



aspiration pneumonia: anaerobic coverage not routinely needed.

Why anaerobic coverage is not routinely necessary

- In the current era, we now diagnose AP more frequently in a different population (nursing home residents and those with dysphagia)¹
- Concurrently, there has been a shift in recovered bacteria from anaerobes to aerobes^{4,5}
- Recent studies show that respiratory tract organisms of patients with suspected aspiration mirrored those of patients with CAP or HAP⁶
- AP can be successfully treated without anaerobic coverage due to¹
 - The insignificant role of anaerobes in uncomplicated AP
 - Lower severity of illness in the absence of abscesses or pulmonary necrosis
 - Altered local redox-potential from the elimination of aerobic pathogens, which effectively also treats anaerobes

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