

Appropriate Use of Antibiotics for Acute Respiratory Infections

Antibiotic	Brand Name(s)	Pediatric Dose	Adult Dose
Penicillins* (duration 10 days)			
Amoxicillin	Amoxil®	Dosed based on amox component Usual dose: 80-90 mg/kg/day (Q12H) Low dose: 40-50 mg/kg/day is ONLY recommended for pharyngitis For amox/clav: prefer 600 mg/ml	1.5-4 g/day (divided BID-TID)
Amoxicillin-Clavulanic Acid	Augmentin®		
Penicillin VK	Veetids®	25-50 mg/kg/day (Q6H)	250-500 mg BID-QID
Cephalosporins* (duration 10 days)			
Cefdinir - 3rd generation	Omnicef®	14 mg/kg/day (Q12H or Q24H)	300 mg BID or 600 mg once daily
Cefpodoxime - 3rd generation	Vantin®	10 mg/kg/day (Q24H)	200 mg BID
Ceftriaxone - 3rd generation	Rocephin®	IM 50 mg/kg/day (Q24H) x 1 or 3 days	IM/IV 1-2 g/day x 5 days
Cefuroxime - 2nd generation	Ceftin®	30 mg/kg/day (Q12H)	250-500 mg BID
Cephalexin - 1st generation	Keflex®	25-50 mg/kg/day (Q6H or Q12H)	500 mg BID-QID
Fluoroquinolones*			
Levofloxacin	Levaquin®	N/A	500 mg once daily x 10 days 750 mg once daily x 5 days
Moxifloxacin	Avelox®	N/A	400 mg once daily
Macrolides			
Azithromycin	Zithromax®, Tripak®, Zmax®	10 mg/kg/day x 1 day, then 5 mg/kg/day daily days 2-5 OR 10 mg/kg/day x 3 days OR 30 mg/kg/day x 1 day	500 mg x 1 day, then 250 mg daily days 2-5 OR 500 mg once daily x 3 days OR 2 g x 1 dose
Clarithromycin	Biaxin®, Biaxin XL®	15 mg/kg/day (Q12H)	500 mg BID x 10 days 500 mg XL, 2 tabs once daily
Erythromycin	E-mycin®, Ery-tab®, EryPed®	pharyngitis: 20-40mg/kg/day; pertussis: 40-50 mg/kg/day (Q6H)	500 mg QID, 333 mg TID

**Consider renal dosing if appropriate*