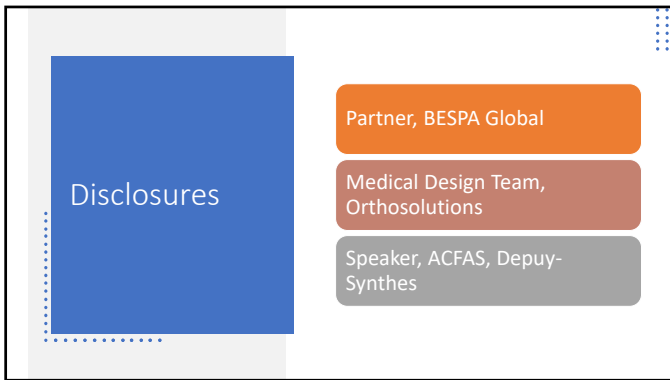
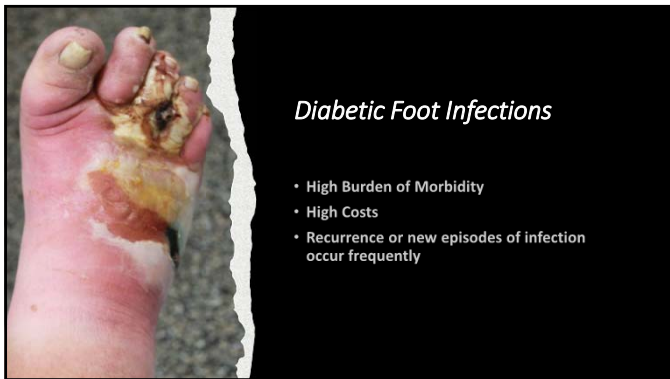


1



2



3

Thought Process...

- Prescribing an unnecessarily broad-spectrum regimen
- Parenteral rather than oral therapy
- Longer duration than necessary

4

Supplement Article

WILEY

Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update)

Benjamin A. Lippert^{1,2}, Eva Senneker³, Jullianne C. Allen⁴, Javier Arevalo-Sanchez⁵, Matthew DiSanto⁶, John M. Enoch⁷, Shigen Kono⁸, Laurence A. Lavery⁹, Matthew Madigan¹⁰, Suzanne A. van Rader¹¹, Vitor Alencar-Rocha¹², Edgar J.C. Peeters¹³ on behalf of the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot (IWGDF)

Table 3: Ten major rules for antimicrobial stewardship in diabetic foot infection (DFI)

1. **Prescribe DFI:** Clearly record diabetic proven or at risk for infection and spectrum of research related to foot care, including appropriate for type, nail and skin care and treatment of any wounds.

2. **Empiric DFI therapy:** Do not start empiric therapy until diagnosis, and identify the severity of infection.

3. **Identify resistance patterns:** Test strategies of those for which and probably have the expected sensitivity. Review results of any previously obtained cultures. Attempt to differentiate pathogens requiring treatment from colonizing or commensuring organisms. Differentiate between soft-tissue and bone infection. This helps in making decisions with respect to medical versus surgical, systemic and duration of treatment.

4. **Empiric antibiotic selection:** For most moderate and all severe infections, evaluate and individualize treatment options for each patient in close consultation with specialists (or specialists multidisciplinary team), especially surgeons.

5. **Choose an effective antibiotic regimen with the narrowest spectrum:** For empiric, and especially definitive, therapy select an antibiotic regimen based on the likely to present, common pathogens, their antibiotic sensitivities, and evidence of efficacy for DFI. Consider taking in view of regional penicillin allergy.

6. **Optimize antimicrobial effectiveness of antibiotics:** Therapy. Evaluate for factors such as adherence to the treatment regimen, topical application, and absorption of antibiotics. Review and prevent of clinically significant potential adverse events in affected limbs.

7. **Medical therapy:** as long as necessary and as short as possible. For most mild and moderate soft tissue infections 1–2 weeks of therapy is sufficient. For osteomyelitis with medical infection, prescribe no more than 6 weeks of antibiotic therapy. Consider shorter treatment durations if clinical response quickly.

