# Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Community Acquired Pneumonia

## **Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP)**

- 1. Community acquired pneumonia is defined as infiltrate on CXR or CT scan with compatible symptoms.
- 2. Antibiotics are NOT usually recommended for exacerbation of asthma or bronchitis with normal chest X-ray or aspiration with normal CXR.
- 3. Nursing home patients presenting with pneumonia should be treated as CAP as outlined below and NOT automatically treated with piperacillin/tazobactam **unless** history of antibiotic resistant organisms or within 14 days of discharge from hospital.
- 4. The CURB-65 score, in conjunction with clinical judgement, is a severity assessment tool for Community Acquired Pneumonia.
- Laboratory testing for respiratory viruses should be considered, including COVID-19, and, during relevant season, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). Appropriate treatment for <u>COVID-19</u> or <u>influenza</u> should be initiated if positive.
  - Culture sputum and blood if severe infection **OR** risk factors for MRSA or Pseudomonas infections:
  - ICU admission
  - Hospitalised and/or IV antibiotics within past 90 days
  - · Previous Infection with MRSA or Pseudomonas
- 7. Give antibiotics as soon as possible, within 4 hours of presentation in the Emergency Department.

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#### Refs:

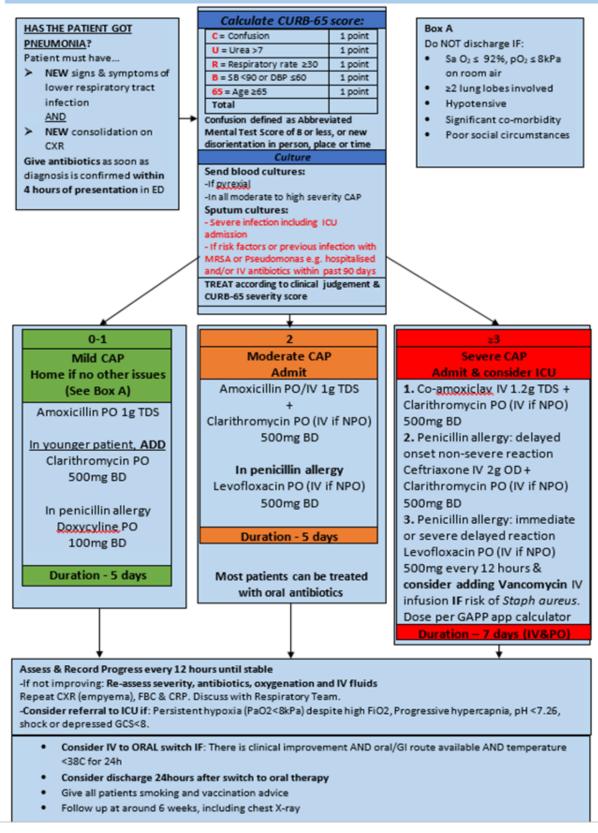
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### Clinical pathway for management of Community Acquired Pneumonina in GUH

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# PATHWAY FOR MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA IN GUH



(click on image to enlarge)

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