Initial antibiotic treatment for AOM

Does the patient have a penicillin allergy?

No

Yes

Has the patient received amoxicillin within past 30 days or does the patient have concomitant conjunctivitis?

No

Administer high dose amoxicillin

Has the patient improved after 48-72 hours?

No

Administer high dose amoxicillin / clavulanate

Has the patient improved within 48-72 hours after receiving Amoxicillin-clavulanate?

Yes

Complete the antibiotics course, no further therapies required

Has the patient improved after 48-72 hours?

No

Ceftriaxone x3 day OR clindamycin

Has the patient improved after 48-72 hours?

Yes

One of the following four antibiotics can be used to treat AOM if the patient has a mild/moderate penicillin allergy (antibiotic choice is dependent on palatability, availability, parent / provider preferences):

- Cefuroxime OR
- Cefdinir OR
- Cefpodoxime OR
- Ceftriaxone x1 day

Consult Infectious Diseases

Severe

Administer Clindamycin

Mild / Moderate

Dosing of antibiotics found in algorithm:

- Amoxicillin 40-50 mg/kg/dose PO BID (max 2000 mg/dose)
- Amoxicillin/clavulanate 40-50 mg/kg/dose (amoxicillin component)/dose
- Cefuroxime 250 mg PO BID (max 500 mg/dose) for children able to swallow pills (only available in tablet form)
- Cefdinir 7 mg/kg/dose PO BID (max 300 mg/dose)
- Cefpodoxime 5 mg/kg/dose PO BID (max 200 mg/dose)
- Ceftriaxone 50 mg/kg/dose IM/IV qDay x 1-3 days* (daily max 1 gram/dose)

*Administer Ceftriaxone for 1 day when used as a first line for patients with penicillin allergy, and 3 days if the patient has failed other antibiotics

- Clindamycin 10 mg/kg/dose PO TID (max 600 mg/dose)

Antibiotic duration for amoxicillin, amoxicillin/clavulanate, cefuroxime, cefdinir, cefpodoxime, and clindamycin:

- <2 years of age OR severe AOM OR chronic AOM OR recurrent AOM OR TM perforation = 10 days
- 2-5 years of age with non-severe symptoms = 7 days
- ≥6 years of age with non-severe symptoms = 5-7 day

Link to:
Children’s Mercy Kansas City Outpatient Antibiotic Handbook

This care process model was developed by Lisa Hiskiey and ASP, 11/2018