8. **Empiric treatment:** can best be used for antibiotic therapy. Drawing blood cultures and treating related bone can best be done with antibiotic therapy.

Principles and practice of antibiotic stewardship in the management of diabetic foot infections

Ben Lippert¹, Maria Diaz², Patrick Steiner³, and Benjamin A. Lippert⁴

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#1 Prevent DFI

- Closely monitor diabetic patients at risk for infection and optimize all aspects related to foot care, including appropriate footwear, nail and skin care and treatment of any wounds

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#2 Diagnosing DFI Correctly

Clinical classification of infection, with definitions	IWGDF classification
Uninfected No systemic or local symptoms or signs of infection.	1 (uninfected)
Infect At least two of these items are present: • Local swelling or induration • Erythema >0.5 cm ² around the wound • Local tenderness or pain • Local increased warmth • Purulent discharge And no other cause(s) of an inflammatory response of the skin (eg, trauma, gout, acute Charcot neuro-osteopathy, fracture, thrombosis, or venous stasis)	2 (mild infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations (see below) involving: • only the skin or subcutaneous tissue (not any deeper tissues), and • any erythema present does not extend >2 cm ² around the wound	3 (moderate infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations and involving: • erythema extending >2 cm ² from the wound margin, and/or • tissue deeper than skin and subcutaneous tissue (eg, tendon, muscle, joint, and bone)	4 (severe infection)
- Any foot infection with associated systemic manifestations (of the systemic inflammatory response syndrome [SIRS], as manifested by ≥2 of the following: • Temperature >38°C or <36°C • Heart rate >90 beats/min • Respiratory rate >20 breaths/min or PaCO ₂ <4.3 kPa (32 mmHg) • White blood cell count >12 000/mm ³ or <4000/mm ³ , or >10% immature band forms - Infection involving bone (osteomyelitis)	Add 'O' after 3 or 4

• Be precise and consistent when diagnosing, and describing the severity of, infection

7

#3 Exclude noninfectious causes of foot inflammation

Clinical classification of infection, with definitions	IWGDF classification
Uninfected No systemic or local symptoms or signs of infection.	1 (uninfected)
Infect At least two of these items are present: • Local swelling or induration • Erythema >0.5 cm ² around the wound • Local tenderness or pain • Local increased warmth • Purulent discharge And no other cause(s) of an inflammatory response of the skin (eg, trauma, gout, acute Charcot neuro-osteopathy, fracture, thrombosis, or venous stasis)	2 (mild infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations (see below) involving: • only the skin or subcutaneous tissue (not any deeper tissues), and • any erythema present does not extend >2 cm ² around the wound	3 (moderate infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations and involving: • erythema extending >2 cm ² from the wound margin, and/or • tissue deeper than skin and subcutaneous tissue (eg, tendon, muscle, joint, and bone)	4 (severe infection)
- Any foot infection with associated systemic manifestations (of the systemic inflammatory response syndrome [SIRS], as manifested by ≥2 of the following: • Temperature >38°C or <36°C • Heart rate >90 beats/min • Respiratory rate >20 breaths/min or PaCO ₂ <4.3 kPa (32 mmHg) • White blood cell count >12 000/mm ³ or <4000/mm ³ , or >10% immature band forms - Infection involving bone (osteomyelitis)	Add 'O' after 3 or 4

• These include trauma, gout/pseudogout, Charcot neuro-osteopathy, fracture, phlebotrombosis, and venous stasis

8

Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update)

Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1)

- In a person with diabetes and suspected osteomyelitis of the foot, we recommend using a combination of the **probe-to-bone test**, the **erythrocyte sedimentation rate** (or C-reactive protein and/or procalcitonin), and **plain X-rays** as the initial studies to diagnose osteomyelitis.

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Lam K, van Asten SA, Nguyen T, La Fontaine J, Lavery LA. Diagnostic accuracy of probe to bone to detect osteomyelitis in the diabetic foot: a systematic review. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;63:944-948.

