

## USES OF ANTIBIOTICS

The table below shows which common drugs in each class of antibiotic are used for the treatment of infections in different parts of the body. For the purposes of comparison,

this table also includes (in the Other drugs category) some antibacterial drugs that are discussed on page 87. This table is not intended to be used as a guide to prescribing

but indicates the possible applications of each drug. Some drugs have a wide range of possible uses; this table concentrates on the most common ones.

| Antibiotic              | Site of infection | Ear, nose, throat, and mouth | Respiratory tract | Skin and soft tissue | Gastrointestinal tract | Eye | Kidney and urinary tract | Brain and nervous system | Heart and blood | Bones and joints | Genital tract |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| <b>Penicillins</b>      |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Amoxicillin             | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          | ●               | ●                |               |
| Ampicillin              | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        | ●                        |                 | ●                |               |
| Benzylpenicillin        | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          | ●                        |                 |                  | ●             |
| Co-amoxiclav            | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Flucloxacillin          | ●                 |                              | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          | ●                        |                 | ●                |               |
| Phenoxymethylpenicillin | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| <b>Cephalosporins</b>   |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Cefaclor                | ●                 | ●                            |                   |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Cefalexin               |                   | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Cefotaxime              |                   | ●                            |                   | ●                    |                        |     |                          | ●                        | ●               |                  |               |
| <b>Macrolides</b>       |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Azithromycin            | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  | ●             |
| Clarithromycin          | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Erythromycin            | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        | ●   |                          |                          |                 | ●                | ●             |
| <b>Tetracyclines</b>    |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Doxycycline             | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  | ●             |
| Oxytetracycline         | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Tetracycline            | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        | ●   | ●                        |                          |                 |                  | ●             |
| <b>Aminoglycosides</b>  |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Amikacin                |                   | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     | ●                        | ●                        |                 | ●                |               |
| Gentamicin              |                   | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        | ●   | ●                        | ●                        | ●               | ●                |               |
| Neomycin                |                   |                              | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Streptomycin            |                   | ●                            |                   |                      |                        |     |                          | ●                        |                 |                  |               |
| Tobramycin              |                   | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     | ●                        | ●                        |                 | ●                |               |
| <b>Sulphonamide</b>     |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Co-trimoxazole          |                   | ●                            |                   |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| <b>Other drugs</b>      |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Chloramphenicol         | ●                 |                              |                   |                      |                        | ●   |                          | ●                        |                 |                  |               |
| Ciprofloxacin           |                   | ●                            |                   | ●                    |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  | ●             |
| Clindamycin             |                   | ●                            | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     |                          |                          |                 | ●                |               |
| Colistin                |                   | ●                            |                   |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Dapsone                 |                   |                              | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Fusidic acid            |                   |                              | ●                 |                      | ●                      |     |                          | ●                        |                 | ●                |               |
| Levofloxacin            | ●                 | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Linezolid               |                   | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Metronidazole           | ●                 |                              | ●                 | ●                    |                        |     |                          |                          | ●               | ●                | ●             |
| Nalidixic acid          |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Nitrofurantoin          |                   |                              |                   |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Teicoplanin             |                   |                              | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          | ●                        | ●               | ●                |               |
| Trimethoprim            |                   | ●                            | ●                 |                      |                        |     | ●                        |                          |                 |                  |               |
| Vancomycin              |                   |                              | ●                 |                      |                        |     |                          | ●                        | ●               | ●                |               |