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# A Novel Approach to Antibiotic Teaching

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# Antibiotics in Action

(Hint: the answer is almost  
always ceftriaxone)



# Learning Objectives

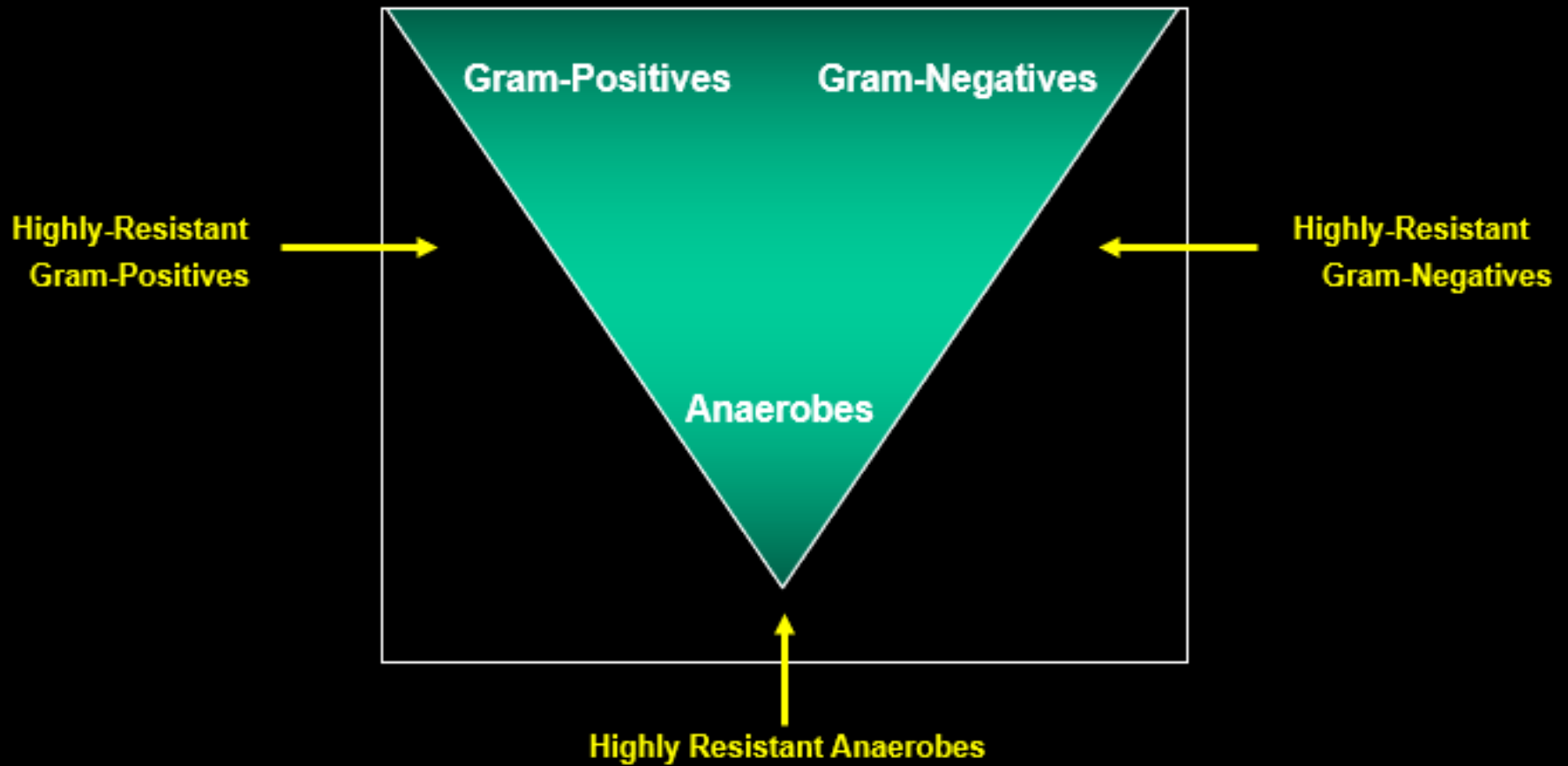
- To give you tools to strategically select antibiotics for the “BIG 3” infections: pneumonia, UTI, and cellulitis
- To “flip the narrative” – and focus on the most frequently utilized antibiotics and their spectrum (rather than review them all)

Today we will NOT discuss:

- Antibiotic mechanism of action
- Drug dosing
- Duration of therapy



# Antibiotic Spectra



Slide credit: Drs David Spach and Paul Pottinger



# Ceftriaxone

Highly Resistant  
Gram-Positives

Gram-Positives

Gram-Negatives

Highly Resistant  
Gram-Negatives

*Pseudomonas*

**Enterococcus**

Anaerobes



# Case 1a: UTI

A 35-year-old cisgender woman with no PMH presents to the ED with fevers, chills, flank pain, and dysuria.

