

**Inclusion Criteria:**  
Suspected uncomplicated community acquired pneumonia in patients >90 days old

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- Complicated Pneumonia<sup>2</sup>
- Immunodeficiency
- Risk for aspiration
- Lung disease other than asthma
- Prior/current trach or vent dependent
- Empyema or lung abscess
- Significant cardiac anomaly
- History of Vaping
- Malignancy
- Neuromuscular Disease
- Sepsis
- Sickle Cell Disease

**Targets:**

- Increase Amoxicillin/ Ampicillin as 1<sup>st</sup> line ABX in all settings
- Decrease the duration of ABX to ≤ 7 days (5 days preferred for outpatient)

**Chest X-Ray (CXR)**

- Not necessary for the confirmation of suspected CAP (Well-appearing mild disease)
- CXR does not differentiate between bacterial and viral etiology

**<sup>1</sup>Atypical Pneumonia Signs & Symptoms**

- > 5 y/o
- Prolonged S/S > 7 days
- Headache or malaise
- Non-focal exam

**<sup>2</sup>Complicated Pneumonia**

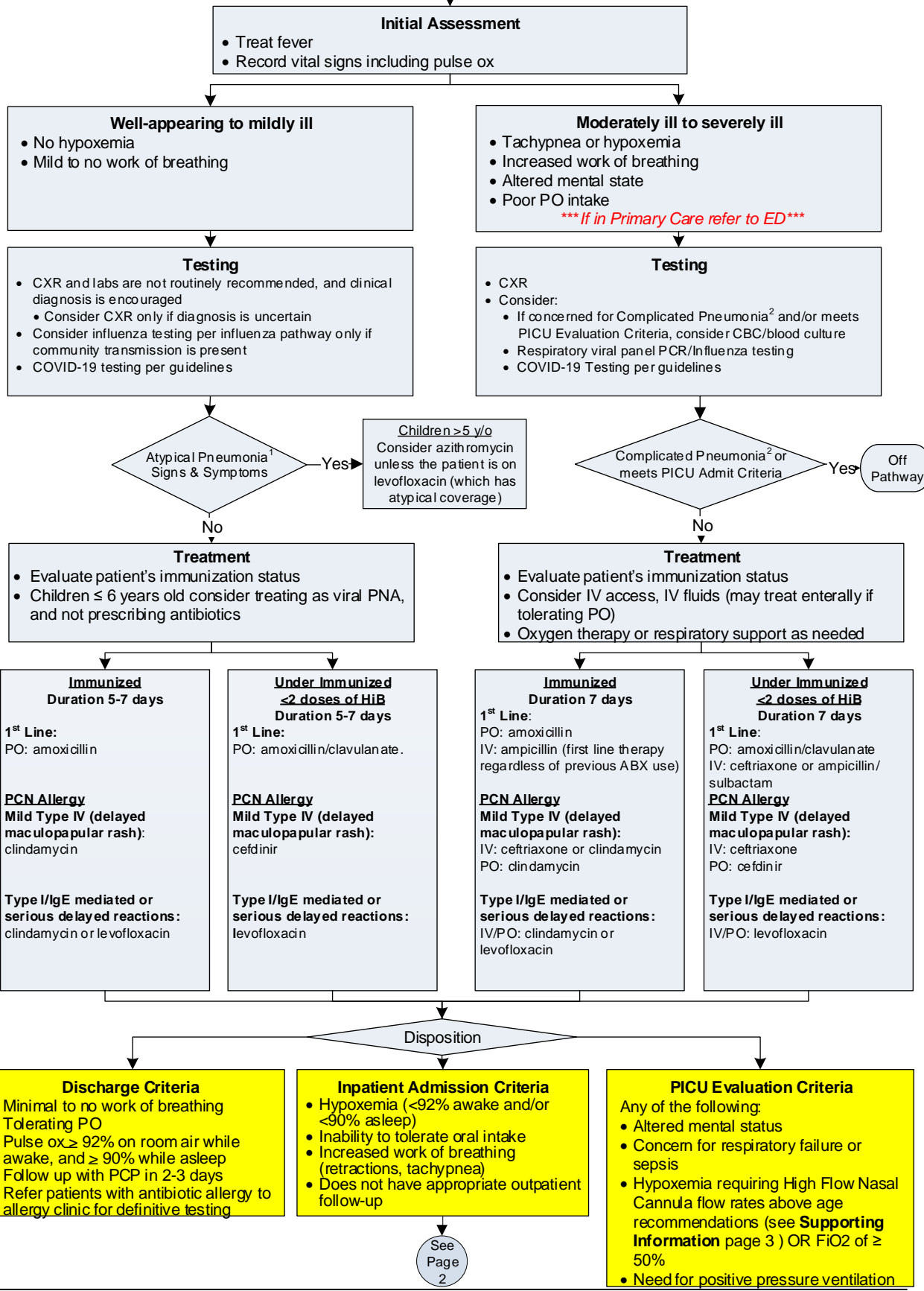
- Opacified hemithorax
- Moderate/ large effusion (>¼ of the thorax)
- Empyema
- Lung abscess
- Necrotizing pneumonia

**Treatment Failure**

Consider admission for increasing respiratory distress, respiratory support requirement, or worsening fever curve in a patient that has tolerated first line therapy for 48-72 hrs.

