Guidelines in lower respiratory tract infections: from diversity to logics

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Disclosures

Financial support from

- the Belgian *Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique* for basic research on pharmacology antibiotics and related topics
- *Université catholique de Louvain* for personal support

Commercial Relationships:
- AstraZeneca, GSK, Sanofi-Aventis, Bayer HealthCare, Cempra Pharamceuticals, The Medicines Company, Northern Antibiotics

Other relationships in relation to this talk
- Belgian Antibiotic Policy Coordination Committee,
- Belgian Transparency and Reimbursement Committees
- Participation to EMA expert meetings for novel antibiotics and as Industry supporting expert for assessment of toxicity of older ones
What this lecture will be about?

• Why guidelines?
• Are guidelines unanimous on defined topics?
• What is the quality of guidelines?
• What could be their limitations in daily clinical practice?
• Towards a conclusion…

the case of the CAP guidelines
Guidelines: origin, basis and use

• Clinical guidelines aim at guiding decisions and criteria regarding diagnosis, management, and treatment

• Guidelines have been used since the beginning of medicine

• Modern medical guidelines are supposed to be based on critical examination of current evidence, with emphasis on evidence-based rather than eminence-based medicine

• More and more, healthcare professionals must not only know about but apply guidelines or justify why they do not follow them for an individual patient or a group of patients
Guidelines: content and goals

• Modern clinical should identify the most valuable evidence and integrate this knowledge to build optimized decisions trees that should be applicable to the majority of patients, while being sufficiently flexible to accommodate a sufficient level of individual variation.

• But guidelines are also often seen as a mean to standardize medical care with 2 potential consequences/goals:
  – to raise quality of care while reducing the risks to patients
  – to achieve the best balance between cost and medical efficacy (broadly speaking)
Guidelines: who and where?

• Guidelines at national or international level by experts and associations that should represent not only healthcare professionals but also patients (individual level) and society (societal level), and published in a variety of forms…

• Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) is the largest web-based database of medical guidelines worldwide
Guidelines: are they used?

• We know that even simple clinical practice guidelines are not as followed as they could be, which raises questions about their utility…

Example 1

BMC Family Practice

Research article
The attitude of Belgian social insurance physicians towards evidence-based practice and clinical practice guidelines
Annemie Heselmans†1, Peter D Oncel †1, Bert Aertgeerts†1,2, Stijn Van de Velde†1,2 and Dirk Ramaekers†1,2,3

BMC Family Practice 2009, 10:64

**Conclusion**: Although the majority of physicians were positive towards EBM and welcomed more guidelines, the use of evidence and clinical practice guidelines in insurance medicine is low at present. It is in the first place important to eradicate the perceived inertia which limits the use of EBM and to further investigate the EBM principles in the context of insurance medicine. Available high-quality evidence-based resources (at the moment mainly originating from other medical fields) need to be structured in a way that is useful for insurance physicians and global access to this information needs to be ensured.

Guidelines: are they used?

Example 2

doi:10.1093/jac/dkn143
Advance Access publication 8 April 2008

Opposing expectations and suboptimal use of a local antibiotic hospital guideline: a qualitative study

Pieter-Jan Cortoos¹, Karel De Witte², Willy E. Peetermans³, Steven Simoens¹ and Gert Laekeman¹

¹Research Centre for Pharmaceutical Care and Pharmaco-economics, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, O&N 2, Herestraat 49, PB 521, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium; ²Centre for Organisation and Personnel Psychology, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Tiensestraat 102, PB 3725, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium; ³University Hospitals of Leuven, Department of General Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Herestraat 49, PB 7003, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium

Conclusions: Locally developed hospital guidelines experience the same barriers as other guidelines. Within one hospital, prescribers have to be seen as a number of different target groups instead of a homogeneous population. For an optimal effect, interventions will have to consider these differences. Also, in order to improve local guideline use and antibiotic consumption, supervisors have to be aware of how their role as opinion leaders can influence residents. Lastly, active guideline distribution and promotion remains critical to ensure efficient guideline use. Future research should focus on how to adapt interventions to these different target groups.

Guidelines: are they homogenous?

