

## Louth: Antimicrobial Guidelines - Louth Hospitals: Antimicrobial Guidelines: Paediatrics - Eye Infections

Infection
<b>Paediatrics - Conjunctivitis</b>
Likely Organisms
<b>Viruses</b> (most cases):
Enteroviruses, Adenovirus, Herpes simplex virus
<b>Bacteria:</b>
H. influenzae, S. pneumoniae, M. catarrhalis
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
<b>Child &gt; 1 month</b>
Treat only if proven bacterial conjunctivitis. Most cases, whether viral or bacterial, resolve spontaneously.
Topical chloramphenicol eye drops, continue for 48 hours after healing.
Note - the previous warning associated with use of chloramphenicol eye drops in patients under 2 years of age has been reviewed and removed.
Duration of Treatment
5 – 7 days
IV to Oral Switch
N/A
Comments
<b>Consult Microbiology if Group B Streptococcus is identified.</b>
Infection
<b>Paediatrics - Cellulitis: Pre-septal (Peri-Orbital)</b>
Likely Organisms
S. aureus, Group A Streptococcus, Pneumococcus, H. influenzae in unvaccinated individuals
Empiric Antimicrobial Treatment
<b>Mild Cases :</b>
Co-amoxiclav PO
<b>OR</b>
Cef-AL-exin PO
<b>Severe Cases :</b>
Cef-O-taxime IV
Duration of Treatment
10 to 14 days ( including IV to oral switch)
IV to Oral Switch
As per clinical response
Comments
<b>In severe cases:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ensure that pus is examined urgently</b></li> <li>• Take blood cultures prior to commencing antibiotics</li> </ul>
For children ill enough to require IV therapy, CT scan is recommended to determine:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• underlying sinusitis</li> <li>• subperiosteal abscess</li> <li>• intracranial extension</li> </ul>
Tailor therapy to the most appropriate agents based on culture and sensitivity results.

<p><b>References:</b></p> <p>1. British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) Guidelines for the Management of Bacterial Infections in Children (2019)</p> <p>2. NICE Clinical Guideline NG185: Bacterial Infections in Children (2019)</p> <p>3. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>4. WHO Model List of Essential Medicines (2019)</p> <p>5. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>6. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>7. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>8. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>9. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p> <p>10. Louth Hospitals Antimicrobial Guidelines (2025)</p>
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