Vaccinated patients who remain febrile after 48-72 hrs but do not have worsening respiratory symptoms, hypoxia, or worsening fever curve likely have a viral etiology and discontinuation of antibiotics should be considered

**Concern for community acquired pneumonia on history and physical**  
(Clinical signs include but are not limited to fever, tachypnea, cough, hypoxemia, focal rales/crackles and increased work of breathing such as retractions and grunting)



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**Respiratory Viral Panel (RVP)**  
Routine use of respiratory viral panel is discouraged unless it will be used to change clinical management i.e. discontinue antibiotics or diagnose pertussis

**Treatment Failure**  
Vaccinated patients who remain febrile after 48-72 hrs but do not have worsening respiratory symptoms, hypoxia, or worsening fever curve likely have a viral etiology and discontinuation of antibiotics should be considered

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**Inpatient Pathway Initiation**

- Utilize Gen Peds Community Acquired Pneumonia Order Set
- During Flu season rapid influenza/ RSV/ SARS CoV-2 testing if not obtained in ED
- If concerns for complicated pneumonia<sup>2</sup> and/ or meeting PICU Evaluation Criteria, consider blood culture, otherwise not indicated
- Oxygen therapy to keep saturation >90%, refer to Oxygen Therapy Protocol. Spot check pulse oximetry if not on supplemental oxygen
- CXR (If not already performed)

**Treatment**

- May consider enteral antibiotic if able to tolerate PO
- Consider IV access, IV fluids, if unable to tolerate PO
- Respiratory support as needed

**Immunized**  
Duration 7 days

**1<sup>st</sup> Line:**  
IV: ampicillin (regardless of previous ABX use)  
PO: amoxicillin

**PCN Allergy**  
**Mild Type IV (delayed maculopapular rash):**  
IV: ceftriaxone or clindamycin  
PO: clindamycin

**Type I/IgE mediated or serious delayed reactions:**  
IV/PO: clindamycin or levofloxacin

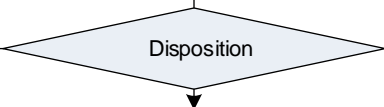
**Under Immunized (<2 doses of HiB)**  
Duration 7 days

**1<sup>st</sup> Line:**  
IV: ceftriaxone or ampicillin/sulbactam  
PO: amoxicillin/clavulanate

**PCN Allergy**  
**Mild Type IV (delayed maculopapular rash):**  
IV: ceftriaxone  
PO: cefdinir

**Type I/IgE mediated or serious delayed reaction:**  
IV/PO: levofloxacin

- Re-assess patient every 4 – 8 hours for any clinical changes
- Update patient care goals at daily rounds
- Review disposition criteria



**Inpatient Discharge Criteria**

- No respiratory distress
- Off supplementary Oxygen ≥ 4 hrs, including while sleeping
- Tolerating PO
- Follow up established with PCP (In person or Telehealth/ telecommunication)
- Teach back reviewed: Signs of respiratory distress, Infants with trouble breathing, dehydration, or appearing fatigued
- Instruction to contact PCP immediately with any concerning symptoms
- Refer patients with antibiotic allergy to allergy clinic for definitive testing
- Reference **Enteral Step Down Therapy** table for discharge medications

**Continue Treatment**

- Patients who are not improving enough to meet discharge criteria or progressing enough to meet PICU evaluation criteria should continue treatment and then be reevaluated within 4-8 hours for changes

**PICU Evaluation Criteria**  
Call a Rapid Response if patient has any of the following:

- Altered mental status
- Concern for respiratory failure or sepsis
- Hypoxemia requiring High Flow Nasal Cannula flow rates above age recommendations (see **Supporting Information** page 3) OR FiO<sub>2</sub> of ≥ 50%
- Need for positive pressure ventilation
- Progression to, or development of complicated pneumonia