A urinalysis is positive, and a urine culture is pending.

She is diagnosed with **pyelonephritis**, and admission is planned.

## Audience Response Question

What antibiotic would you start?

- Ceftriaxone
- Cefepime
- Vancomycin
- Levofloxacin



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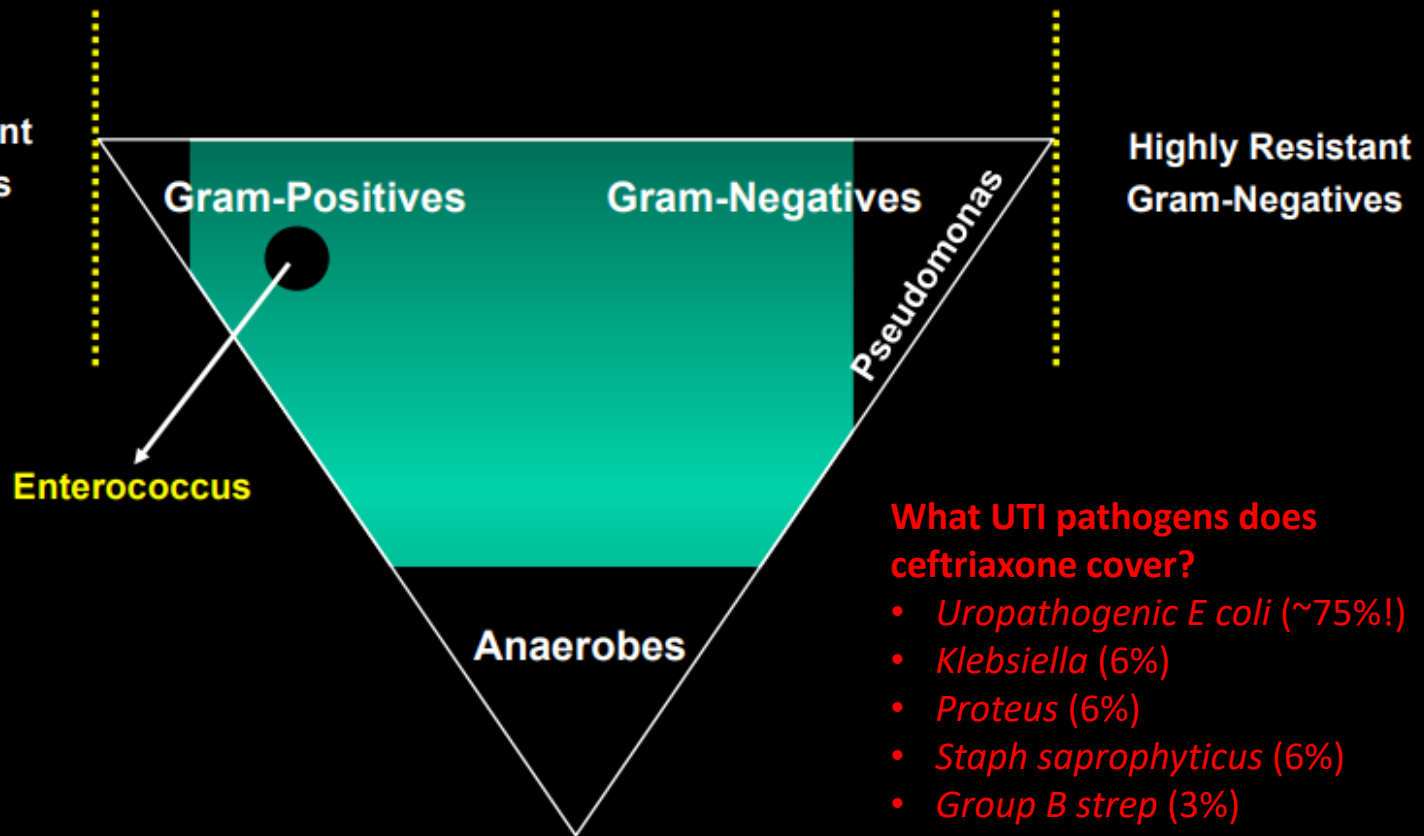
## Audience Response Question

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# Ceftriaxone





# Case 1: Urinary Tract Infection

1. For **inpatient** UTI in a patient without risk factors for resistance\*, use ceftriaxone.

→ \*Risk factors: recent urologic procedure, history of MDRO, etc.



# Case 1b: UTI

A 35-year-old cisgender woman presents to her primary care physician (PCP) with fevers, chills, flank pain, and dysuria.

A urinalysis is positive, and a urine culture is pending.

