[Facility Logo]

Loeb's Minimum Criteria for Initiating Antibiotic Therapy

| Patient Name: | MRN: | Location: |
|--|--|--|
| Date of Infection: | Date of Review: | Reviewed by: |
| UTI: □ evaluated □ criteria met Li | RTI: 🗆 evaluated 🗆 criteria met | SSTI: □ evaluated □ criteria met FUO: □ evaluated □ criteria met |
| Suspected Infection Syndrome Minimum Criteria for Starting Antibiotic Therapy | | |
| Urinary tract infection without catheter | Either one of the following criteria Acute dysuria, OR Temp >37.9 °C (100 °F) or 1.5 °C (2 ≥1 of the following new or worseni Urgency Suprapubic pain Urinary incontinence | ing symptoms Frequency Gross hematuria |
| with catheter | At least one of the following criteria Rigors New onset delirium | Temp >37.9 °C (100 °F) or 1.5 °C (2.4 °F) above baseline New costovertebral angle tenderness |
| Note: Residents with intermittent catheterization or condom catheter should be categorized as 'without catheter' Urine culture should be sent prior to starting antibiotics Antibiotics should not be started for cloudy or foul smelling urine | | |
| Lower respiratory tract infection with temp >38.9 °C (102 °F) | At least one of the following criteria Productive cough | Respiratory rate >25 breaths / minute |
| with temp >37.9 °C (100 °F) or 1.5 °C (2.4 ºF) above baseline | Both of the following criteria Cough, AND At least one of the following criteria Pulse >100 beats / minutes Rigors | ia Delirium Respiratory rate >25 breaths / minute |
| afebrile with COPD and >65 years old | Both of the following criteria New or increased cough Purulent sputum production | |
| afebrile without COPD | All of the following criteria New cough Purulent sputum production At least one of the following criteria Delirium | ia □ Respiratory rate >25 breaths / minute |
| with new infiltrate on chest X-ray consistent with pneumonia | At least one of the following criteria Productive cough Respiratory rate >25 breaths / | $\hfill\square$ Temp >37.9 °C (100 °F) or 1.5 °C (2.4 °F) above baseline minute |
| Note: Consider ordering chest X-ray and CBC with differential for febrile residents with cough and any of these criteria (HR >100, worsening mental status, or rigors) Antibiotics should not be used for up to 24 h after large-volume aspiration in those without COPD but with temp ≤38.9 ^o C (102 ^o F) and non-productive cough | | |
| Skin and soft-tissue infection | Either one of the following criteria New or increasing purulent drainag At least two of the following criteri Redness (erythema) Tenderness Warmth | |
| Note: These criteria do not apply to residents with burns Surgical consultation and hospitalization are required for certain soft-tissue infections (e.g., necrotizing fasciitis or gas gangrene) | | |
| Fever where the Focus of Infection is Unknown | Both of the following criteria □ Temp >37.9 °C (100 °F) or 1.5 °C (2 □ At least one of the following criteria □ Rigors | 2.4 °F) above baseline, AND |
| Note: Antibiotic should not be started in residents with fever and altered mental status that does not meet delirium criteria (e.g., reduced functional activities, withdrawal, loss of appetite) | | |

Reference: Loeb M, et al. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol 2001;22:120-4.