Table 1. Key Characteristics of Included Studies

First Author, Year	Patients (No.)	Inclusion	Exclusion	Setting	Design	Reference Standard	Percentage (95% CI)
Algar (diabetic foot), 2011 (17)	339	DFI	Clinical diagnosis	Hospital	Prospective cohort	Biopsy	74.4 (6-259)
Dreyfus, 1998 (18)	75	DFI	No ulcer, absent foot neuropathy	Hospital	Prospective cohort	Biopsy	72.4 (4-234)
Lavery, 2007 (9)	247	DFI	No ulcer	Both	Prospective cohort	Biopsy	72.4 (4-234)
Morales-Lemus, 2014 (20)	553	DFI	DFI, diabetic foot infection, scheduled for amputation	Outpatient	Prospective cohort	Biopsy	70.0
Mohica, 2013 (16)	76	DFI	Diabetic neuropathy or peripheral vascular disease	Both	Retrospective case-control	Biopsy	70.0
Munoz, 2012 (15)	60	DFI	Non-ulcer	Both	Retrospective cohort	MR or bone biopsy	35.0 (4-131)
Zabidi, 2014 (19)	100	DFI	Chronic osteomyelitis, bone infection	Both	Prospective cohort	Biopsy	70.0

Abbreviations: DFI, diabetic foot infection; DFU, diabetic foot ulcer; MR, magnetic resonance imaging.

Table 2. Performance Characteristics of Studies Providing Sufficient Data to Allow Calculation

First Author, Year	Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)	PPV	NPV	DOI (95% CI)	Prevalence
Lavery, 2007 (9)	87.1 (71-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.97	0.96	64.4 (45-90.0)	0.12
Munoz, 2012 (15)	87.1 (71-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.97	0.96	51.0 (35-70)	0.65
Dreyfus, 1998 (18)	86.1 (65-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.99	0.96	71.0 (60-80)	0.46
Dolan, 2014 (19)	87.1 (71-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.97	0.96	34.0 (20-50)	0.75
Mohica, 2013 (16) (exclusion of 16 patients)	87.1 (71-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.97	0.96	1.95 (0.88-4.0)	0.78
Algar (diabetic foot), 2011 (17)	84.4 (65-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.98	0.93	65.0 (50-80.0)	0.79
Morales-Lemus, 2014 (20)	81.1 (65-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.94	0.91	70.0 (55-85.0)	0.80
Zabidi, 2014 (19)	87.1 (71-96)	81.1 (65-94)	0.97	0.94	24.0 (10-40)	0.78

Abbreviations: DFI, diabetic foot infection; DFU, diabetic foot ulcer; MR, magnetic resonance imaging.

DOI, Diagnostic Odds Ratio.

We conclude that the FTB test can accurately rule in diabetic foot OM in the high-risk patients and rule out OM in low-risk patients.

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Lawrence A Lavery 1, Junho Ahn, Easton C Ryan, Kavita Bhavan, Orhan K Oz, Javier La Fontaine, Dane K Wukich. What are the Optimal Cutoff Values for ESR and CRP to Diagnose Osteomyelitis in Patients with Diabetes-related Foot Infections? Clin Orthop Relat Res 2019 Jul;477(7):1594-1602.

- What are the optimal cutoff values for ESR and CRP to differentiate osteomyelitis from soft-tissue infection in patients with DFIs?
- Methods
- 1842 patients diagnosis of diabetes mellitus, moderate or severe infection
- ESR and CRP values within 72 hours of admission
- 353 patients were included in the study
 - 176 patients with osteomyelitis
 - 177 with soft-tissue infection

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Lawrence A Lavery 1, Junho Ahn, Easton C Ryan, Kavita Bhavan, Orhan K Oz, Javier La Fontaine, Dane K Wukich. What are the Optimal Cutoff Values for ESR and CRP to Diagnose Osteomyelitis in Patients with Diabetes-related Foot Infections? Clin Orthop Relat Res 2019 Jul;477(7):1594-1602.