Antibiotic	Route	Dosage
Amoxicillin	PO	<b>Preferred for moderate to severe illness:</b> Three time a day regimen: 30mg/kg/dose three times daily (max 1000mg/dose) Twice a day regimen: 45mg/kg/dose twice daily (max 1500mg/dose)
Amoxicillin-clavulanate (Augmentin®)	PO	<b>Augmentin ES oral suspension</b> ( amoxicillin 600mg/clavulanate 42.9mg per 5 ml) <b>Preferred for moderate to severe illness:</b> Three time a day regimen: 30mg/kg/dose of amoxicillin three times daily (max 1000mg/dose) Twice a day regimen: 45mg/kg/dose of amoxicillin twice daily (max 1800mg/dose)  <b>Augmentin tablet ( for patients weighing ≥40 kg)</b> Augmentin XR tab (amoxicillin 1000mg/clavulanate 62.5mg)-Not covered by Medicaid • 2000mg of amoxicillin ( 2 tabs) twice daily Or Augmentin 875mg tab (amoxicillin 875mg/clavulanate 125mg) • 875mg of amoxicillin ( 1 tab) twice daily Or Augmentin chewable tab • 800mg of amoxicillin twice daily
Ampicillin	IV	50mg/kg/dose q6h (max 2000mg/dose)
Ampicillin-sulbactam (Unasyn®)	IV	50mg/kg/dose of ampicillin q6h (max 2000mg/dose)
Azithromycin	PO	10mg/kg/dose daily (mx 500mg/dose) on day 1, followed by 5mg/kg/dose daily (max 250mg/dose) on day 2-5
Cefdinir	PO	7mg/kg/dose twice daily (max 300mg/dose)
Ceftriaxone	IV	75mg/kg/dose q24h (max 2000mg /dose)
Clindamycin	IV, PO	IV: 13mg/kg/dose q8h ( max 900mg/dose) PO: 10-13mg/kg/dose three times daily (max 600mg/dose)
Levofloxacin	IV, PO	IV & PO: 6 months to <5 years: 10mg/kg/dose q12h (max 375mg/dose) IV & PO: ≥ 5 years: 10mg/kg/dose q24h (max 750mg/dose)

### HFNC/HiVNI Initiation and Titration Recommendations

Note: If patient does not have increased work of breathing or hypoxemic respiratory failure (decrease in oxygen level in the blood due to respiratory failure), consider other low flow modalities prior to the initiation of HFNC/HiVNI

Age	Initiate Flow	Increase Flow by	Upper Limit of Flow/FIO2	O2 for Hypoxic Patients (<90% saturation)
0-30 days	4L/min	2L/min as WOB requires	Flow =8 LPM and/or FIO2 = 60%	Start FIO2 at 40% and increase as needed to keep oxygen saturation ≥90%
1 month- 2 years	6L/min	2L/min as WOB requires	Flow =12LPM and/or FIO2 = 60%	Start FIO2 at 40% and increase as needed to keep oxygen saturation ≥90%
3 years -6 years	8L/min	2L/min as WOB requires	Flow =14LPM and/or FIO2 = 60%	Start FIO2 at 40% and increase as needed to keep oxygen saturation ≥90%
7 years-12 years	8L/min	2L/min as WOB requires	Flow =16LPM and/or FIO2 = 60%	Start FIO2 at 40% and increase as needed to keep oxygen saturation ≥90%
13 years and up	10L/min	2L/min as WOB requires	Flow =20LPM and/or FIO2 = 60%	Start FIO2 at 40% and increase as needed to keep oxygen saturation ≥90%

\* Flow may be limited by cannula or cartridge based on manufacturer's recommendations

Antibiogram	Percent of Isolates Susceptible to Tested Antibiotics			
	Penicillin (IV) <sup>a</sup>	Ceftriaxone	Clindamycin	Levofloxacin
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>				
<b>AIDHC ( 2019 and 2020)<sup>b</sup></b>	99	100	88	99

<sup>a</sup>Ampicillin/amoxicillin activity can be inferred from penicillin result

<sup>b</sup>Due to low # of isolates in 2020, data from 2019 was combined with 2020 to increase the sample size

Enteral Step-Down Therapy Total (IV plus enteral) duration of therapy=7 days	
Initial IV therapy	Enteral step down
Ampicillin	High dose amoxicillin
Ceftriaxone (PCN allergy and immunized)	Clindamycin
Ceftriaxone (Unimmunized or failed IV ampicillin)	Amoxicillin/clavulanate
Ceftriaxone (PCN allergy and unimmunized)	Cefdinir
Clindamycin	Clindamycin
Levofloxacin	Levofloxacin

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**Legal Disclaimer:** These clinical practice guidelines are based upon the opinions of staff members of Nemours/A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children. Treatment should be individualized and based upon the clinical conditions of each patient.