

Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Bone and Joint

Bone and Joint

1. Discuss all cases with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases.
2. Microbiological diagnosis is essential , relevant microbiological samples (bone/synovial fluid AND blood cultures) should be sent prior to treatment.
3. In patients with sepsis, antibiotic therapy should not be delayed while awaiting bone or synovial fluid sampling.
4. The regimens below may NOT cover Multi-drug Resistant Organisms (MDRO) in all cases. See note on [MDRO](#) .

Empiric Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infections				
Infection	1 st Line Antibiotics	Penicillin allergy:		Comment
		delayed onset non-severe reaction	immediate or severe delayed reaction	
The regimens below may NOT cover Multi-drug Resistant Organisms (MRDO) in all cases. See note on MDRO				
Native joint Septic Arthritis Nil risk factors for MRSA Known colonisation/risk factors for MRSA Risk of gonococcal infection OR High risk of Gram-negative organisms (Elderly, Nursing home resident, recurrent UTI)	Flucloxacillin IV 2g every 6 hours	CefAZOlin IV 2g every 8 hours	Vancomycin IV infusion, dose per GAPP App Calculator. See footnote* re monitoring.	Adequate drainage of joint fluid essential.
	Vancomycin IV infusion, dose per GAPP App calculator. See footnote* re monitoring.			Discuss all cases with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases.
	CefTRIAxone IV 2g every 24 hours			Discuss with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases
Osteomyelitis	Discuss with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases; treat according to culture results.			Short course oral antibiotic therapy may be appropriate for acute on chronic osteomyelitis
Prosthetic Joint Infection	Discuss with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases; treat according to culture results.			
*For advice on monitoring see Vancomycin Dosing & Monitoring section.				

Ref:

BSR & BHP, BOA, RCGP and BSAC guidelines for management of the hot swollen joint in adults [Rheumatology 2006;45:1039-1041](#)

Ravn C, Neyt J, Benito N, Abreu MA, Achermann Y, Bozhkova S, Coorevits L, Ferrari MC, Gammelsrud KW, Gerlach UJ, Giannitsioti E, Gottlieb M, Jørgensen NP, Madjarevic T, Marais L, Menon A, Moojen DJ, Pääkkönen M, Pokorn M, Pérez-Prieto D, Renz N, Saavedra-Lozano J, Sabater-Martos M, Sendi P, Tevell S, Vogely C, Soriano A, The Sanjo Guideline Group. Guideline for management of septic arthritis in native joints (SANJO). *J Bone Jt Infect.* 2023

Éric Senneville, Zaina Albalawi, Suzanne A van Asten, Zulfqarali G Abbas, Geneve Allison, Javier Aragón-Sánchez, John M Embil, Lawrence A Lavery, Majdi Alhasan, Orhan Oz, Ilker Uçkay, Vilma Urban-Rovan, Zhang-Rong Xu, Edgar J G Peters, IWGDF/IDSA Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Diabetes-related Foot Infections (IWGDF/IDSA 2023), *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 2023, ciad527, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciad527>