

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EMPIRIC TREATMENT OF ADULT COMMUNITY ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA

## OUTPATIENT

### **First Line:**

Doxycycline 100mg PO BID x 5 days

### **Second Line:**

For patients who have contraindications or intolerance to first line agent.

Levofloxacin 750 mg PO q day x 5 days

### **Patients with significant comorbidities (diabetes, immunosuppression, chronic lung disease, etc.):**

Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 2g PO BID + Doxycycline (dosed as above) x 5 days

### **Comorbidities and penicillin allergy, or failing to respond to above therapies:**

Levofloxacin 750mg PO q day x 5 days

## INPATIENT

Ceftriaxone 2 grams IV q day

+

Doxycycline 100 mg IV/PO BID

For severe beta-lactam allergy: Levofloxacin 750mg IV/PO q day

ICU patients at high risk of pneumonia with *P. aeruginosa* (e.g. prior isolated *P. aeruginosa* on respiratory cultures, recent hospitalization, recent prior parenteral antibiotics, etc.) - consider empiric therapy with an anti-Pseudomonal agent: Cefepime 2 g IV q8h\*

ICU patients at risk for staphylococcal pneumonia (e.g. positive Gram stain, IVDU, post-influenza, etc.) - consider adding vancomycin\*.

Consider procalcitonin, *Streptococcus pneumoniae* antigen (urine), and *Legionella* antigen (urine)

\*Respiratory cultures should be obtained to guide de-escalation or confirm indication for continued therapy.

### **Stepdown therapy**

Once patient stabilized, improving, and has functioning GI tract, a switch to oral therapy is strongly encouraged (usually within 3-5 days)

- Routine use of an oral fluoroquinolone is discouraged.
- Routine addition anaerobic coverage (e.g. metronidazole) in the setting of aspiration is discouraged unless lung abscess or empyema is suspected.
- Patients who respond to antibiotic therapy should not be reimaged (i.e. repeat chest x-ray discouraged) to confirm cure.

*IDSA / ATS guidelines provide additional information – Am J Respir Crit Care Med Vol 200, Iss 7, pp e45–e67, Oct 1, 2019*

Approved by UCDH Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee 8/19/2020