

Indication for prophylaxis ⁵

Do not use antibiotic prophylaxis routinely for clean surgery that does not involve a prosthesis.

Give antibiotic prophylaxis to patients before:

- Clean surgery involving the placement of a prosthesis or implant
- Clean-contaminated
- Contaminated
- Dirty or infected surgical procedures (antibiotic treatment course in addition to prophylaxis)

Class	Definition
Clean	An incision in which no inflammation is encountered in a surgical procedure, without a break in sterile technique, and during which the respiratory, alimentary or genitourinary tracts are not entered.
Clean-contaminated	An incision through which the respiratory, alimentary, or genitourinary tract is entered under controlled conditions but with no contamination encountered.
Contaminated	An incision undertaken during an operation in which there is a major break in sterile technique or gross spillage from the gastrointestinal tract, or an incision in which acute, non-purulent inflammation is encountered. Open traumatic wounds that are more than 12 to 24 hours old also fall into this category.
Dirty or infected	An incision undertaken during an operation in which the viscera are perforated or when acute inflammation with pus is encountered (for example, emergency surgery for faecal peritonitis), and for traumatic wounds if treatment is delayed, there is faecal contamination, or devitalised tissue is present