

## Pharyngitis / Sore Throat / Tonsillitis Antibiotic Treatment Table

Consider no antibiotic or delayed antibiotic strategy.

Use FEVERPAIN Score to identify those most likely to benefit from antibiotics.

Score 0-1: Do not offer antibiotic

Score 2-3: Offer delayed antibiotic

Score 4-5: Offer immediate antibiotic prescription

### If antibiotics deemed clinically indicated:

Drug	Dose	Duration	Notes
<b>Adults: 1st choice options</b>			
Phenoxyethylpenicillin	666mg every 6 hours (Calvepen®)  OR 500mg every 6 hours (Kopen®)	5 days	Avoid in penicillin allergy.  Depending on clinical response, duration can be extended to 10 days in total.  To optimise absorption, take on empty stomach.
<b>Adults: 2nd choice options</b>			
Cefalexin	500mg every 6 hours	5 days	Depending on clinical response, duration can be extended to 10 days in total.  Cephalosporins should not be used in severe penicillin allergy.
Clarithromycin	500mg every 12 hours	5 days	Macrolides should be used with caution in pregnancy. Clarithromycin suitable only in 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> trimester in pregnancy. Alternative macrolide for all trimesters of pregnancy: Azithromycin 500mg stat then 250mg every 24 hours from Day 2 to Day 5.
<b>Children: 1st choice options</b>			
Phenoxyethylpenicillin suspension	<a href="#">See Phenoxyethylpenicillin dosing table</a>	5 days	Avoid in penicillin allergy.  Depending on clinical response, duration can be extended to 10 days in total.  To optimise absorption, take on empty stomach.
<b>Children: 2nd choice options</b>			
Cefalexin suspension	<a href="#">See Cefalexin dosing table</a>	5 days	Depending on clinical response, duration can be extended to 10 days in total.  Cephalosporins should not be used in severe penicillin allergy.
Clarithromycin suspension	<a href="#">See Clarithromycin dosing table</a>	5 days	