



Community Acquired Pneumonia

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Objectives

- Pneumonia definitions
- Epidemiology
- Microbiology
- Clinical Pathway
 - Diagnosis
 - Site of care
 - Treatment
 - Stewardship considerations

Community Acquired Pneumonia

Pulmonary infection acquired outside of a hospital environment

Nosocomial Pneumonia

HCAP (health care-associated pneumonia) has fallen from grace and no longer recognized in ATS / IDSA guidelines

Hospital-acquired pneumonia: pulmonary infection occurring at least 48 hours after admission

Ventilator-associated pneumonia: pulmonary infection occurring at least 48 hours after endotracheal intubation

CAP Epidemiology



A year in the U.S.:

5 million cases
1.2 million hospitalizations
55,000 deaths



Setting:

70% outpatient
30% inpatient

CAP Epidemiology

Age Group	Incidence of Pneumonia-Related Hospitalizations (95% CI) <i>no. of cases per 10,000 adults per year</i>
18-49 yr	6.7 (6.1-7.3)
50-64 yr	26.3 (24.1-28.7)
65-79 yr	63.0 (56.4-70.3)
≥80 yr	164.3 (141.9-189.3)

Jain S, Self WH, Wunderink RG, et al. Community-Acquired Pneumonia Requiring Hospitalization among U.S. Adults. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;373(5):415-427. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1500245

Causative Agents

- High proportion without organism found
 - Difficulty in obtaining samples
 - Low sensitivity of diagnostic tests
 - Antibiotic use prior to collection
 - Viruses not investigated

Microbial Causes of CAP

Streptococcus pneumoniae

Mycoplasma Pneumoniae

Haemophilus influenzae

Chlamydia pneumoniae

Legionella pneumophila

Respiratory Viruses

- Influenza A / B
- Metapneumovirus
- Adenovirus
- Respiratory syncytial virus
- Parainfluenza
- Coronavirus (COVID-19)

“Typical” versus “Atypical”



Typical pathogens

S. pneumoniae, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *S. aureus*



Atypical pathogens

- cannot be cultured on standard media / seen on gram stain
- intrinsic resistance to β -lactams

Mycoplasma pneumoniae,
Chlamydia pneumoniae,
Legionella pneumophila

Respiratory viruses

- Influenza, adenoviruses, human metapneumoviruses, respiratory syncytial virus, coronaviruses

Clinical Manifestations

Constitutional

- Febrile
- Tachycardia
- Chills

Cough

- Productive or non-productive

Dyspnea

Pleuritic chest pain

Physical exam (sensitivity / specificity 58 / 67%)

- Tachypnea
- Accessory muscle use
- Tactile fremitus
- Percussion vary from dull to flat
- Crackles, bronchial breath sounds, pleural friction rub

Diagnostic Criteria

IDSA Guideline Criteria



New pulmonary
infiltrate on chest
image



Respiratory
symptoms
(at least 1)



At least one
other symptom /
finding of illness

CAP Clinical Pathway

Diagnosis and Site of Care

- Hypoxia
- Pneumonia
Severity Index
- CURB-65

Pneumonia Severity Index (PSI/PORT)

- 20-point scoring system
 - Age / Sex
 - co-morbidities
 - Vitals
 - labs (BUN, glucose, pH, pO₂)
- Five risk categories

Class	Points	Physical examination findings, no comorbidities or laboratory findings
Class I (low risk)		
Class II (low risk)	≤70 points	
Class III (low risk)	71–90 points.	
Class IV (moderate risk)	91–130 points	
Class V (high risk)	>130 total points	

CURB-65

- 2 categories (severe [3-5] or non-severe[0-2])
- In Europe there is use of CRB-65 (do not use blood urea)

Variable	Value
Confusion	New disorientation person, place or time
Urea	BUN >19 mg/dL
Respiratory rate	≥30
Blood pressure	Systolic < 90 mmHg, and/or diastolic ≤ 60 mmHg
Age	≥ 65 years

CAP: Severe features

Major criteria (1 needed)

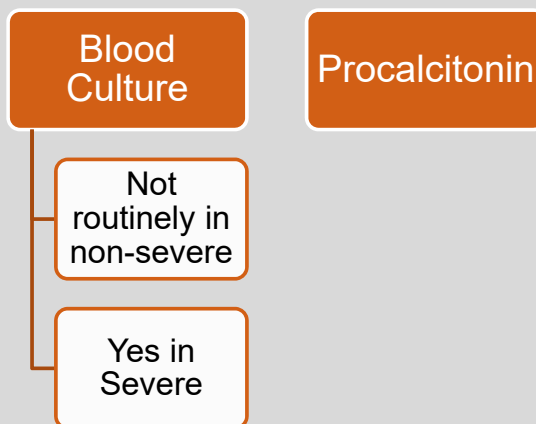
- Need for vasopressors
- Need for mechanical ventilation

Minor criteria (3 needed)

- Tachypnea
- P/F <250
- Multilobar infiltrates
- Confusion/disorientation
- Uremia (>20)
- Leukopenia
- Thrombocytopenia
- Hypothermia
- Hypotension requiring aggressive fluids

