

FOR THESE ORGANISMS.....	THINK ABOUT USING.....	
ORGANISM	PREFERRED	ALTERNATIVE
<b>GRAM-POSITIVES</b>		
<b>MSSA</b>	IV: Cloxacillin / Cefazolin	
	PO: Cephalexin / Cloxacillin	
<b>MRSA</b>	IV: Vancomycin	IV: Linezolid / Ceftaroline / Tigecycline
	PO: Bactrim / Rifampicin + Fusidic Acid	PO: Linezolid
<b>CA-MRSA</b>	IV/PO: Bactrim / Clindamycin	
	PO: Fusidic Acid + Rifampicin / Linezolid	PO: Doxycycline
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	Ampicillin	Vancomycin / Linezolid (VRE)
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	Vancomycin	Linezolid
<i>Strep. pyogenes</i> (Group A) <i>Strep. agalactiae</i> (Group B)	Penicillin	Augmentin / Unasyn / Clindamycin
<i>Strep. pneumoniae</i> / Viridans gp.	Penicillin / Augmentin / Unasyn	Ceftriaxone / Cefotaxime
<b>GRAM-NEGATIVES</b>		
<b>E. coli / Klebsiella pneumoniae</b>	IV: Augmentin / Unasyn / Cefuroxime	IV: Ceftriaxone / Tazocin / Cefepime
	PO: Cephalexin / Cefuroxime / Augmentin / Bactrim	PO: Ciprofloxacin
<b>ESBL</b>	IV: Ertapenem / Meropenem / Imipenem	
<b><i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i></b> [*MDR/DTR <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> - To refer ID]	IV: Tazocin / Ceftazidime / Cefepime	IV: Ciprofloxacin / Sulperazone / Meropenem / Imipenem
<b>Significant AmpC-producing organisms: (CEK)</b> • <i>Citrobacter freundii</i> • <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> • <i>Klebsiella aerogenes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Cefepime MIC ≤ 2: IV Cefepime</li> <li>If Cefepime MIC 4-8: IV Cefepime (non-severe) / IV Carbapenem (severe infection)</li> <li>If Cefepime MIC &gt; 8: IV Carbapenem</li> </ul> <p><b>[Refer to Treatment Algorithm of Resistant GNR]</b></p>	
<b>Pan-sensitive (wild-type) <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i></b>	IV: Unasyn ( <i>Sulbactam Component</i> )	
<b>Carbapenem-resistant <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> (CRAB)</b>	IV: High dose Unasyn / High dose Sulperazone / Polymyxin B / Colistin (for UTI only) IV/PO: Minocycline (CRAB - combination therapy may be preferred, depending on the severity of the disease) <b>[Refer to Treatment Algorithm of Resistant GNR]</b>	
<b><i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i> (Meliodosis)</b>	IV: Ceftazidime / Meropenem [± Bactrim]	IV: Sulperazone / Imipenem [± Bactrim]
	PO (Maintenance): Bactrim	PO (Maintenance): Augmentin
<b><i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i></b>	IV: Bactrim	IV: Levofloxacin ± Minocycline / [Ceftazidime/Avibactam + Aztreonam]
	PO: Bactrim	PO: Levofloxacin ± Minocycline

By AMS team (Izyana Munirah, Hannah, Adam Ashraf & Tan Wai Leong) & PRIC (Abby, Ang Li Min & Lee Jia Yin). Revised 19th September 2023.  
Only for internal circulation. For further enquiries, kindly contact ext 4126.

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ORGANISM	PREFERRED	ALTERNATIVE
<b>GRAM-NEGATIVES</b>		
<i>Leptospira</i> sp. (Leptospirosis)	IV: Penicillin / Ceftriaxone	
	PO: Doxycycline / Azithromycin	
<i>Salmonella non-typhi</i> (Salmonellosis)	IV: Ceftriaxone / Bactrim / Ampicillin	
	PO: Bactrim / Ciprofloxacin	
<i>Salmonella enterica serovar Typhi</i> (Typhoid fever)	IV: Ceftriaxone	
	PO: Ciprofloxacin	PO: Bactrim
<b>Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE)</b>	Refer to ID	
<b>SPM:</b> <i>Serratia marcescens, Morganella morganii, Providencia spp</i>	Refer to ID	

