

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ kg  
Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_ Reaction: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Most outpatient therapy is 7–10 days in duration. Antibiotics are listed in order of recommendation.**

### **SIMPLE ABSCESS**

**Abscess <5 cm, with no extending cellulitis or other significant comorbidities**

- Abscess tray (11 blade, hemostat)
- Ribbon gauze (optional)
- Vessel loop (optional)

### **ABSCESS PLUS CELLULITIS**

- Abscess tray (11 blade, hemostat)
- Ribbon gauze (optional)
- Vessel loop (optional)

**One of the following:**

- TMP/SMX DS 2 tabs PO, twice a day
- Doxycycline 100 mg PO, twice a day
- Clindamycin 300 mg PO, 4 times a day

**To give more strep coverage for patients on TMP/SMX or doxycycline, consider:**

- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times daily

### **SIMPLE CELLULITIS**

**If no concern for MRSA, one of the following:**

- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times a day
- Dicloxacillin 250 mg PO, 4 times a day

**If risk factors for MRSA, consider one of the following:**

- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times a day **plus** TMP/SMX DS 2 tabs PO, twice a day
- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times a day **plus** Doxycycline 100 mg PO, twice a day
- Clindamycin 300–450 mg PO, 4 times a day

**AND**

- Skin and soft tissue ultrasound

### **COMPLICATED ABSCESS AND/OR CELLULITIS: OUTPATIENT**

**Most patients may be treated with oral antibiotics (one of the following):**

- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times a day **plus** TMP/SMX DS 2 tabs PO, twice a day
- Cephalexin 500 mg PO, 4 times a day **plus** Doxycycline 100 mg PO, twice a day
- Clindamycin 300 mg PO, 4 times a day

**If IV therapy is required:**

- Social work — to arrange infusion therapy for 48 hrs
- Skin and soft tissue ultrasound

**Plus one of the following:**

- Ceftriaxone 1–2 grams IV, once a day **PLUS**
  - TMP/SMX DS 2 tabs PO, twice a day **or**
  - Doxycycline 100 mg PO, twice a day
- Vancomycin 15 mg/kg x 1 (additional doses based on CrCl)
- Cefazolin 1 gram IV, once daily **PLUS** Probenecid 1 gram PO, once a day (if GFR >60) **PLUS**
  - TMP/SMX DS 2 tabs PO, twice a day **or**
  - Doxycycline 100 mg PO, twice a day

### **COMPLICATED ABSCESS AND/OR CELLULITIS: INPATIENT**

**If NON-sepsis or ICU admit, one of the following:**

- Vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV x 1
  - Clindamycin 600 mg IV x 1
- Plus, if gram-negative coverage is needed:**
- Ceftriaxone 1–2 grams IV x 1

**If sepsis or ICU admit:**

- Vancomycin 25 mg/kg IV x 1
- Plus one of the following:**
- Piperacillin-tazobactam 3.375 grams IV x 1
  - Meropenem 1 gram IV x 1

Ordering Provider Signature/Title



**ED ORDERS: SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS (page 1 of 1)**

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Date/Time