**ADULT BEST PRACTICE FLASH CARD**

**Strep Pharyngitis**

**DIAGNOSIS**

**Signs and Symptoms of pharyngitis**

**Is viral etiology strongly suggested?**

- The following are indicative of viral pharyngitis:
  - Conjunctivitis
  - Coryza
  - Cough
  - Hoarseness
  - Viral exanthema
  - Diarrhea

**Perform rapid antigen detection test**

- **(-)**

**Does risk score = 4, OR are ANY high-risk indicators present?**

- **(+)**

**To determine risk score, assign one point for each of following:**

- Fever >100.4°F (38°C)
- Absence of cough
- Swollen, tender anterior cervical nodes
- Tonsillar swelling or exudate

**High-risk indicators below**

- Contact risk (close contact with confirmed strep pharyngitis)
- Employment risk (teacher or daycare)

**(-)**

**Perform throat culture**

- **(+)**

**TREAT with antibiotics**

(See page 2)

**Do not**

**TREAT for strep**


Not intended to replace physician judgment with respect to individual variations and needs.
**TREATMENT**

**Positive strep test** (rapid antigen detection test or throat culture)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended antibiotics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO penicillin allergy</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>penicillin VK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amoxicillin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>benzathine penicillin G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Penicillin allergy</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cephalexin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>azithromycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clindamycin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If no improvement after 48 to 72 hours, reevaluate patient for possible complications.

**Pediatric version also available.**

1. **DO NOT** prescribe antibiotics to patient while waiting culture results without compelling reasons.
2. Routine treatment of streptococcal carriers is **NOT** recommended.