug resistant organisms: typically Gram negative bacteria resistant to all but 2 classes of routinely used antibiotics.
- 6) References can be found in the provincially approved treatment guidelines for the specific infectious syndrome or available upon request.

Developed by: the Provincial Antibiotic Advisory Team (PAAT). Members include: Dr. Greg German (Infectious Disease Consultant and Health PEI Medical Microbiologist), Jennifer Boswell (Provincial Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist), Wendy Cooke (QEH ICU/CCU Clinical Pharmacist), Trent Ferrish (PCH Pharmacist)

Health PEI Physician Reviewers: Dr. Lenley Adams, Dr. Patrick Bergin, Dr. Greg German, Dr. Michael Irvine, Dr. Paul Seviour; and limited to specific syndromes: Dr. Philip Champion (febrile neutropenia), Dr. Barry Fleming (intra-abdominal)

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Suspected Source	SIRS / Sepsis	Severe Sepsis	Septic Shock & Refractory Septic Shock
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Community-Acquired Pneumonia	(Amoxicillin 1000 mg PO TID OR Ampicillin 2 g IV q6h) + (Azithromycin 500 mg PO/IV q24h OR Clarithromycin 500 mg PO BID) Severe PCN allergy and no previous fluoroquinolone in 90 Days: Levofloxacin 750 mg PO/IV q24h If macroaspiration: ADD Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h OR USE Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 500/125 mg PO TID (higher risk of Cdiff). Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID	Ceftriaxone 2 g IV q24h + (Azithromycin 500 mg IV q24h OR Levofloxacin 750 mg IV q24h) If macroaspiration, antibiotics in past 3 months, preceding URTI or influenza: Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h + (Azithromycin 500 mg IV q24h OR Levofloxacin 750 mg IV q24h) Severe PCN allergy: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + (Azithromycin 500 mg IV q24h OR Levofloxacin 750 mg IV q24h) OR Levofloxacin 750 mg IV q24h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg IV q12h (if macroaspiration) MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h OR Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID	Meropenem 1g IV q8h + Levofloxacin 750 mg IV q24h + (Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h OR Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h) If fluoroquinolone contraindicated or previous resistance noted: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Azithromycin 500 mg IV q24h + (Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h OR Vancomycin 25 mg/kg load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h) Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID

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<p>Healthcare-Associated Pneumonia</p> <p>(hospitalization in an acute care hospital for ≥2 days within the prior 90 days; IV therapy, wound care of IV chemo within the prior 30 days; residence in nursing home or other LTC facility; attendance at a hospital or hemodialysis clinic within the prior 30 days)</p>	<p>Treatment dependent on previous exposure to antibiotics in 90 days (avoid using an antibiotic from the same class)</p> <p>Ceftriaxone 2 g IV q24h (if macroaspiration ADD Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h) OR Levofloxacin 750 mg PO/IV q24h (if macroaspiration ADD Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h) OR Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 500/125 mg PO TID</p> <p>If previous XDRO⁵: Ertapenem 1 g IV q24h (doesn't cover <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>)</p> <p>Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID</p> <p>Swab for MRSA (nasal/rectal/throat) as necessary</p>	<p>[Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h OR Meropenem 1 g IV q8h (if severe PCN allergy or previous XDRO⁵)] + (Levofloxacin 750mg IV q24h OR Ciprofloxacin 400mg IV q8h if > 70kg, q12h otherwise)</p> <p>MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h OR Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>If fluoroquinolone contraindicated or previous resistance noted: Substitute Levofloxacin or Ciprofloxacin with Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h unless <i>Legionella</i> suspected.</p> <p>Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID</p> <p>Swab for MRSA (nasal/rectal/throat) as necessary</p>	<p>Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Ciprofloxacin 400 mg IV q8h + (Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h OR Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h)</p> <p>If Ciprofloxacin contraindicated or previous resistance noted: Substitute Ciprofloxacin with Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h unless <i>Legionella</i> suspected.</p> <p>Depending on season or travel history: Consider ADDING Oseltamivir 75 mg PO BID</p> <p>Swab for MRSA (nasal/rectal/throat) as necessary</p>