• They need not be, if:
  – the diseases are different between geographical areas or groups of patients
  – for infectious diseases, if the epidemiology is different between areas
  – if drug availability is not uniform…
  – if medical and pharmaceutical resources are different

• However, variations are often much larger than may be anticipated from the above considerations…
CAP guidelines: many variations
Moderate CAP guidelines: the Americas

Brazil

Argentina

Latin America

Canada

United States

Canada

United States

Brazil

Argentina

Latin America

1st
2nd

β-lactam

macrolide

tetracycline

quinolone

streptogramin

lincosamide

β-lactam + macrolide

β-lactam + tetracycline

β-lactam + quinolone

quinolone + macrolide

quinolone + lincosamide
# A (short)* summary of variations… (moderate CAP; empiric)

+ = 1st line  (+) = alternative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization a (country or region)</th>
<th>β-lactam b</th>
<th>macrolide</th>
<th>tetracycl.</th>
<th>quinolone c</th>
<th>streptogramin d</th>
<th>β-lactam + macrolide</th>
<th>β-lactam + tetracycl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ERS/ESCMID1 Europe</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFSSAPS2 France</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTS3 Great Britain</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PESC4 Germany</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPAR5 Spain</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPP6 Portugal</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDSA/ATS7 United States</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td>(+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALAT8 Latin America</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTA9 Brazil</td>
<td>+ (+)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* the full list (30 guidelines) is available upon request

4. http://media.econtext.de/v1/stream/16-236/abccdd299911a2e9c099c465d9d011062/1274968644/16/236.econtext

* see back-up slides for definition of acronyms
b amoxicillin most often cited
c levofloxacin or moxifloxacin
d pristinamycin
Questions to ask when setting guidelines in infectious diseases (with application to CAP)

- How sure are you of the diagnosis?
- **Which are the main pathogens and their current resistance patterns?**
- How should the therapy be initiated (empiric vs. directed)
- **Which level of adverse effects is acceptable?**
- **Which patients do you mainly treat?**
- Does cost matter?
- What are your real choices?
Main pathogens (a short view)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pathogen</th>
<th>Frequency (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No pathogen identified</td>
<td>49.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em></td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viruses</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</em></td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Chlamydia pneumoniae</em></td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Haemophilus influenzae</em></td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Legionella spp</em></td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other organisms</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Chlamydia psittaci</em></td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Coxiella burnetii</em></td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Moraxella catarrhalis</em></td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gram-negative enteric bacteria</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus</em></td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main pathogens: a more realistic view

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Pathogens</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient, no cardiopulmonary disease or modifying factors</td>
<td><em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em>, <em>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</em>, <em>Chlamydia pneumoniae</em> (alone or as mixed infection), <em>Haemophilus influenzae</em>, respiratory viruses, others (<em>Legionella</em> spp., <em>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</em>, endemic fungi)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient, with cardiopulmonary disease and/or modifying factors, or HCAP with no resistance risk factors</td>
<td>All of the above plus <strong>drug-resistant <em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em></strong>, enteric Gram-negatives and possibly anaerobes (with aspiration)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatient, with cardiopulmonary disease and/or modifying factors, or HCAP with no resistance risk factors</td>
<td><em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em> (including <strong>resistant</strong>), <em>H. influenzae</em>, <em>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</em>, <em>C. pneumoniae</em>, mixed infection (bacteria plus atypical pathogen), enteric Gram-negatives, anaerobes (aspiration), viruses, <em>Legionella</em> spp., others (<em>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</em>, endemic fungi, <em>Pneumocystis jirovecii</em>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatient, with no cardiopulmonary disease or modifying factors</td>
<td>All of the above, but resistant S.p. and enteric Gram-negatives are unlikely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe CAP, with no risks for <em>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</em></td>
<td><em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em> (including <strong>resistant</strong>), <em>Legionella</em> spp., <em>H. influenzae</em>, enteric Gram-negative bacilli, <em>Staphylococcus aureus</em>, <em>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</em>, respiratory viruses, others (<em>C. pneumoniae</em>, <em>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</em>, endemic fungi)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe CAP, with risks for <em>P. aeruginosa</em>, or HCAP with resistance risk factors</td>
<td>All of the above pathogens, plus <em>P. aeruginosa</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Which resistance?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisms</th>
<th>Antibiotic class</th>
<th>Main mechanism</th>
<th>Clinical consequence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>S. pneumoniae</strong></td>
<td>β-lactams (pénicillins/cephalosporins...)</td>
<td>altered sequence in PBPs (2B, 2X, 1A; mosaic genes) with progressive increase in MIC</td>
<td>‘intermediate’ isolates still clinically susceptible with increase of dose and frequency of administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>macrolides, tetracyclines, fluroquinolones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>efflux (<em>mefA</em>)</td>
<td>intermediate (but …)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>target alteration (<em>ermB</em>)</td>
<td>full resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>H. influenzae</strong></td>
<td>β-lactams</td>
<td>β-lactamase</td>
<td>full resistance (reversed by clavul. acid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>alteration of PBPs</td>
<td>increase in MIC (clinically rare)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mycoplasma, Chlamydia, Legionella</strong></td>
<td>macrolides, fluroquinolones</td>
<td>target alteration (ribosomal / gyrase)</td>
<td>full resistance (clinically rare / exceptional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- * macrolides are poorly active against *H. influenzae* (no EUCAST breakpoint)
- ** β-lactams are intrinsically poorly active against Mycoplasma and Chlamydia and poorly active against Legionella is because of its intracellular character