Results

An ESR of 60 mm/h and a CRP level of 7.9 mg/dL were determined to be the optimal cutoff points for predicting osteomyelitis

```

    graph TD
        A[Diabetic Foot Infection] --> B[ESR mm/hr]
        B --> C{> 60}
        B --> D{[30-60]}
        B --> E{< 30}
        C --> F[CRP Level mg/dL]
        F --> G{> 7.9}
        F --> H{≤ 7.9}
        G --> I[Osteomyelitis Likely  
Consider Management of Osteomyelitis]
        H --> J[Consider Imaging or Other Diagnostic Evaluation]
        D --> J
        E --> K{High Clinical Suspicion for Osteomyelitis?}
        K -- YES --> L[Osteomyelitis Likely  
Consider Treating as Soft-tissue Infection]
        K -- NO --> M[Osteomyelitis Unlikely  
Consider Treating as Soft-tissue Infection]
    
```

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#4 Identify causative pathogens

- Send samples of tissue (not swabs) and preferably bone (for suspected osteomyelitis)
- Review results of any previously obtained cultures
- Attempt to differentiate pathogens (requiring treatment) from colonizing or contaminating organisms

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#5 Differentiate between soft-tissue and bone infection

Clinical classification of infection, with definitions	IWGDF classification
Uninfected No systemic or local symptoms or signs of infection.	1 (uninfected)
Infective At least two of these items are present: • Local swelling or induration • Erythema >0.5 cm around the wound • Local tenderness or pain • Local increased warmth • Purulent discharge And neither causal of an inflammatory response of the skin (eg, trauma, gout, acute Charcot neuro-osteomyelopathy, fracture, thrombosis, or venous stasis)	2 (mild infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations (see below) involving: • only the skin or subcutaneous tissue (not any deeper tissues), and • any erythema present does not extend >2 cm around the wound.	3 (moderate infection)
- Infection with no systemic manifestations and involving: • erythema extending >2 cm from the wound margin, and/or • tissue deeper than skin and subcutaneous tissue (eg, tendon, muscle, joint, and bone)	4 (severe infection)
- Any foot infection with associated systemic manifestations (of the systemic inflammatory response syndrome [SIRS], as manifested by ≥2 of the following: • Temperature >38°C or <36°C • Heart rate >90 beats/min • Respiratory rate >20 breaths/min or PaCO ₂ <43.3 Pa (32 mmHg) • White blood cell count >12 000/mm ³ , or <4000/mm ³ , or ≥10% immature band forms - Infection involving bone (osteomyelitis)	Add 'OS' after 3 or 4

• This helps in making decisions with respect to medical versus surgical, urgency of, and duration of, treatment.

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Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update)
 Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1)

- In a person with diabetes and suspected **osteomyelitis** of the foot, in whom making a definitive diagnosis or determining the causative pathogen is necessary for selecting treatment, collect a **sample of bone (percutaneously or surgically)** to culture clinically relevant bone microorganisms and for histopathology

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Couturier A, Chabaud A, Desbiez F, et al. *Comparison of microbiological results obtained from per-wound bone biopsies versus transcutaneous bone biopsies in diabetic foot osteomyelitis: a prospective cohort study.* *Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis.* 2019;38:1287-1291

- Evaluate the reliability of per-wound bone biopsy (PWB) cultures by comparing them with concomitant Transcutaneous bone cultures obtained through healthy skin
- Two bone biopsies were performed on each consenting patient:
 - TCB through a cutaneous incision in healthy skin
 - Per-wound bone biopsy (PWB)
- 46 paired cultures
 - 16 (42%) of the PWB and TCB pairs had identical culture results
 - PWB revealed all microorganisms found in the transcutaneous specimen in 26/38 samples (68.5%)

In patients with DFO, the culture results of specimens taken by per-wound biopsies did not correlate well with those obtained by TCB.

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Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update)
Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1):e3280.

