Community Acquired Pneumonia

with Dr. Susan Lipsett

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DIAGNOSIS & PATHOGENS

CAP = infection of the lower airway. No standard diagnostic criteria for CAP.



RSV, rhinovirus, influenza, adenovirus, etc.



Low O2 and increased WOB = LR+ for bacterial CAP



S. pneumoniae and M. pneumoniae >> S. aureus, et al.

In outpatient setting largely clinical diagnosis, use shared decision making if considering workup.



Overall very rare

WORKUP



CXR recommended in all patients hospitalized for CAP. A clear CXR can help rule out CAP.



Consider incorporating point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) into your workup algorithms.



WBC count is a nonspecific indicator of inflammation. Consider as part of broader workup, but by itself is not very helpful.



Procalcitonin may be helpful to guide antibiotic discontinuation. Using it to determine antibiotic initiation is more controversial.

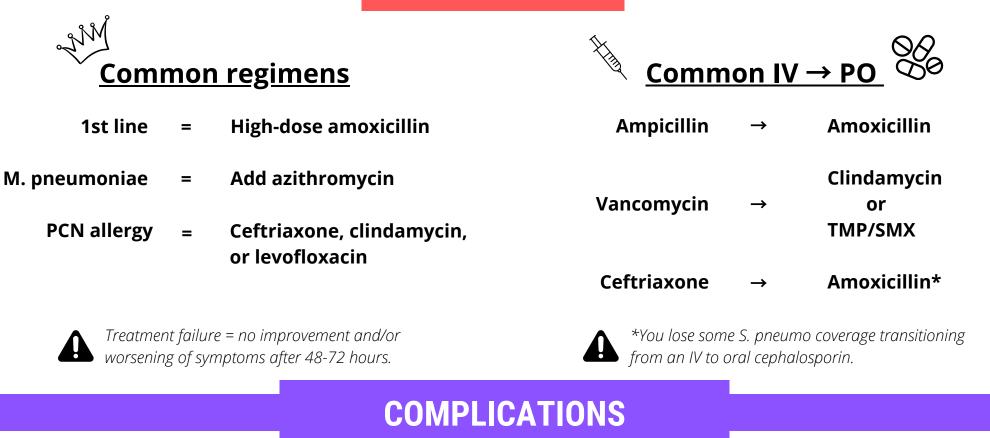


Blood cultures are recommended for moderate to severe CAP requiring admission.



Viral pathogen PCR testing may decrease the workup for bacterial causes.

TREATMENT



Parapneumonic effusion = any pleural effusion secondary to pneumonia or lung abscess.

<u>Uncomplicated</u>: free-flowing and sterile. <u>Complicated</u>: microorganisms in the pleural space and/or loculated.

Size	Definition	Treatment
Small	Opacifies <1/4 hemithorax	Antibiotics Drainage not usually necessary
Moderate	>1/4 but <1/2 hemithorax	Broad spectrum antibiotics +/- drainage (chest tube vs VATS)
Large	>1/2 hemithorax	Broad spectrum antibiotics + drainage (chest tube vs VATS)



Lipsett S, Cruz M, Chui C, Berk J. "Community Acquired Pneumonia: The Alveoli Strike Back". The Cribsiders Pediatric Podcast. https://www.thecribsiders.com. Original air date: October 2020.