Information from:
- and other original publications (in PubMed)
Resistance of *S. pneumoniae* *

*Analysis of resistance to penicillins (with CAP as main indication) in surveillance systems or publications (*S. pneumoniae*)

- **EARSS**: European Antimicrobial Surveillance system
- **TRUST**: Tracking Resistance in the United States Today
- **GLOBAL**: Global Landscape On the Bactericidal Activity of Levofloxacin
- **ECCMID**: abstracts of the 18-20th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Carbonnelle *et al.*, in preparation
Resistance of *S. pneumoniae* *

*analysis of resistance of erythromycin and doxycycline (with CAP as main indication) in surveillance systems or publications (*S. pneumoniae*)

- **EARSS**: European Antimicrobial Surveillance system
- **PROTEKT**: Prospective Resistant Organism Tracking and Epidemiology for the Ketolide Telithromycin
- **TRUST**: Tracking Resistance in the United States Today
- **GLOBAL**: Global Landscape On the Bactericidal Activity of Levofloxacin
- **ECCMID**: abstracts of the 18th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Carbonnelle et al., in preparation
The message: make and use surveys

- Countries should know THEIR resistance patterns!

---

Analysis of invasive pneumonia-causing strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*: serotypes and antimicrobial susceptibility

Cristina R. M. Yoshioka,1 Marina B. Martinez,2 Maria C. C. Brandileone,3 Selma B. Ragazzi,4 Maria L. L. S. Guerra,5 Silvia R. Santos,6 Huei H. Shieh,7 Alfredo E. Gilio8

**Conclusions:** Our results confirm a significant potential impact of conjugate vaccines, mainly 10-valent and 13-valent, on invasive pneumonia. Furthermore, susceptibility testing results show that penicillin is still the treatment of choice for invasive pneumonia in our setting.

*J Pediatr (Rio J)*. 2011;87(1):70-75: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, pneumonia, serotype, antimicrobial resistance,
Surveys are essential to distinguish serotypes…

**MIC of serotype 14 in Brazil**

- **Figure 2** - Geometric mean minimum inhibitory concentration of penicillin (µg/mL) for serotype 14 over the study period.

G-MIC = geometric mean minimum inhibitory concentration.

Surveys also show important variations…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Penicillin</th>
<th>Ceftriaxone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of isolates</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>15–60 years</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;60 years</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>15–60 years</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;60 years</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>15–60 years</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;60 years</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>15–60 years</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;60 years</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>15–60 years</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;60 years</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S, sensitive (MIC ≤ 0.06 μg/ml); I, intermediate resistance (MIC 0.12–1 μg/ml); R, high resistance (MIC ≥ 2 μg/ml); MIC, minimum inhibitory concentration.

But breakpoints may also be important…

Table 1 - Penicillin-resistance rates according to the 2007 CLSI and 2008 CLSI standards in pneumococcal strains collected from children hospitalized with pneumonia (1999 to 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resistance</th>
<th>n*</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>n†</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total*</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLSI = Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute.
* According to the 2007 CLSI standard.
† According to the CLSI 2008 standard.
‡ Total of 100 strains analyzed.