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Intra-Abdominal (Source control critical for almost all infections)	Antibiotic Naïve: Cefoxitin 2 g IV q6h + Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h Non-severe PCN allergy: Ceftriaxone 2 g IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h Failed previous antibiotics or acquired after 7 days in hospital: Ertapenem 1 g IV q24h (as long as no history of <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>) OR Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h (as long as no history of XDRO ⁵ / ESBL) Severe PCN allergy: Levofloxacin 750 mg PO/IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV x 1 dose MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h	Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV x 1 dose Severe PCN allergy: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h OR Levofloxacin 750mg IV q24h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg IV q12h Ascending cholangitis or <i>Enterococcus spp.</i> in blood or MRSA: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h	Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h Severe PCN allergy: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h Ascending cholangitis or perforation: Consider ADDING Caspofungin 70 mg IV first dose then 50 mg IV q24h

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Urinary Tract Infection (for complete treatment recommendations refer to ASSC UTI Empiric Treatment Guidelines)	In Absence of Indwelling Foley Catheter or Urinary Stent		
	1. Cipro/Levo as per Early Pyelo ADD Ceftriaxone 1g x 1 dose OR Tobra 5mg/kg x 1 dose IF previous Cipro resistance or use in past 6 mths 2. Ampicillin & Ceftazidime 3. Pip/Tazo	Pip/Tazo & Cipro If penicillin allergy: Mero & Cipro	Mero & Cipro (Renal Sparing) OR Mero & Tobra
	In Presence of Indwelling Foley Catheter or Urinary Stent (Catheter should be removed or changed)		
	1. Pip/Tazo 2. Meropenem If <i>previous culture (in past 90d) or stat gram points to yeast, Enterococcus or MRSA</i> : add appropriate therapy.	Mero, Vanco & Fluconazole ADD Cipro or Tobra IF previous growth of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (90d).	As above, <u>PLUS</u> : ADD Vanco (or Linezolid if VRE is a concern) ADD Fluconazole, Voriconazole, or Amphotericin-B

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<p>Cellulitis, Erysipelas and Necrotizing Fasciitis</p> <p>(for complete treatment recommendations refer to PAAT SSTI Empiric Treatment Guidelines)</p> <p>Fournier’s gangrene (pelvic/genital area gangrene) suspected: same treatment as Severe Sepsis</p>	<p>Exceptions: Human and animal bites, fresh water, salt water contact, or concern for <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i> “Sneakers” ARE NOT covered below.</p> <p>Cefazolin 2 g IV x 1 dose then 1 g (<70kg) or 2 g (≥70kg) IV q8h</p> <p>If severe PCN allergy or MRSA suspected: Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>If wound foul smelling: ADD Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h for anaerobic coverage</p>	<p>Clindamycin 900 mg IV q8h + Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h (administer Clindamycin rapidly first or at the same time)</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy: Clindamycin 900 mg IV q8h + Meropenem 1 g IV q8h (administer Clindamycin rapidly first or at the same time)</p> <p>MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Consider IVIG for necrotizing fasciitis (1 g/kg day 1 and 0.5 g/kg days 2 and 3) if suspected or known <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> or Group A Streptococcus infection.</p>	<p>Clindamycin 900 mg IV q8h + Meropenem 1 g IV q8h (administer Clindamycin rapidly first or at the same time)</p> <p>Source control critical. Consider STAT consults to Surgery and Infectious Disease.</p> <p>If Infectious Disease opinion not readily available: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Consider IVIG for necrotizing fasciitis (1 g/kg day 1 and 0.5 g/kg days 2 and 3) if suspected or known <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> or Group A Streptococcus infection.</p>

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<p>Diabetic Foot Infection</p> <p>(for complete treatment recommendations refer to PAAT SSTI Empiric Treatment Guidelines)</p>	<p>Cefazolin 1 g (<70kg) or 2 g (≥70kg) IV q8h OR Ceftriaxone 1 g (<70kg) or 2 g (≥70kg) IV q24h</p> <p>MRSA suspected: ADD TMP/SMX 1-2 DS tablets PO BID</p> <p>MRSA confirmed or severe PCN allergy: Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h. STAT Gram stain of ulcer to exclude significant Gram negatives.</p> <hr/> <p>If antibiotics in past 3 months or foul smell and NOT <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>: (Ceftriaxone 1 g (<70kg) or 2 g (≥70kg) IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h) OR Ertapenem 1 g IV q24h</p> <p>MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy: consult ID</p> <hr/> <p>If <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i> a concern (e.g. previous <i>Pseudomonas</i>, green exudate, severe immune deficiency) : Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h</p> <p>MRSA confirmed or suspected: ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy: consult ID</p>	<p>Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy, known ESBL, foreign travel in past year or antibiotic failure: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p>	<p>Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + [Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h OR Ciprofloxacin 400 mg IV q12h (renal sparing)] + (Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h OR Daptomycin* 8-10 mg/kg IV q24h)</p> <p>Source control critical. Consider STAT consults to Orthopedics and Infectious Disease.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>*Daptomycin use is limited to patients having a true allergy to Vancomycin IV or upon the opinion of an Infectious Disease consultant.</p> </div>