She is diagnosed with **pyelonephritis**, and of course you give a dose of ceftriaxone in the office. Discharge to home is planned.

## Audience Response Question

What antibiotic would you send to her pharmacy?

- Ceftriaxone
- Ciprofloxacin
- Amoxicillin



# Case 1b: UTI

A 35-year-old cisgender woman presents to her primary care physician (PCP) with fevers, chills, flank pain, and dysuria.

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She is diagnosed with **pyelonephritis**, and of course you give a dose of ceftriaxone in the office. Discharge to home is planned.

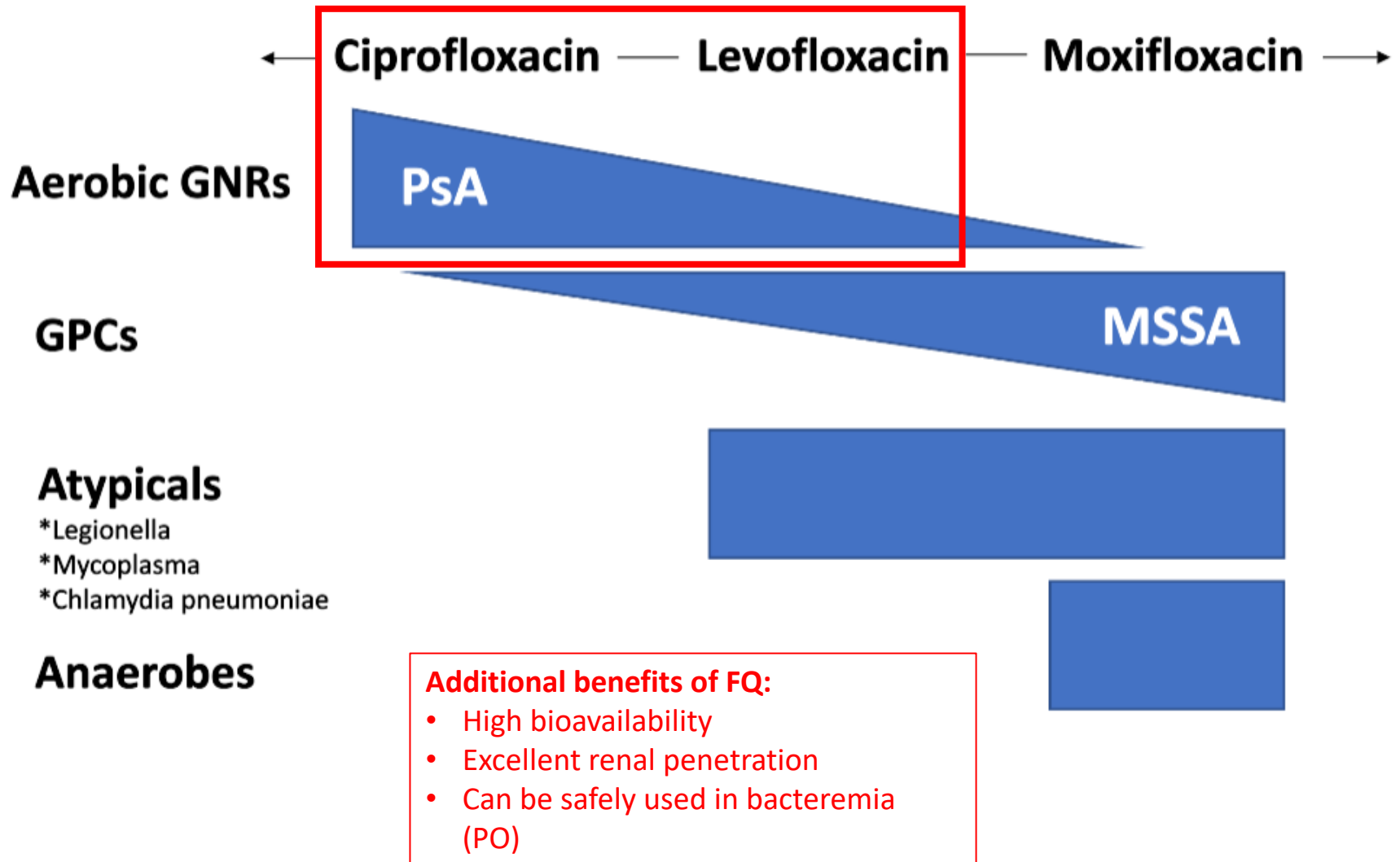
## Audience Response Question

What antibiotic would you send to her pharmacy?

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# Fluoroquinolones



# Case 1: Urinary Tract Infection

1. For **inpatient** UTI in a patient without risk factors for resistance\*, use ceftriaxone.

→ \*Risk factors: recent urologic procedure, history of MDRO, etc.

