



**UW TASP**  
tele-antimicrobial stewardship program

June 18, 2019

## Agenda

- Empiric Antibiotic Therapy
- Case Discussions
- Open Discussion



# Empiric Antibiotics: *Beyond Our Best Guess*

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# Empiric Antibiotics

- **Definition:**

- Based on observation or experience rather than theory
- Best educated guess



- **Principles:**

- Broad coverage upfront
- Provide sufficient coverage for all likely pathogens before a causative organism can be identified

- **Answer:**

- **NOT** always piperacillin/tazobactam plus vancomycin

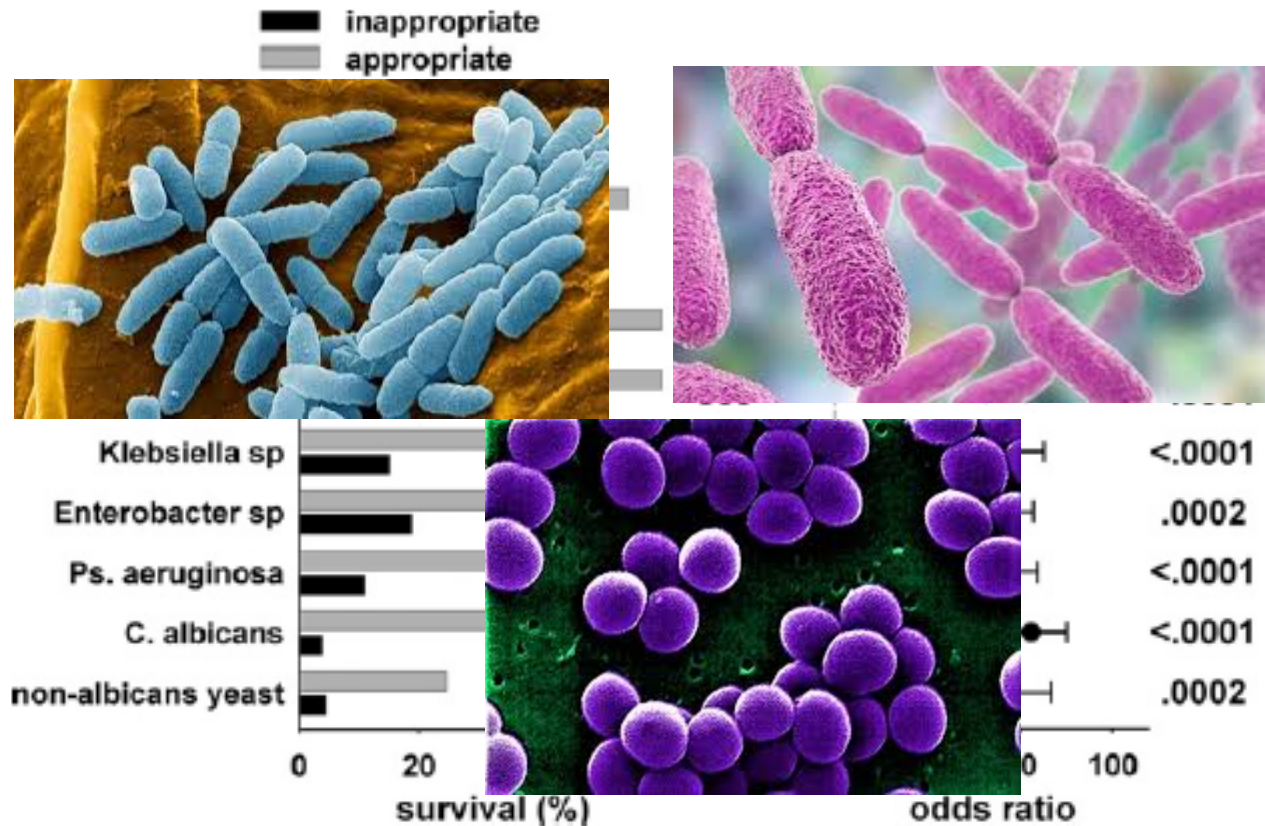


# Why get it RIGHT?

- Ineffective antibiotic is essentially equivalent to starting no antibiotic at all
- Timely appropriate antibiotics are associated with a lower risk of hospital mortality
- Inappropriate empiric antibiotic therapy was associated with a 5-fold reduction in survival from 52% to 10% in septic shock



