

Jan 24, 2023

Agenda

- Speaker: *Recharge & Recap: Opportunities in SSTI*
- Case Discussions
- Open Discussion

Top 5 Opportunities in SSTI (according to Chloe)

- 1) Hitting that diagnosis
- 2) Duration for simple cellulitis
- 3) Can we skip the antibiotics?
- 4) Purulent cellulitis – how many drugs?
- 5) Antipseudomonal coverage in DM foot



1) Hitting that Diagnosis

- Myth: skin that is red and swollen is definitely cellulitis
 - Pearl: ddx for these findings is LONG – DVT, gout, venous stasis dermatitis, etc.
 - Physical exam skill: passive leg raise



1) Hitting that Diagnosis

- Myth: bilateral lower-extremity swelling and redness = bilateral lower-extremity cellulitis
 - Pearl: direct inoculation through non-intact skin causes cellulitis. TRUE bilateral cellulitis should be SUPER rare



1) Hitting that Diagnosis

- Myth: if the redness extends beyond the drawn margin in cellulitis, the patient is getting worse
 - Pearl: redness can spread for 48 hours while on effective therapy. Follow redness intensity instead of extent



2) Cellulitis - duration

- 5 days



3) Can we skip the antibiotics?

- Small, drained abscesses don't always require antibiotics
 - Exceptions: Sepsis, large erythema, multiple lesions, bad places, risk for difficult healing
- But what's small?
 - 2cm
 - Even then, the benefit of treating with antibiotics is small
 - Failure 8 vs. 16%



4) Purulent cellulitis – how many drugs?

- 1 Drug!
- Micro: Staph aureus (MSSA & MRSA) and Group A Strep
- Good data for 1 drug:
 - TMP/SMX
 - Vancomycin (if hospitalized)



5) Antipseudomonal coverage in infections of a DM foot wound

- Pseudomonas is RARE in DM foot infections in the US (5% in Denver¹, 4% in Nebraska)
- RCT comparing ertapenem to pip/tazo for mod/severe infections was equivalent²
- Empiric antipseudomonal coverage is unnecessary!
 - (cefepime, pip/tazo, mero, even FQ)



Other Opportunities