1. For **outpatient pyelonephritis**, use ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin.

→ Excellent bioavailability and kidney penetration



# Case 1c: UTI

A 35-year-old cisgender woman presents to her primary care physician (PCP) with urinary frequency, urgency, dysuria, and suprapubic pain.

A urinalysis is positive, and a urine culture is pending.

She is diagnosed with **cystitis**.

## Audience Response Question

What antibiotic would you start?

- Ceftriaxone
- Levofloxacin
- Doxycycline
- Nitrofurantoin



# Case 1c: UTI

A 35-year-old cisgender woman presents to her primary care physician (PCP) with urinary frequency, urgency, dysuria, and suprapubic pain.

A urinalysis is positive, and a urine culture is pending.

She is diagnosed with **cystitis**.

## Audience Response Question

What antibiotic would you start?

- Ceftriaxone
- Levofloxacin
- Doxycycline
- Nitrofurantoin



# Empiric Cystitis Treatment:

## 3 First-Line Options

- Nitrofurantoin
  - Caution with use in elderly or  $GFR < 30$
  - CAUTION IN UPPER TRACT DISEASE – Does not penetrate kidneys
- Fosfomycin
  - Expensive!
  - Typically not used for upper tract disease (though data here is evolving!)
- TMP/SMX





# Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole

(i.e. “Bactrim” or “TMP-SMX”)

Highly Resistant  
Gram-Positives

MRSA

Gram-Positives

STREP

Gram-Negatives

Highly Resistant  
Gram-Negatives

Anaerobes

**Keep in mind the common UTI pathogens:**

- *Uropathogenic E coli* (~75%!)
- *Klebsiella* (6%)
- *Proteus* (6%)
- *Staph saprophyticus* (6%)
- *Group B strep* (3%)



# Empiric Cystitis Treatment:

## 3 First-Line Options

- Nitrofurantoin
- Fosfomycin
- TMP/SMX

• CAUTION with resistance >20%

Organism (% susceptible)	Nitrofurantoin <sup>d</sup>			Trimeth/sulfa		
	H	ML	NW	H	ML	NW
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii/calcoaceticus</i> complex <sup>e</sup>						
<i>Citrobacter freundii</i> complex <sup>f</sup>	97	96	98	92	92	80
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> complex <sup>f</sup>	59	63	68	91	84	88
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	99	96	96	71	70	79



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### Audience Response Question

Cipro isn't on the list! Why do you think that is?

- Too much resistance
- Too expensive
- Too many side effects



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# Case 1: Urinary Tract Infection

1. For **inpatient** UTI in a patient without risk factors for resistance\*, use ceftriaxone.

→ \*Risk factors: recent urologic procedure, history of MDRO, etc.

1. For **outpatient pyelonephritis**, use ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin.

→ Excellent bioavailability and kidney penetration

3. For **cystitis**, use fosfomycin or nitrofurantoin.

→ AVOID fluoroquinolones unless no other options

→ AVOID empiric bactrim if local E coli resistance > 20%



# A ceftriaxone-oriented approach

Can be used to teach additional infectious syndromes...

- Pneumonia

- Part 1 = Outpatient CAP
- Part 2 = Inpatient CAP
- Part 3 = HAP

- Skin and Soft Tissue Infection

- Part 1 = Inpatient Non-purulent cellulitis
- Part 2 = Inpatient Purulent cellulitis
- Part 3 = Outpatient Rx



# Antibiotic Quick Reference

Syndrome	Route	First-Line Rx	Most Common Organisms
Bacterial Meningitis	IV	Ceftriaxone + Vanco ± Ampicillin	Strep pneumoniae, meningococcus, ± listeria monocytogenes
Sinusitis	PO	Amoxicillin-Clavulanate	Strep spp, oral anaerobes
Pneumonia	PO	Amoxicillin-Clavulanate + azithro, or Levofloxacin	CAP: Strep pneumoniae, M. catarrhalis, atypical organisms HAP: Consider PsA, MRSA
	IV	Ceftriaxone + Azithromycin	
Intra-abdominal (cholecystitis, diverticulitis)	PO	Ciprofloxacin + Metronidazole	GNRs, anaerobes. Occasionally enterococcus
	IV	Ceftriaxone + Metronidazole	
UTI	PO	Nitrofurantoin, Fosfomycin or Bactrim	E coli, Klebsiella, Proteus, Staph saprophyticus, Group B Strep
	IV	Ceftriaxone	
SSTI	PO	Purulent: TMP-SMX Non-purulent: Cephalexin	Purulent: MRSA, MSSA Non-purulent: Streptococcal spp
	IV	Purulent: Vanco Non-purulent: Cefazolin	



# Thank you!

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