

August 23, 2022

## Agenda

- Chloe: Diabetic Foot Infections
- Case Discussions
- Open Discussion



# Optimizing Antibiotic Treatment of Diabetic Foot Wounds

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# Not Covered Here

- Importance of:
  - Assessing for
    - arterial ischemia
    - venous insufficiency
    - protective sensation
    - mechanical problems
  - Debridement, surgical management
  - Offloading



# Bacterial Colonization of Wounds

- All chronic wounds become colonized with (pathogenic) bacteria



# Diabetic Foot Infections

**Infection? 2+ of the following:**

- Local swelling or induration
- Erythema
- Local tenderness or pain
- Local warmth
- Purulent discharge (or increase in sanguinous drainage)





- UNINFECTED: none or  $<2$  s/sx of infection
- MICRO: Polymicrobial colonization
- Urgency of Treatment: NONE
- Culture: PLEASE DON'T
- Antibiotics: NONE
- Duration:





- Small amount of erythema (<2cm)
- Exclude other causes of inflammation

- **MICRO:**

Staph and Strep

- **Culture:**

Low yield, esp if no recent abx

- **Antibiotics:**

cephalexin +/- doxy or TMP/SMX

- **Duration:**

1 week





- Larger area of erythema (>2cm) or deeper tissue involvement (abscess, osteo, septic arthritis)
- No systemic symptoms

- **MICRO:**

Staph, Strep, Gram Negs, +/- anaerobes

- **Urgency of Treatment:**

Hold to optimize cultures

- **Culture:**

- **Antibiotics:**



# Pseudomonas Interlude

- Water bug
- Pseudomonas is more common in diabetic foot infections in the tropics
- Rare isolate (5%) in an urban underserved patient population in Denver<sup>1</sup>
- RCT comparing ertapenem to pip/tazo for mod/severe infections was equivalent<sup>2</sup>
- Consider it with foot soaking or other water exposure





- Larger area of erythema (>2cm) or deeper tissue involvement (abscess, osteo, septic arthritis)
- No systemic involvement

- **MICRO:**

Staph, Strep, Gram Negs, +/- anaerobes

- **Culture:**

Deep tissue after debridement, avoid swab

- **Antibiotics:**

Empiric amox/clav or CTX + metro

- Add MRSA coverage if h/o MRSA
- Tailor to culture data





- Concern for sepsis, life or limb threatening infection
- **MICRO:**  
Same (Staph, Strep, GNR), anaerobes. Polymicrobial likely!
- **Urgency of Treatment:**  
Immediate
- **Culture:**  
Deep specimen when able
- **Antibiotics:**  
Empiric CTX + metro + vanco
  - Tailor to culture data if able



# Additional Questions in Antibiotic Treatment

- For Mild/Moderate
  - add MRSA coverage if h/o MRSA
  - Swab just to look for MRSA in mild Infection?
- Anti-Pseudomonal coverage if significant water exposure
- Penicillin allergies?
  - 10% of the population has then
    - 10% of the time they are real



# Osteomyelitis

- Increased likelihood of OM:
  - Visible bone, probe to bone
  - Ulcer  $> 2\text{cm}^2$
  - Ulcer duration longer than 2 weeks
  - ESR  $> 70\text{ mm/h}$
  - Ulcers overlaying bony prominence
- Xray is a great initial test: cortical erosion, periosteal reaction, mixed lucency, sclerosis
- MRI if early infection
- Not a treatment emergency; get that culture



# Helpful Tools



## Microbial Epidemiology of DFI

N=49 cases\*

	n	Percent
<b>MSSA</b>	23	47%
<b><i>B</i>-Hemolytic Streptococci</b>	19	39%
<b><i>Proteus sp.</i></b>	7	14%
<b>Coag-Neg Staph</b>	6	12%
<b>MRSA</b>	4	8%
<b><i>Enterococcus sp.</i></b>	4	8%
<b><i>Enterobacter sp.</i></b>	3	6%
<b><i>E. coli</i></b>	3	6%
<b><i>Klebsiella sp.</i></b>	3	6%
<b><i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i></b>	2	4%

\* Of 111 cases, only 49 had culture





# Antibiotic GUIDE



**RECOMMENDED TREATMENT AND DURATION****FIRST LINE**

Cephalexin 500mg PO QID OR Amoxicillin-clavulanate 875/125 mg PO BID

If MRSA concern add: Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID or TMP/SMX DS 1 tab PO BID

**SECOND LINE**

(Severe PCN Allergy): Clindamycin 300 mg PO TID

Duration for mild infections of soft tissue only is 1-2 weeks.

MODERATE: Local infection with or involvement of deeper structures (abscess, osteomyelitis, septic arthritis) or more extensive erythema (>2 cm spread or associated lymphangitis) without systemic signs of inflammation

*Continued*



# Take-Aways

- 1) If you culture it, it will grow  
OPTIMIZE CULTURES
- 2) Not all foot wounds are infected
- 3) Micro is influenced by extent of the infection
- 4) If you treat them, they will resist  
GIVE THE NARROWEST REGIMEN POSSIBLE