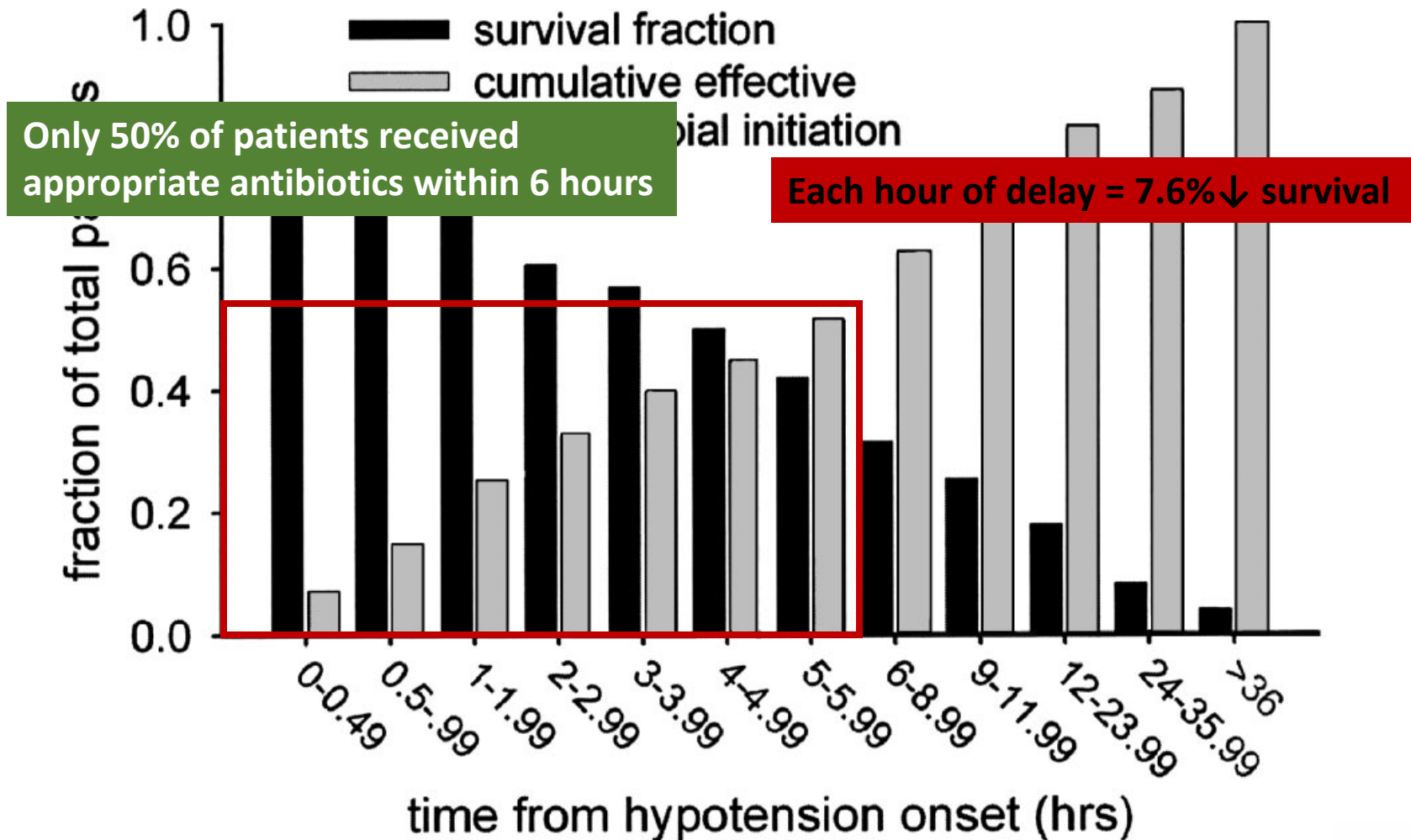
# Inappropriate empiric antibiotic and survival



Kumar A, et al. CHEST 2009;123:7-48.



# Delay in appropriate antibiotics and survival



# Considerations

- Identification of suspected source of infection
- Likely pathogens
- Host factors, comorbidities
  - DM, HIV, splenectomy, neutropenia
- Concern for resistant organisms
  - community vs. nosocomial, nursing homes, previous hospitalization, colonization (MRSA, MDRO), previous antibiotics
  - Use your antibiogram!