- Collect an appropriate specimen for culture for almost all clinically infected ulcers to determine the causative pathogens
- For a soft tissue DFI, obtain a sample for culture by aseptically collecting a tissue specimen (by curettage or biopsy) from the ulcer

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#6 Ensure specialist consultation for most moderate and all severe infections

- Evaluate and individualize treatment options for each patient
- In complex cases, involve specialists (or optimally multidisciplinary teams), especially surgeons

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Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update)
Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1)

- Nonsurgeons should urgently consult with a surgical specialist in cases of severe infection or of moderate infection complicated by extensive gangrene, necrotizing infection, signs suggesting deep (below the fascia) abscess or compartment syndrome, or severe lower limb ischemia
- In a patient with diabetes and uncomplicated **forefoot** osteomyelitis, for whom there is no other indication for surgical treatment, **consider treating with antibiotic therapy without surgical resection of bone**

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#7 Choose an effective antibiotic regimen with the narrowest spectrum

- For empiric, and especially definitive, therapy select an antibiotic regimen based on the likely or proven: causative pathogen(s); their antibiotic susceptibilities; and, evidence of efficacy for DFIs

20

#8 Optimize patient-related effectiveness of antibiotic therapy

- Evaluate for factors such as adherence to the treatment regimen, impaired gastrointestinal absorption, key comorbidities (obesity, renal failure), and presence of clinically significant peripheral arterial disease in affected limb

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#9 Medical therapy – as long as necessary and as short as possible

- For most mild and moderate **soft tissue infections 1–2 weeks** of therapy is sufficient
- For **osteomyelitis with residual infected bone**, prescribe no more than **6 weeks** of antibiotic therapy. Consider shorter treatment durations if infection resolves quickly

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Clinical classification of infection with definition	ICD9-CM classification
Uninfected No symptoms or local symptoms or signs of infection All best best of tissue types are present	1 (uninfected)
Mild Local swelling or induration • Extends <1.5 cm ² around the wound • Local tenderness or pain • Local wound exudate • Residual foreign body Abscess or other clinical or inflammatory response of the soft tissue (e.g., acute Charlat neuro-osteomyelitis/furunculosis, osteomyelitis or severe cellulitis)	2 (mild infection)
Moderate or severe* Macerated ulcer or warm climate Ischaemic limb/haemolysis/gas forming MRSA risk factors	3 (moderate infection)
Severe Systemic manifestations and swelling • erythema extending >2 cm ² from the wound edge and/or • tissue deeper than skin and subcutaneous tissues (e.g., tendon, muscle, joint, and bone)	4 (severe infection)
Life-threatening Any foot infection with associated systemic manifestations of the systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS), as manifested by 2 of the following: • Temperature: >38°C or <36°C • Heart rate: >90 beats/min • Respiratory rate: >20 breaths/min or PaCO ₂ <32 mmHg (partial pressure) • White blood cell count: >12,000/mm ³ or <4,000/mm ³ or >50% immature band forms Infection involving bone (osteomyelitis)	Add '100' after 3 or 4 ^b

TABLE 4 Factors to consider in selecting an empiric antibiotic regimen for diabetic foot infections^a

Infection severity	Additional factors	Usual pathogens ^b	Potential empirical regimens ^c
Mild	No complicating features	GPC	S-5 pen; first gen cep
	β -lactam allergy or intolerance	GPC	Clindamycin, FQ, TFS, macrolide; clonaz
	Recent antibiotic exposure	GPC + GNR	B-1 use-1; TFS, FQ
Moderate or severe ^d	No complicating features	GPC + GNR	B-1 use-1; second/third gen cep
	Recent antibiotics	GPC + GNR	B-1 use-2; 3rd gen cep; group 1 carbapenem (depends on prior therapy; see advice)
	Macerated ulcer or warm climate	GNR, including Pseudomonas	B-1 use-2; S-5 pen + ceftazidime; S-5 pen + cipro; group 2 carbapenem
Severe	Ischaemic limb/haemolysis/gas forming	GPC + GNR + Acarabactams	B-1 use-1 or 2; group 1 or 2 carbapenem; 2nd/3rd gen cep ^e + clindamycin or metronidazole
	MRSA risk factors	MRSA	Consider adding or substituting with glycopeptide; linezolid; daptomycin; fusidic acid TFS (not F); doxycycline
	Risk factors for resistant GNR	ESBL	Carbapenem; FQ; aminoglycoside and colistin

