

***** FOR INFORMATION ONLY *****

Prescribing Guidelines for use of Anti-infective Therapy for Patients with ECOPD

WITHOUT Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP)

This page goes on back of first order page and is NOT considered an order set. It is for physician information

Use antimicrobials if 2 or more of the following are increased from baseline:

- dyspnea
- sputum volume
- sputum purulence

Recommended duration of therapy is **5-7 days**

Adapted from Canadian Thoracic Society Guidelines (O'Donnell DE et al, *Can Resp J.* 2007; 14(SupplB): 5B-32B)

Group/ Clinical Status	Symptoms & Risk Factors	Probable Pathogens	Empirical Anti-infective Options*
 COPD exacerbation (AECOPD)			
Simple (without risk factors)	Increased sputum purulence and dyspnea	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> , <i>Haemophilus</i> sps, <i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i> , <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> <i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i> Viruses	amoxicillin (500mg PO TID) or doxycycline (200mg PO on day 1, then 100mg PO BID) or co-trimoxazole DS (1 tab PO BID) or clarithromycin XL (1000mg PO daily) or ceFURoxime (Ceftin) (500mg PO BID)
Complicated (with risk factors)	As in simple plus at least ONE of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FEV₁ less than 50% predicted ▪ 4 or more exacerbations/year ▪ Ischemic heart disease ▪ Use of home oxygen ▪ Chronic oral steroid use 	As in simple plus: Increased probability of beta-lactam resistance (beta-lactamase producing penicillin-resistant <i>S.pneumoniae</i>) <i>Klebsiella</i> sps and other Gram-negatives (<i>E.coli</i> , <i>Proteus</i> , <i>Enterobacter</i>), <i>Pseudomonas</i> species	amoxicillin-clavulanate (875/125mg 1 tab PO BID) or moxifloxacin (400mg PO Daily)
Complicated (with risk factors) and Pseudomonas suspected	As in complicated plus: isolation of <i>Pseudomonas</i> during previous exacerbation or colonization during a stable period	<i>Pseudomonas</i> species†	piperacillin-tazobactam (or equivalent anti-pneumococcal, anti-pseudomonal beta-lactam), ciprofloxacin ceftAZIDime** aminoglycoside

Repeat prescriptions of the **same** antibiotic should be **avoided** within a three-month interval.

†Please refer to previous sensitivities of *Pseudomonas* species (if available) in order to guide the choice of empiric antibiotic.

**If ceftAZIDime is selected, double coverage with an additional anti-pseudomonal agent (e.g. ciprofloxacin or aminoglycoside) is recommended.

Prescribing Guidelines for use of Systemic Steroids in AECOPD

Recommended duration of treatment for oral corticosteroids is **7-14 days** for moderate-severe exacerbations
MethylPREDNISolone 40 mg IV is equivalent to predniSONE 50 mg PO if patient unable to take oral meds initially

Prescribing Guidelines for use of Inhaler Therapy in AECOPD

Maintenance inhalers may be started on days 3 to 5 of hospitalization
Assess regular salBUTamol use and discontinue or adjust to PRN as necessary

For **moderate to severe disease** (an average of one or more AECOPD/year or FEV₁ below 65% predicted) select maintenance therapy for COPD based on **Canadian Thoracic Society recommendations** (O'Donnell DE et al, *Can Resp J.* 2007; 14(SupplB): 5B-32B), that **should include**: (Special authority forms may be needed if not already prescribed by respirologist)

- Combination inhaler (LABA and ICS)
- Long acting anti-cholinergic agent
- PRN short/fast acting B-agonist