# Use your antibiogram

Hospital XXX <u>Antibiogram</u>										
		% of n isolates susceptible to each antibiotic listed								
Bacteria	Number of isolates tested (n)	TOB	CFP	CTZ	PTZ	IMI	CIP	OXA	VAN	DAP
<i>E. cloacae</i>	192	65	77	66	79	96	85			
<i>E. coli</i>	1462	86	94	90	90	99	65			
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	379*	78	80	79	86	97	81			
<i>A. baumannii</i>	117	63	61	57	69	73	66			
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	928	65	73	71	88	76	44			
<i>S. aureus</i>	1178						44	41	100‡	100
<i>E. faecalis</i>	572								99	100
<i>E. faecium</i>	206								43	96

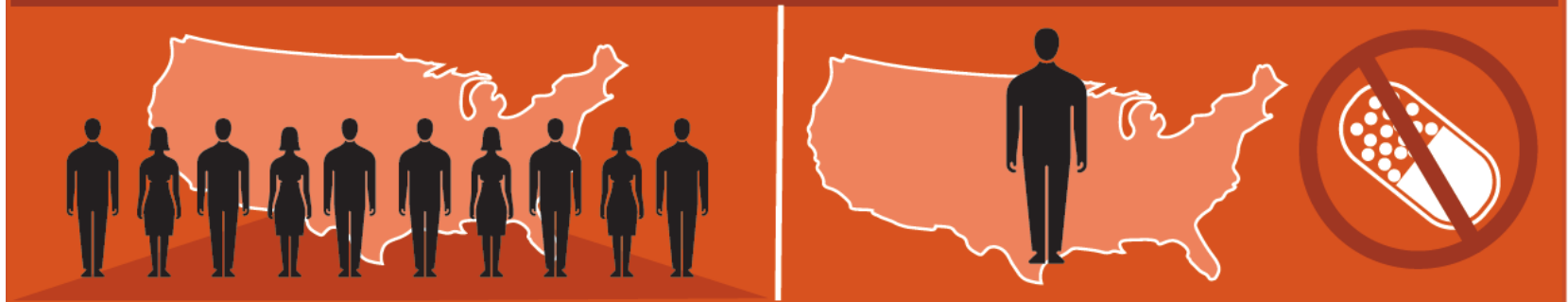
\*20% of isolates are ESBL-positive  
 ‡23% of isolates have vancomycin MIC = 2mcg/mL  
 TOB = tobramycin; CFP = cefepime; CTZ = ceftazidime; PTZ = piperacillin/tazobactam; IMI = imipenem;  
 CIP = ciprofloxacin; OXA = oxacillin; VAN = vancomycin; DAP = daptomycin  
 Example adapted from Utilization of the Antibiogram in Clinical Practice accessed at <http://www.bugsvsdrugs.com>





# Penicillin Allergies

**10% of the population reports a penicillin allergy but <1% of the whole population is truly allergic.**



**Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention**  
National Center for Emerging and  
Zoonotic Infectious Diseases



# Five Facts of PCN allergy

## Is it Really a Penicillin Allergy?

### Evaluation and Diagnosis of Penicillin Allergy for Healthcare Professionals

#### Did You Know?

#### 5 Facts About Penicillin Allergy (Type 1, Immunoglobulin E (IgE)-mediated)

1. Approximately 10% of all U.S. patients report having an allergic reaction to a penicillin class antibiotic in their past.
2. However, many patients who report penicillin allergies do not have true IgE-mediated reactions. When evaluated, fewer than 1% of the population are truly allergic to penicillins.<sup>1</sup>
3. Approximately 80% of patients with IgE-mediated penicillin allergy lose their sensitivity after 10 years.<sup>1</sup>
4. Broad-spectrum antibiotics are often used as an alternative to penicillins. The use of broad-spectrum antibiotics in patients labeled “penicillin-allergic” is associated with higher healthcare costs, increased risk for antibiotic resistance, and suboptimal antibiotic therapy.<sup>1</sup>
5. Correctly identifying those who are not truly penicillin-allergic can decrease unnecessary use of broad-spectrum antibiotics.<sup>1</sup>



# Penicillin Allergy Assessment Toolkit

## A

Page 1

### Toolkit A Penicillin Allergy History

Date of reaction: \_\_\_\_\_

Route of last administration: ☐ Oral ☐ Intravenous

Patient ID/ Sticker: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reaction details** (check all that apply):

**Intolerance histories**

☐ Isolated GI upset (diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain) ☐ Chills (rigors) ☐ Headache ☐ Fatigue

**Low-risk allergy histories**

☐ Family history ☐ Itching (pruritus)

☐ Unknown, remote (> 10 yr ago) reaction ☐ Patient denies allergy but is on record

**Moderate-high risk allergy histories** (potential IgE reactions)

<input type="checkbox"/> Anaphylaxis	<input type="checkbox"/> Angioedema/swelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronchospasm (chest tightness)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Nasal symptoms	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrhythmia
<input type="checkbox"/> Throat tightness	<input type="checkbox"/> Hypotension	<input type="checkbox"/> Flushing/redness
<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath	<input type="checkbox"/> Rash	<input type="checkbox"/> Syncope/pass out
<input type="checkbox"/> Wheezing	Type of rash (if known): _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dizzy/lightheadedness		