2007: S: ≤ 0.06, I: 0.12 to 1, R > 2 µg/mL
2008: S: ≤ 2, I: 4 to 8, R ≥ 8 µg/mL

Breakpoints: EUCAST vs. CLSI for *S. pneumoniae* in Belgium

**Comment:** With the new [CLSI] definitions of resistance [for *S. pneumoniae*], very few pathogens will be defined as resistant; however, those that are may affect outcome. In fact, most experts believe that CAP caused by organisms with a penicillin MIC of ≥4mg/l, still an uncommon finding, can lead to an increased risk of death.1,2

Side effects...
## All antimicrobials have associated risks *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Drugs</th>
<th>Frequent or serious side effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>β-lactams</td>
<td>amoxicillin</td>
<td>• Anaphylactic reactions&lt;br&gt;• <em>Clostridium difficile</em>-associated colitis&lt;br&gt;• Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea&lt;br&gt;• CNS: agitation, anxiety, insomnia, confusion, convulsions, behavioural changes, and/or dizziness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amoxicillin – clavulanic acid</td>
<td>• Anaphylactic reactions&lt;br&gt;• <em>Clostridium difficile</em>-associated colitis&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Hepatic toxicity, including hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea&lt;br&gt;• CNS : agitation, anxiety, insomnia, confusion, convulsions, <strong>behavioural changes</strong>, and/or dizziness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cefuroxime</td>
<td>• Anaphylactic reactions and cutaneous eruptions&lt;br&gt;• Nephrotoxicity (aggrav. with loop diuretics)&lt;br&gt;• Hepatic toxicity&lt;br&gt;• <em>Clostridium difficile</em>-associated colitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ceftriaxone</td>
<td>• Anaphylactic reactions and cutaneous eruptions&lt;br&gt;• Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea&lt;br&gt;• <em>Clostridium difficile</em>-associated colitis&lt;br&gt;• Hematologic disturbances (eosinophilia, leucopenia, granulopenia, thrombopenia)&lt;br&gt;• Hepatic and biliary toxicities (precipitation of Ca++ salt)&lt;br&gt;• CNS: cephalalgia, vertigo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* based on an analysis of the respective labelling (SmPC or equivalent)

Carbonnelle et al., : "From Pharmacovigilance to Risk Management", 9th IsOP, 2009; and in preparation
### All antimicrobials have associated risks *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Drugs</th>
<th>Frequent or serious side effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Macrolides | clarithromycin | • Anaphylactic reactions  
|          |            | • *Clostridium difficile*-associated colitis  
|          |            | • Drug interactions (CYP450)  
|          |            | • Hepatic toxicity, including hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice  
|          |            | • Palpitations, arrhythmias including prolonged QTc  
|          |            | • Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, abnormal taste  
|          |            | • CNS: headache, confusion, … |
| azithromycin |            | • Anaphylactic reactions  
|          |            | • *Clostridium difficile*-associated colitis  
|          |            | • Drug interactions (CYP450), less frequent than with other macrolides  
|          |            | • Hepatic toxicity, including hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice  
|          |            | • Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain  
|          |            | • CNS: dizziness, fatigue, vertigo, …  
|          |            | • Genitourinary: nephritis, vaginitis |
| telithromycin |            | • Anaphylactic reactions and allergic skin reactions  
|          |            | • *Clostridium difficile*-associated colitis  
|          |            | • Hepatotoxicity  
|          |            | • Visual disturbance  
|          |            | • Loss of consciousness  
|          |            | • Respiratory failure in patients with myastenia gravis  
|          |            | • QTc prolongation  
|          |            | • Drug interactions (CYP450)  
|          |            | • Digestive tract: diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, dysguesia  
|          |            | • CNS: headache, dizziness |

* based on an analysis of the respective labelling (SmPC or equivalent)

