

Antimicrobial Therapy Guide 2017:

A Summary of Antimicrobial Therapy Options for Respiratory Pathogens



Bacterial Targets

Chlamydophila pneumoniae¹	
Recommended	Doxycycline
Alternative	Erythromycin, Fluoroquinolone
Notes/Comments	Azithromycin and Clarithromycin are also effective.
Mycoplasma pneumoniae¹	
Recommended	Doxycycline
Alternative	Azithromycin and Minocycline
Notes/Comments	Clindamycin and β-lactams are not effective due to increasing macrolide resistance.
Legionella pneumophila ¹	
Recommended	Levofloxacin or Moxifloxacin
Alternative	Azithromycin
Notes/Comments	Telithromycin is active in vitro.

Viral Targets

Adenovirus ¹	
Drug	Cidofovir (in severe cases of pneumonia or post-hematopoietic stem cell transplantation [HSCT])
Notes/Comments	Ribavirin has had mixed activity; appears restricted to Group C serotypes. Vidarabine and Ganciclovir are active <i>in vitro</i> .
Rhinovirus ¹	
Drug	No antiviral treatment indicated. Symptomatic treatment: Ipratropium bromide Clemastine
Notes/Comments	Public health advisory – Over-the-counter cold remedy products containing zinc (e.g., Zicam) should not be used due to multiple reports of permanent anosmia.
Influenza A & B ¹	
Drug	 Zanamivir (Relenza) - Patients ≥ 7 yrs of age Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) - Patients ≥ 1 yr of age Peramivir (Rapivab)
Notes/Comments	Amantadine and Rimantadine are FDA-approved for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza A virus infections among adults and children aged 1 year and older; however, due to resistance in circulating influenza A virus strains, Amantadine and Rimantadine are not currently recommended for antiviral treatment or chemoprophylaxis of influenza. ²

Respiratory Syncytial Virus ¹	
Drug	Palivizumab - Children < 24 months old with chronic lung disease; premature infants, children with congenital heart disease
	Nebulized Ribavirin - Children (with severe RSV), Adults
	Nebulized Ribavirin + RSV immune globulin
Note/Comments	Antibiotics are not useful; mainstay of therapy is oxygen and hydration.
Human Metapneumovirus ¹	
Drug	No treatment indicated due to lack of proven therapy. Intravenous Ribavirin has been used anecdotally with variable results.
Note/Comments	Treatment includes routine symptomatic care with respiratory support when required. ³
Coronavirus ¹	
SARS-CoV	Ribavirin: Ineffective Interferon alfa ± steroids (small case series)
MERS-CoV	Increased 14 day survival with Ribavirin po + PEG-IFN
Note/Comments	There are no specific treatments for illnesses caused by human coronaviruses. Most people with common human coronavirus illness will recover on their own. ⁴
Human Bocavirus⁵	
Drug	No treatment indicated. Supportive care only.
Note/Comments	No specific anti-bocavirus treatments are available.
Human Parainfluenza Viruses ⁶	
Drug	No treatment indicated.
Note/Comments	There is no specific antiviral treatment for HPIV illness. Most people with HPIV illness will recover on their own. Treatment includes routine symptomatic care.

References

- 1. Gilbert DN, Chambers HF, Eliopoulos GM, Saag MS, Pavia AT, et. al. The Sanford Guide to Antimicrobial Therapy 2017. 47th Ed. Virginia. Antimicrobial Therapy, Incorporated. 2017.
- 2. Antiviral Dosage. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Internet). Cited 2016 December. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antiviral-dosage.htm.
- 3. Human Metapneumovirus Treatment & Management. Medscape (Internet). Cited 2017 March. Available from: http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/237691-treatment.
- 4. Coronavirus. CDC (Internet). Cited 2017 March. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/about/.
- 5. Bocavirus Infection: What is the Treatment for Bocavirus Infection? MedicineNet (Internet). Cited 2016 December. Available from: http://www.medicinenet.com/bocavirus_infection/.
- 6. Human Parainfluenza Viruses (HPIVs). CDC (Internet). Cited 2017 March. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/parainfluenza/about/prevention-treatment.html.