**HIGH RISK: Contraindicated penicillin skin testing/challenge** (potential severe non-immediate reactions)

<input type="checkbox"/> Stevens-Johnson syndrome (rash with mucosal lesions)	<input type="checkbox"/> Serum sickness (rash with joint pain, fever, myalgia)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thrombocytopenia	<input type="checkbox"/> Fever
<input type="checkbox"/> Organ injury (liver, kidney)	<input type="checkbox"/> Erythema multiforme (rash with target lesions)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dystonia	<input type="checkbox"/> Anemia
<input type="checkbox"/> Acute generalized exanthematous (rash with pustules)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drug reaction eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (rash with eosinophilia and organ injury)		

Other symptoms:

## A

Page 2

### Toolkit A (continued)

Patient ID/ Sticker: \_\_\_\_\_

**Timing/onset:**

☐ Immediate (< 4 hrs)

☐ Intermediate (4-24 hrs)

☐ Delayed (> 24 hrs)

☐ Unknown

**Treatment:**

☐ None/penicillin continued ☐ Antihistamines

☐ Steroids (IV or PO) ☐ Epinephrine

☐ Penicillin discontinued ☐ IV Fluids

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**How long ago was the reaction:**

☐ < 6 mo ☐ 6 mo-1 yr ☐ 2-5 yrs ☐ 6-10 yrs ☐ > 10 yrs ☐ Unknown

**Other beta-lactam use:**

☐ Previous use of a penicillin or beta-lactam (prior to course that caused reaction)

If yes, please list drugs:

☐ Subsequent use of a penicillin or beta-lactam (after the course that caused a reaction)

If yes, please list drugs:

History taken by  
Print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Oral Amoxicillin Challenge

**B**

Page 1

**Toolkit B****Direct Oral Amoxicillin  
Challenge for Low-Risk Patients**

Patient ID/ Sticker:

Testing is not necessary if a penicillin class antibiotic has been tolerated since the index reaction

**DO NOT perform any penicillin allergy testing if there is a history of penicillin-associated:**

- Blistering rash
- Hemolytic anemia
- Nephritis
- Hepatitis
- Fever
- Joint pains

**Direct oral amoxicillin challenge can be performed in any patient with a history of the following symptoms associated with penicillin:**

- Isolated reactions that are unlikely allergic (e.g., gastrointestinal symptoms, headaches)
- Pruritus without rash
- Remote (>10 years) unknown reactions without features of IgE/immediate hypersensitivity
- May also be used for patients with a family history of penicillin allergy or benign somatic symptoms

**First penicillin skin test if:**

- The reaction was cutaneous
- The reaction had features of IgE/immediate hypersensitivity
- The patient currently has unstable or compromised hemodynamic or respiratory status or is pregnant with low risk allergy history.

**Proceed to amoxicillin challenge only if skin test is negative**

Continue to second page

**B**

Page 2

**Toolkit B (continued)**

Patient ID/ Sticker:

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Amoxicillin oral challenge given: ☐ 250 mg ☐ 500 mg

Time given: \_\_\_\_\_ Time observation end: \_\_\_\_\_

**Observed challenge reaction:**☐ None☐ Yes, please list signs and symptoms:

Time to onset: \_\_\_\_\_

**Observed challenge reaction treatment given:**☐ None☐ Yes, please list signs and symptoms:**Delayed challenge reaction reported:**☐ None☐ Yes, please list signs and symptoms:

Time to onset: \_\_\_\_\_

**Delayed challenge reaction treatment given:**☐ None☐ Yes, please list signs and symptoms:

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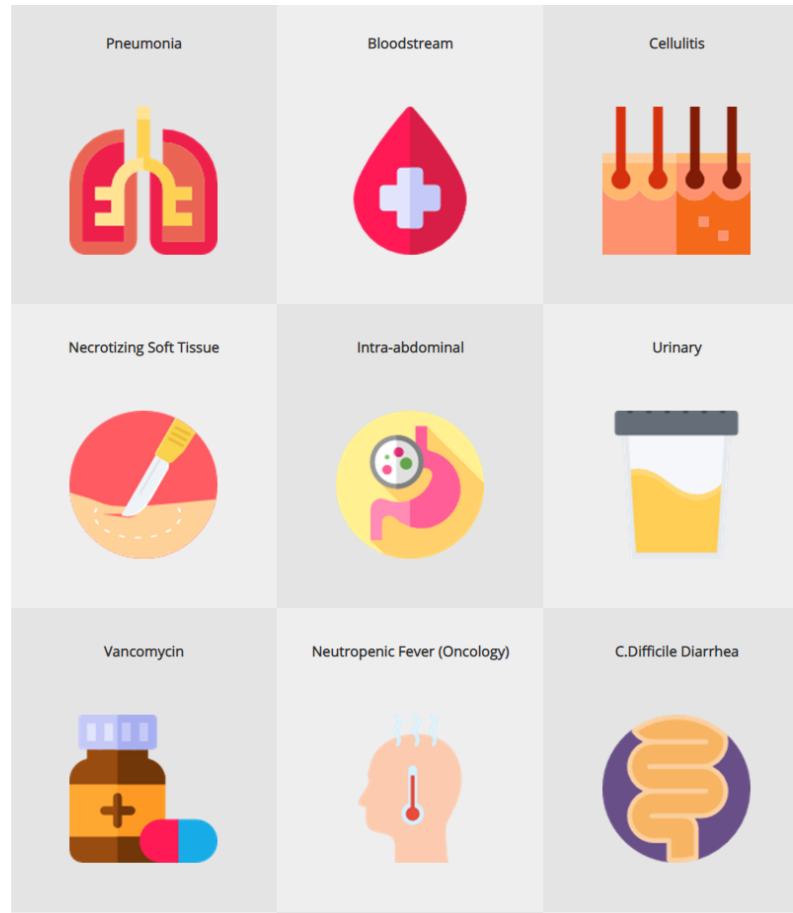
# Decision Support

- Clinical Pathways
  - National guidelines
  - Local epidemiology and microbiology
  - Consensus building with stakeholders
- Order Sets
  - Facilitate clinical decisions
  - Standardization of care



# Antibiotic Reference Kit

Antibiotic Reference Kit
Pneumonia
Bloodstream
Cellulitis
Necrotizing Soft Tissue
Intra-abdominal
Urinary
Vancomycin
Neutropenic Fever (Oncology)
C.Difficile Diarrhea
Meningitis
Fungal Infections
Sepsis Site Unknown
Penicillin Allergy
Renal Dosing
Antibiogram



# Community-acquired pneumonia

## Community-acquired pneumonia [non-aspiration risk] (*S. pneumoniae*, atypicals)

*Diagnosis: Send sputum gram stain & culture, CXR, urinary pneumococcal antigen, urinary legionella antigen, and blood cultures. During flu season, send nasal swab for rapid influenza testing.*

### FIRST LINE:

- Ceftriaxone 1 gm IV q24 hours **PLUS**
- Azithromycin 500 mg PO/IV q24 hours

SECOND LINE for Severe beta-lactam allergy:

- Levofloxacin 750mg PO/IV q24 hours

Consider adding vancomycin if post-influenza pneumonia or necrotizing pneumonia.

### On Day 2/3: De-escalate therapy

- If started on broad-spectrum empiric therapy, de-escalate to first-line therapy based on patient's condition and laboratory data.
- If evidence of pneumococcal infection (including bacteremia), use amoxicillin 1g PO TID and discontinue azithromycin. Typical treatment duration is 5 days, though if bacteremic, 7 days is recommended.
- If no positive cultures, then use both amoxicillin 1g PO TID + azithromycin 500mg PO q day.
- Discontinue vancomycin if MRSA nares swab is negative or sputum without growth of MRSA.

Typical Duration: 5 days



# Intra-abdominal infection

## Community-acquired intra-abdominal

Typical Organisms: (Enteric Gram-negative rods, anaerobes)

- HMC and UWMC:  
A. Ceftriaxone 2g IV q24h PLUS metronidazole 500mg PO/IV q8h
- For uncomplicated biliary infections (acute cholecystitis of mild-moderate severity in an immunocompetent patient), anaerobic coverage usually not necessary;  
A. use ceftriaxone alone
- For reported severe penicillin allergy (e.g. anaphylaxis or angioedema):  
A. Consult allergy, if possible. Levofloxacin 750mg IV daily + Metronidazole 500mg IV/PO Q8H
- For IV to PO conversion: based on microbiology and susceptibilities:  
A. amoxicillin-clavulanate 875mg BID
- For reported severe penicillin allergy (e.g. anaphylaxis or angioedema):  
A. Consult allergy, if possible. Levofloxacin 750mg PO daily PLUS metronidazole 500mg PO q8h

Typical Duration: 4 days following source control





# De-escalation

- Antibiotic timeout
- Once culture and susceptibility results are available, consider targeting/narrowing
- IV to PO switch
- Duration of therapy