^aAbbreviations: B-1 use, β -lactamase-inhibitor; B-1 use-1, amoxicillin/clavulanate, ampicillin/sulbactam; B-1 use-2, ticarcillin/clavulanate, piperacillin/tazobactam; clonaz, cloxacillin; ESBL, extended-spectrum β -lactamase-producing organism; FQ, fluoroquinolone with good activity against aerobic gram-positive (including levofloxacin or moxifloxacin) gram-negative GNR; gram-negative rod; GPC, gram-positive cocci (staphylococci and streptococci); group 1, carbapenem; cep, cephalosporin; group 2, carbapenem; imipenem, meropenem, doripenem; cepH, cephalosporin; MRSA, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; Pen, penicillin; pen/tam, piperacillin/tazobactam; S-5 pen, semisynthetic penicillinase-resistant penicillin; cipro, ciprofloxacin; fusidic acid TFS (not F), doxycycline; TFS, tetracycline/sulfamonomethoxazole; rif, rifampin.

^bRecommendations are based upon theoretical considerations and results of available clinical trials.

^cRegimens because it is associated with higher risk of adverse events and its use is restricted in some countries, it may be most appropriately used for treating osteomyelitis or metal implant-related infections.

^dFactors to include from an infected foot ulcer, and just colonization at another site.

^eEven at usual recommended doses for serious infections. Where more than one agent is listed, only one of them should be prescribed, unless otherwise indicated. Consider modifying doses or agents selected for patients with comorbidities such as asthma, liver dysfunction, obesity.

^fOral antibiotic agents should generally not be used for severe infections, except as follow-on (switch) after initial parenteral therapy.

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#10 Surgical treatment – can limit need for antibiotic therapy

- Draining abscesses and resecting infected bone can limit the duration of antibiotic therapy required

24

Spellberg B, Lipsky BA. Systemic antibiotic therapy for chronic osteomyelitis in adults. Clin Infect Dis. 2012;54:393-407.

Table 2—Factors potentially favoring selecting either primarily medical or primarily surgical treatment for diabetic foot osteomyelitis	
Medical	
Patient is too medically unstable for surgery	
Poor postoperative mechanics of foot is likely (e.g., with mid- or hindfoot infections)	
No other surgical procedures on foot are needed	
Infection is confined to small, forefoot lesion	
No adequately skilled surgeon is available	
Surgery costs are prohibitive for the patient	
Patient has strong preference to avoid surgery	
Surgical	
Foot infection is associated with substantial bone necrosis	
Foot appears to be functionally nonsalvageable	
Patient was already nonambulatory	
Patient is at particularly high risk for antibiotic-related problems	
Infecting pathogen is resistant to available antibiotics	
Limb has uncorrectable ischemia (precluding systemic antibiotic delivery)	
Patient has strong preference for surgical treatment	

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Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update) Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1)

- Administer antibiotic therapy initially by the parenteral route to any patient with a severe DFI.
- Switch to oral therapy if the patient is clinically improving and has no contraindications to oral therapy and if there is an appropriate oral agent available.
- Treat patients with a mild DFI and most with a moderate DFI, with oral antibiotic therapy, either at presentation or when clearly improving with initial intravenous therapy
- We suggest not using any currently available topical antimicrobial agent for treating a mild DFI
- Administer antibiotic therapy to a patient with a **skin or soft tissue DFI** for a duration of 1 to 2 weeks
- Consider continuing treatment, perhaps for up to 3 to 4 weeks, if the infection is improving but is extensive and is resolving slower than expected or if the patient has severe peripheral artery disease
- If evidence of infection has not resolved after 4 weeks of apparently appropriate therapy, re-evaluate the patient, and reconsider the need for further diagnostic studies or alternative treatments.

