

PHE Summary tables: RTIs in primary care

ILLNESS	COMMENTS	DRUG	ADULT DOSE Click on ☺ for child doses	DURATION OF TREATMENT
UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS¹				
Acute sore throat CKS FeverPAIN	Avoid antibiotics as 90% resolve in 7 days ^{1A+} without, and pain only reduced by 16 hours. ^{2A+} Use FeverPAIN Score : Fever in last 24h, Purulence, Attend rapidly under 3d, severely Inflamed tonsils, No cough or coryza). ^{3B+,4B+} Score 0-1 : 13-18% streptococci, use NO antibiotic strategy; 2-3 : 34-40% streptococci, use 3 day back-up antibiotic; >4 : 62-65% streptococci, use immediate antibiotic if severe, or 48hr short back-up prescription. ^{5A-} Always share self-care advice & safety net. Antibiotics to prevent Quinsy NNT >4000. ^{4B-} Antibiotics to prevent Otitis media NNT 200. ^{2A+} 10d penicillin lower relapse vs 7d in <18yrs. ⁸	Phenoxymethylpenicillin ^{5B-} <i>Penicillin Allergy:</i> clarithromycin	500mg QDS ☺ or 1G BD ^{6A+} (QDS when severe ^{7D}) 250-500mg BD ☺	10 days ^{8A-} 5 days ^{9A+}
Acute Otitis Media (child doses) CKS OM NICE feverish children	Optimise analgesia and target antibiotics ^{2,3B-} AOM resolves in 60% in 24hrs without antibiotics, which only reduce pain at 2 days (NNT15) and does not prevent deafness. ^{4A+} Consider 2 or 3-day delayed ^{1A+} or immediate antibiotics for pain relief if: <2 years AND bilateral AOM (NNT4) or bulging membrane and ≥ 4 marked symptoms. ⁵⁻⁷⁺ All ages with otorrhoea NNT3. ^{8A+} Abx to prevent Mastoiditis NNT >4000. ^{9B-}	Amoxicillin ^{10A+} <i>Penicillin Allergy:</i> erythromycin ^{11D}	Child doses Neonate 7-28 days 30mg/kg TDS 1 month-1 yr: 125mg TDS 1-5 years: 250mg TDS 5-18 years: 500mg TDS <2 years 125mg QDS 2-8 years 250mg QDS 8-18 years 250-500mg QDS	5 days ^{13A+} 5 days ^{13A+}
Acute Otitis Externa CKS OE	First use analgesia. Cure rates similar at 7 days for topical acetic acid or antibiotic +/- steroid. ^{1A+} If cellulitis/disease extending outside ear canal, start oral antibiotics & refer to exclude malignant OE ^{2A+}	<i>First Line:</i> acetic acid 2% <i>Second Line:</i> neomycin sulphate with corticosteroid ^{3A-,4D}	1 spray TDS 3 drops TDS	7 days 7 days min to 14 days max ^{1A+}
Acute Rhinosinusitis^{5C} CKS RS	Avoid antibiotics as 80% resolve in 14 days without; they only offer marginal benefit after 7days NNT15. ^{2,3A+} Use adequate analgesia. ^{4B+} Consider 7-day delayed or immediate antibiotic when purulent nasal discharge NNT8. ^{1,2A+} In persistent infection use an agent with anti-anaerobic activity eg. co-amoxiclav. ^{6B+}	Amoxicillin ^{4A+,7A} or doxycycline or phenoxymethylpenicillin ^{8B} <i>For persistent symptoms:</i> co-amoxiclav ^{6B+}	500mg TDS ☺ 1g if severe ^{11D} 200mg stat then 100mg OD 500mg QDS ☺ 625mg TDS	7 days ^{9A+} 7 days 7 days 7 days 7 days
LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS				
Note: Low doses of penicillins are more likely to select out resistance ¹ , we recommend 500mg of amoxicillin. Do not use quinolone (ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin) first line due to poor pneumococcal activity. ^{2B-} Reserve all quinolones (including levofloxacin) for proven resistant organisms.				
Acute cough bronchitis CKS ⁶ NICE 69	Antibiotic little benefit if no co-morbidity. ^{1-4A+} Consider 7d delayed antibiotic with advice. ^{1,5A} Symptom resolution can take 3 weeks. Consider immediate antibiotics if > 80yr and ONE of: hospitalisation in past year, oral steroids, diabetic, congestive heart failure OR > 65yrs with 2 of above. Consider CRP test ^{1A,4} if antibiotic being considered. If CRP < 20mg/L no antibiotics, 20-100mg/L delayed, CRP > 100mg immediate antibiotics.	Amoxicillin or doxycycline	500mg TDS ☺ 200mg stat then 100mg OD	5 days ^{4A+} 5 days ^{4A+}
Acute exacerbation of COPD NICE 12 GOLD	Treat exacerbations promptly with antibiotics if purulent sputum and increased shortness of breath and/or increased sputum volume. ^{1-3B+} Risk factors for antibiotic resistant organisms include co-morbid disease, severe COPD, frequent exacerbations, antibiotics in last 3 months. ²	Amoxicillin or doxycycline or clarithromycin <i>If resistance:</i> co-amoxiclav	500mg TDS 200mg stat/100mg OD 500mg BD 625mg TDS	5 days ^{4C} 5 days ^{4C} 5 days ^{4A} 5 days ^{4A}
Community acquired pneumonia-treatment in the community^{2,3} BTS 2009 NICE 191	Use CRB65 score to guide mortality risk, place of care & antibiotics ¹ Each CRB65 parameter scores 1: Confusion (AMT<8); Respiratory rate >30/min; BP systolic <90 or diastolic ≤60; Age >65; Score 3-4 urgent hospital admission; Score 1-2 intermediate risk consider hospital assessment; Score 0 low risk: consider home based care. Always give safety-net advice and likely duration of symptoms. Mycoplasma infection is rare in >65s. ¹	IF CRB65=0: amoxicillin ^{A+} or clarithromycin ^{A-} or doxycycline ^D IF CRB65=1,2 & AT HOME, clinically assess need for dual therapy for atypicals: amoxicillin ^{A+} AND clarithromycin ^{A-} or doxycycline alone	500mg TDS ☺ 500mg BD ☺ 200mg stat/100mg OD 500mg TDS ☺ 500mg BD ☺ 200mg stat/100mg OD	CRB65=0: use 5 days. Review at 3 days & extend to 7-10 days if poor response. 7-10 days