

Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Antimicrobial Prescribing Principles

Antimicrobial Prescribing Principles

- Doses of antimicrobials are for **non-obese ADULTS** with **normal renal and liver** function.
- GUH have agreement to use the **Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Antimicrobial Guidelines** for patients less than 18 years old. The guidelines are available as part of the CHI Paediatric Formulary app ([Clinibee](#)). You may be asked to register an account using your email address. The lead contact is Dr. Edina Moylett.
- When antimicrobial treatment is appropriate the prescriber should ensure that there is a clear **clinical justification documented in the patient's notes** .
- When required, samples for **culture** (blood, sputum, pus etc as appropriate) should be taken prior to commencing or changing antimicrobials unless the patient's condition necessitates immediate initiation of treatment.
- **Review** antimicrobial therapy at least **daily** in the context of clinical progress and culture and other laboratory results. If a pathogen(s) is identified or no pathogen is identified, use the result as appropriate to guide therapy.
- For all patients who identify themselves or who are otherwise identified as penicillin allergic establish the relevant history, assess and document. See [Penicillin Hypersensitivity](#) .
- Prescribers should be aware of contraindications, warnings, precautions, interactions and potential adverse effects of all drugs prescribed, including antimicrobial agents. These are outlined in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) (available at [HPRA](#)) and BNF.
- Access [GUH Intravenous Medicines Administration](#) Guide for additional information on the safe prescription and administration of individual intravenous antimicrobials.
- See **Interactions [Appendix 1](#)** for online interaction checkers.
- See [Antimicrobial Prescribing in Renal impairment](#) for dose adjustment.
- **Switch IV to oral** as soon as it is appropriate to do so. [See IV to PO switch therapy](#) .
- **Stop** antimicrobials as soon as it is appropriate to do so based on guidance on duration of treatment and clinical response.
- **HSE Information for patients on antibiotics including possible side effects can be found at <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/antibiotics/>**
- See [Fluoroquinolone warning](#)