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Guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of foot infection in persons with diabetes (IWGDF 2019 update) Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020;36(S1)

- Treat diabetic foot **osteomyelitis** with antibiotic therapy for no longer than 6 weeks
- If the infection does not clinically improve within the first 2 to 4 weeks, reconsider the need for collecting a bone specimen for culture, undertaking surgical resection, or selecting an alternative antibiotic regimen
- Treat diabetic foot osteomyelitis with antibiotic therapy for just a few days if there is no soft tissue infection and all the infected bone has been surgically removed
- For diabetic foot osteomyelitis cases that initially require parenteral therapy, consider switching to an oral antibiotic regimen that has high bioavailability after perhaps 5 to 7 days if the likely or proven pathogens are susceptible to an available oral agent and the patient has no clinical condition precluding oral therapy

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Stopping antibiotics after surgical amputation in diabetic foot and ankle infections—A daily practice cohort
 Anne Rossel, Dan Lebowitz, Karim Gariani
Endocrinol Diab Metab. 2019

- Determine appropriate duration of antibiotic therapy for diabetic foot infections (DFI) after surgical amputation in toto
- Minimum follow-up was 2 months
- 482 amputated DFI episodes for a median of 2.1 years after the index episode.
- Osteomyelitis in 239 cases (239/482, 50%).
- Surgical amputation
 - Toes (n = 155)
 - Midfoot (280)
 - Hindfoot (47)
 - 178 cases (37%) required revascularization
- After amputation, the median duration of antibiotic administration was 7 days
- 109 cases (25%), antibiotics were discontinued immediately after surgery
- Clinical failure occurred in 90 DFIs (17%), due to the same pathogens in only 38 cases.
- In multivariate analysis, neither duration of total postsurgical antibiotic administration nor immediate postoperative discontinuation altered failure rate
- Conclusion: "According to our clinical pathway, we found no benefit in continuing postsurgical antibiotic administration in routine amputation for DFI. In the absence of residual infection (ie, resection at clear margins), antibiotics should be discontinued"

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Remission in diabetic foot infections: Duration of antibiotic therapy and other possible associated factors
 Karim Gariani, Dan Lebowitz et al
Diabetes Obes Metab. 2019;21:244–251

- Determine the most appropriate duration of antibiotic therapy for diabetic foot infections
- 1018 DFI episodes in 482 patients
 - 392 episodes of osteomyelitis,
 - 626 soft tissue infections
 - 313 cases involved revascularization
- Patients underwent surgical debridement for 824 episodes (81%), of which 596 (59%) required amputation
- The median total duration of antibiotic therapy was 20 days.
- Neither duration of antibiotic therapy nor parenteral treatment affected risk of recurrence
- Neither >3 weeks versus <3 weeks of therapy, nor >1 week versus <1 week of intravenous treatment affected recurrence

Conclusions: "Our analysis found no threshold for the optimal duration or route of administration of antibiotic therapy to prevent recurrences of DFI. These limited data might support possibly shorter treatment duration for patients with DFI."

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Three versus six weeks of antibiotic therapy for diabetic foot osteomyelitis: A prospective, randomized, non-inferiority pilot trial
 Karim Gariani, Truong-Thanh Pham, et al
Infectious Diseases Society of America

- Patients with diabetic foot osteomyelitis (DFO) who underwent surgical debridement,
- Investigated a short (3 weeks), compared with a long (6 weeks) duration of systemic antibiotic treatment is associated with non-inferior results for clinical remission and adverse events (AE)
- Prospective, randomized, non-inferiority, pilot trial
- Patients with DFO after surgical debridement to either a 3-week or a 6-week course of antibiotic therapy. The minimal duration of follow-up after end of therapy was two months
- 44 were randomized to the 3-week arm and 49 to the 6-week arm
- The median number of surgical debridement was 1 (range, 0-2 intervention)
- Remission occurred in 37 (84%) of the patients in the 3-week arm compared to 36 (73%) in the 6-week arm
- AE was similar in the two study arms (17/44 vs. 16/49)
- Conclusions. "In this randomized, controlled pilot trial, a post-debridement systemic antibiotic therapy course for DFO of 3-weeks gave similar (and statistically non-inferior) incidences of remission and AE to a course of 6 weeks."

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Take Home Points

- Multi-Specialty Team
- Differentiate Between Soft Tissue and Osseous Infection
- Accurate Diagnosis

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Thank You!

Shorter Course??

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