Diagnostic Testing

Bloodwork



Diagnostic Testing

Respiratory

Respiratory Culture

- Not routinely if non-severe, routinely if severe
- Yes if:
 - Hospitalization with IV Abx in last 90 days
 - Anti-MRSA or pseudomonal coverage initiated
 - Advanced structural lung disease

MRSA nasal swab

- Hospitalization with IV Abx in the last 90 days
- Anti-MRSA coverage initiated
- Severe and h/o MRSA colonization or infection in the past year

Diagnostic testing

Viral

Flu / COVID swabs

- If presence in community, potential exposure

Respiratory Viral Panel

- In severe infection if available

CAP Pathway: Diagnostic Testing

Urine

- Legionella
 - Determine based on epidemiologic factors
- Pneumococcus
 - Not routinely in non-severe

Antibiotic Selection

Outpatient – no comorbidities

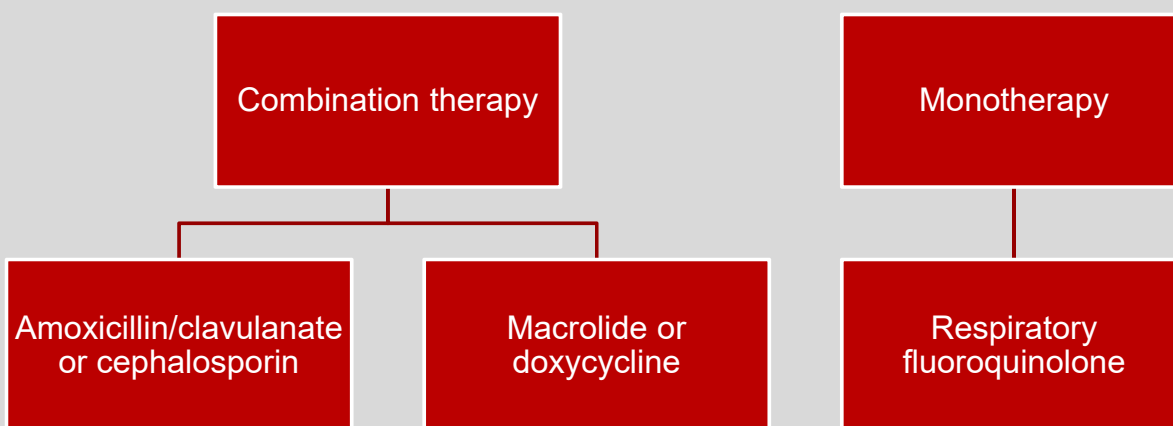
High dose
Amoxicillin

Doxycycline

Macrolide
(Azithromycin,
clarithromycin)

Antibiotic Selection

Outpatient – with co-morbidities



Antibiotic Selection

Inpatient – non-severe

Standard

β -lactam

- Ampicillin-sublactam
- Ceftriaxone
- Cefoxamine

Atypical Coverage

- Macrolide
- Doxycycline

Monotherapy

Respiratory
Fluoroquinolone
(Levofloxacin or
Moxifloxacin)

Antibiotic Selection

Inpatient – non-severe MRDO coverage

MRSA coverage

- Vancomycin
- Linezolid

Anti-pseudomonal = adjust β -lactam

- Piperacillin / tazobactam
- Cefipime
- Ceftazadine
- Imipenem
- Meropenem

Antibiotic Selection

Inpatient - Severe

Standard regimen is the same as non-severe

- Do not recommend fluoroquinolone monotherapy, can be in combination with β -lactam

Anti-MRSA / Anti-Pseudomonal Coverage

- Hospitalization with IV Antibiotics in the past 90 days
- Otherwise same decision factors as non-severe

Antibiotic Selection

Duration



Minimum 3-5 days

Most patients achieve stability within the first 48-72 hours so 5 days is typically appropriate



MRSA or *P. aeruginosa* minimum 7 days



Longer courses

Complicated by infection at other sites (meningitis, endocarditis, etc)

Infection by less-common pathogen (eg *Burkholderia*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*)

Follow-up

Stewardship Considerations

- Assess for clinical stability / improvement (vitals, oxygenation, mental status)
- Determine pathogen-directed therapy based on culture data
- Procalcitonin
- MRSA Nasal Swab

Antibiotic Selections

Oral De-escalation

No MDRO risk factors:

- Amoxicillin + clavulanate (500 + 125 mg TID or 875/2000 + 125 mg BID)
- Cefpodoximine 200 mg PO BID
- Cefuroxime 500 mg PO BID

MDRO Risk Factors

- Levofloxacin 750 mg PO q24h

Antiviral

COVID

Ambulatory:

- nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (PO), Remdesivir (IV), monoclonal Abs if circulating susceptible

Hospitalized

- Not hypoxemic: if high risk remdesivir x3 days
- Hypoxemic: corticosteroids, remdesivir
 - IL-6 inhibitors (tocilizumab) in progressive / severe with high inflammatory markers
 - JAK inhibitors (barticitinib) in severe

Antiviral

Influenza

- Neuraminidase inhibitors (oseltamivir, inhaled zanamivir, IV peramivir, baloxavir)

Discharge Considerations



Vaccination (in eligible populations)

Pneumococcal
Influenza
COVID-19
RSV



Smoking cessation



Ensure proper therapy for control of chronic conditions

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