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Meningitis and Encephalitis	<p>For Meningitis: Dexamethasone 10 mg IV q6h x 4 days Give Dexamethasone 15-20 minutes before, or with, the first dose of antibiotics. Do not give Dexamethasone if: unable to meet the above timing recommendations OR recent neurosurgery. Stop Dexamethasone if no evidence of <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i></p> <p>Ceftriaxone 2 g IV q12h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h ADD Ampicillin 2 g IV q4h if septic shock or refractory septic shock, immunocompromised, alcoholic, pregnant, or > 50 years of age</p> <p>Recent neurosurgery: Ceftazidime 2 g IV q8h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h ADD Metronidazole 500 mg IV q8h if Septic shock. Consider infectious disease consultation.</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy: Meropenem 2 g IV q8h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h</p> <p>Encephalitis (including new onset seizures): see above and ADD Acyclovir 10 mg/kg IV q8h</p>		

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<p>Febrile Neutropenia</p> <p>(And not associated with another suspected source)</p> <p>Consider Medical Oncology Consult for all potential admissions.</p>	<p><u>Admit:</u> Ceftazidime 2g IV q8h OR Piperacillin/Tazobactam 3.375 g IV q6h (< 70 kg) OR 4.5 g IV q6h (≥ 70 kg)</p> <p>ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h after blood cultures if: 1) severe mucositis; 2) MRSA colonized; 3) clinically apparent serious, catheter-related infection; 4) pneumonia; 5) No improvement in 3-4 days</p> <p>Severe PCN allergy: Obtain blood cultures x 2 START Ciprofloxacin 400 mg IV q12h and consult Med Onc. or Infectious Disease for other antibiotic suggestions</p> <p><u>Rapid outpatient protocol:</u> (Page Medical Oncologist or covering Associate on-call to facilitate outpatient follow-up) 1) Defined as “low risk” 2) no previous fluoroquinolone in 90 days 3) no recent history of resistant organisms 4) no penicillin allergy (Consult if PCN allergy)</p> <p>Ciprofloxacin 750 mg PO BID + Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 500/125 mg PO TID</p>	<p>Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h</p> <p>PCN allergy or ESBL: Meropenem 1 g IV q8h</p> <p>Recent history of resistant <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>: ADD Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV x 1 dose</p> <p>ADD Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h after blood cultures if: 1) severe mucositis; 2) MRSA colonized; 3) clinically apparent serious, catheter-related infection; 4) pneumonia; 5) No improvement in 3-4 days</p> <p>ADD Caspofungin 70 mg IV first dose then 50 mg IV q24h if no improvement in 4-5 days</p>	<p>Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h.</p> <p>ADD Caspofungin 70 mg IV first dose then 50 mg IV q24h if: 1) refractory septic shock; 2) septic shock for greater than 72 hours. (Consult Inf. Dis. or Med Onc before starting Amphotericin B liposomal.)</p>

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<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (for complete treatment recommendations refer to PAAT Cdiff Empiric Treatment Guidelines)	Vancomycin 125 mg PO QID x 14 days In presence of ileus: ADD Vancomycin 500 mg PR q6h	Vancomycin 500 mg PO/NG q6h + Metronidazole 500 mg IV q8h In presence of ileus: ADD Vancomycin 500 mg PR q6h	
Unknown (excluding Central Nervous System infection)	Ceftriaxone 2 g IV q24h + Levofloxacin 750 mg PO/IV q24h + Metronidazole 500 mg PO/IV q12h OR Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h	(Piperacillin/Tazobactam 4.5 g IV q6h OR Meropenem 1g IV q8h) + Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h Recent antibiotic use or suspected XDRO ⁵ : ADD Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV q24h Consider Infectious Disease opinion	Meropenem 1 g IV q8h + Ciprofloxacin 400 mg IV q12h + Tobramycin 7 mg/kg IV x 1 dose + [Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV load, then 15 mg/kg IV q12h OR Linezolid 600 mg PO/IV q12h (if VRE is a concern)] Consider Infectious Disease opinion