FOR THESE ORGANISMS.....	THINK ABOUT USING.....	
ORGANISM	PREFERRED	ALTERNATIVE
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
<b>Atypicals (Mycoplasma, Chlamydia, Legionella)</b>	Macrolide (eg: Azithromycin)	Doxycycline / Fluoroquinolones (eg: Levofloxacin)
<b>Anaerobes</b>	IV: Metronidazole / Clindamycin / Augmentin / Unasyn / Tazocin / Sulperazone	
	PO: Metronidazole / Clindamycin / Augmentin / Unasyn	
<i>Treponema pallidum</i> (Syphilis)	IV: Penicillin (Benzylpenicillin) or IM: Benzathine Penicillin	IV: Ceftriaxone
		PO: Doxycycline
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (CDI)	PO: Vancomycin / Metronidazole	
<i>Candida albicans / tropicalis / parapsilosis</i>	IV/PO: Fluconazole	IV: Ampho B / Micafungin
<i>Candida glabrata</i>	IV: Ampho B / Micafungin	IV: Fluconazole (Susceptible-dose dependent)
<i>Candida krusei</i>	IV: Ampho B / Micafungin	
<i>Candida auris</i>	IV: Micafungin	IV: Ampho B / Fluconazole (MIC Guided)
<i>Aspergillus</i> sp.	IV: Ampho B / Voriconazole	
	PO: Voriconazole	
<b>HSV/ HZV/ VZV (Chickenpox)</b>	IV/PO: Acyclovir	
<b>CMV (Cytomegalovirus)</b>	IV: Ganciclovir	
	PO: Valganciclovir	

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## COMMON ABX MISTAKES:

\* Disclaimer: This list is not exhaustive &amp; will be continuously updated

These ABX...	Should NOT be used for...	Reason / Explanation...
Daptomycin	⊘ Pneumonia	Inhibition by pulmonary surfactant.
Tigecycline & Minocycline	⚠ Bacteremia	Poor serum concentration.
	⊘ Pseudomonas	No useful activity against Pseudomonas.
Linezolid	⚠ Prolonged use for MRSA	Causes bone marrow suppression with prolonged use.
Ceftriaxone	⊘ Anaerobes ⚠ Enterococci (as monotherapy)	Anaerobes: Poor anaerobic coverage. Enterococci: Enterococci are intrinsically resistant to cephalosporin, but ceftriaxone (or cefotaxime) has a role in combination therapy with aminoglycosides or ampicillin due to its synergistic activity as a cell wall-active agent.
Cefepime		
Ertapenem	⊘ Acinetobacter, Pseudomonas, Enterococci	No useful activity against Pseudomonas, Acinetobacter & Enterococci
Aminoglycoside	⚠ Non-UTI indication as monotherapy	Poor activity and/or penetration into lungs, abscesses, and the central nervous system. May be used as monotherapy for UTI (Aminoglycoside is excreted unchanged in the urine).
Rifampicin	⚠ Monotherapy	Almost always combined with other active antimicrobials to prevent the emergence of resistance.
Fusidic Acid		

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WITH THIS...	WATCH OUT FOR THESE SIDE EFFECTS...
Beta-Lactams	GI upset, seizures
Bactrim	Allergy, hyper-K <sup>+</sup> , hypo-Na <sup>+</sup> , Cr ↑, myelosuppression
Macrolides	QT prolongation
Fluoroquinolones (FQ)	QT prolongation, CNS effects, tendonitis/tendon rupture, peripheral neuropathy, aortic rupture
Fluoroquinolones (FQ) / Doxycycline or Minocycline / Dolutegravir	Drug-drug / Drug-food interaction with multivalent cation* binding → reduced absorption *Multivalent (Di/Tri-valent) Cations: Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Fe <sup>2+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup> (oral bioavailability is significantly decreased when administered with Calcium, Iron, Antacids, Milk, RT Feeding or Multivitamins) Separate dosing from multivalent cations by 2-6 hours.
Doxycycline & Minocycline	Esophagitis, photosensitivity
Aminoglycosides	Ototoxicity, nephrotoxicity
Vancomycin	Red man syndrome, nephrotoxicity, neutropenia
Linezolid	>2/52: Thrombocytopenia, Long term: peripheral neuropathy, optic neuritis
Tigecycline	Nausea, vomiting
Rifampicin	Hepatotoxicity, thrombocytopenia, drug-drug interaction
Azoles / Protease Inhibitors	Hepatotoxicity, drug-drug interaction, drug-food interaction
Amphotericin B	Infusion reaction, Hypo-K <sup>+</sup> , Hypo-Mg <sup>2+</sup> , nephrotoxicity

**CONSIDER PROLONGED INFUSION (over 3-4 hrs)  
(refer to DIAMS – extended infusion for further info)**

High dose Ampicillin/sulbactam (Unasyn)
Piperacillin/tazobactam (Tazocin)
Ceftazidime
Cefepime
Meropenem
Imipenem
Ceftazidime-avibactam (Zavicefta)
Aztreonam

**CONSIDER IV TO PO [GOOD BIOAVAILABILITY]  
(refer to DIAMS – IV to PO for further info)**

Azithromycin
Bactrim
Ciprofloxacin
Clindamycin
Levofloxacin
Linezolid
Metronidazole
Fluconazole
Voriconazole
Minocycline

Adapted from: ID Stewardship Training Antibiotic Guide & Cheat Sheet ([www.LearnAntibiotics.com](http://www.LearnAntibiotics.com))

**Additional References:**

1. National Antibiotic Guideline 2019, MOH
2. Sanford Antimicrobial Guide
3. Hopkins Guide: John Hopkins ABX Guide

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