

In many cases the Preferred Antibiotic is No Antibiotic

Advise patients/carers to visit the HSE website www.undertheweather.ie for self-care advice for viral and self-limiting infections

✓ Preferred Antibiotics In Community

See www.antibioticprescribing.ie If antibiotic therapy is indicated the preferred first line choices below are likely to be effective, have fewer side effects, and are less likely to lead to resistant infections.

| Respiratory Infections Duration in general: 5 days | Urinary Tract Infections | Skin and Soft Tissue Infections |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Amoxicillin | Nitrofurantoin* (Only for lower UTI) | Flucloxacillin |
| Doxycycline* | Cefalexin | Cefalexin |
| Penicillin V (phenoxymethylpenicillin) | Trimethoprim* | Doxycycline* (acne) |
| | Fosfomycin* (Only for lower UTI) | Lymecycline* (acne) |

✗ Antibiotics To Be Avoided First Line In Community

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|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Co-amoxiclav Unless as first line for: animal or human bite; facial cellulitis; post partum endometritis; caesarean wound infections; perineal wound infection | Risks: C.diff | Quinolones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levofloxacin* Ciprofloxacin* – Unless as first line for acute prostatitis Ofloxacin* – Unless as first line for acute epididymo-orchitis Moxifloxacin* – AVOID due to risk of severe liver toxicity | Risks: C.diff, drug interactions, tendon/nerve & other toxicities, prolongation of QT interval, lowers seizure threshold |
| Other cephalosporins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cefaclor Cefixime Cefuroxime | Risks: C.diff | Macrolides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarithromycin* – Unless as first line for helicobacter eradication Azithromycin* Erythromycin* | Risks: C.diff, drug interactions, prolongation of QT interval |
| Clindamycin* | Risks: C.diff | | |

* These antibiotics may be safely used in patients with true penicillin allergy (immediate hypersensitivity).

C. diff = *Clostridioides difficile* infection

See www.antibioticprescribing.ie for details



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