---

Carbonnelle et al.,: "From Pharmacovigilance to Risk Management", 9th IsOP, 2009; and in preparation
All antimicrobials have associated risks *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Drugs</th>
<th>Frequent or serious side effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| fluoroquinolones | levofloxacin| • Anaphylactic reactions and allergic skin reactions  
|                  |             | • *Clostridium difficile*-associated colitis  
|                  |             | • Hematologic toxicity  
|                  |             | • Hepatotoxicity  
|                  |             | • Central nervous system effects: headache, insomnia, dizziness, convulsions  
|                  |             | • **Musculoskeletal: tendinopathies**  
|                  |             | • Peripheral neuropathy  
|                  |             | • Prolongation of the QTc interval and isolated cases of torsade de pointes  
|                  |             | • **Digestive tract: nausea, diarrhoea**  
|                  | moxifloxacin| • Anaphylactic reactions and allergic skin reactions  
|                  |             | • *Clostridium difficile*-associated colitis  
|                  |             | • **Musculoskeletal: Tendinopathies**  
|                  |             | • Peripheral neuropathy  
|                  |             | • Prolongation of the QT interval  
|                  |             | • Central nervous system effects: headache, insomnia, dizziness, convulsions  
|                  |             | • **Digestive tract: nausea, diarrhoea**  

* based on an analysis of the respective labelling (SmPC or equivalent)
All antimicrobials have associated risks *

Conclusions so far:

- All antimicrobials used in RTI are associated with known toxicities
- The main point will be the recognition of patients at risk (exclusions)
- The next point will be a correct evaluation of the benefit / risk ratio in the specific environment and for the specific patient

Carbonnelle et al., "From Pharmacovigilance to Risk Management", 9th IsOP, 2009; and in preparation
But, why so many (apparent or real?) problems in reaching a consensus?

- Guidelines should take enough parameters into account (qualitatively and quantitatively) to be pertinent
- Guidelines must be linked to the specific variables of the environment in which they will apply
- Guidelines must be applicable and regularly updated
- Guidelines should not be recipes

Editorial
Clinical practice guidelines: towards better quality guidelines and increased international collaboration

R Groothuis-Oudshoorn, F A Cluzeau and J S Burgers

1University Medical Centre Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands; 2St George’s Hospital Medical School, London, UK


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Keywords: practice guidelines; quality assessment; international network
The AGREE * Instrument (1)

Table 1  The AGREE instrument

Scope and purpose
1. The overall objective(s) of the guideline is (are) specifically described.
2. The clinical question(s) covered by the guideline is (are) specifically described
3. The patients to whom the guideline is meant to apply are specifically described

Stakeholder involvement
4. The guideline development group includes individuals from all the relevant professional groups
5. The patients' views and preferences have been sought
6. The target users of the guideline are clearly defined
7. The guideline has been piloted among target users

Rigour of development
8. Systematic methods were used to search for evidence
9. The criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described
10. The methods for formulating the recommendations are clearly described
11. The health benefits, side effects and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations
12. There is an explicit link between the recommendations and the supporting evidence
13. The guideline has been externally reviewed by experts prior to its publication
14. A procedure for updating the guideline is provided

*Appraisal of Guidelines Research and Evaluation – developed through an EU-funded research project and available on http://www.agreecollaboration.org/

The AGREE Instrument (2)

Clarity and presentation
15. The recommendations are specific and unambiguous
16. The different options for management of the condition are clearly presented
17. Key recommendations are easily identifiable
18. The guideline is supported with tools for application

Applicability
19. The potential organisational barriers in applying the recommendations have been discussed
20. The potential cost implications of applying the recommendations have been considered
21. The guidelines present key review criteria for monitoring and/or audit purposes

Editorial independence
22. The guideline is editorially independent from the funding body
23. Conflicts of interest of guideline development members have been recorded

*Appraisal of Guidelines Research and Evaluation – developed through an EU-funded research project and available on http://www.agreecollaboration.org/
Using the The AGREE Instrument for CAP guidelines

Table 1. The AGREE instrument.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The overall objective(s) of the guideline is (are) specifically described.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. The clinical question(s) covered by the guideline is (are) specifically described</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. The patients to whom the guideline is meant to apply are specifically described</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stakeholder involvement</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. The guideline development group includes individuals from all the relevant professional groups</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. The patients' views and preferences have been sought</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. The target users of the guideline are clearly defined</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. The guideline has been piloted among target users</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rigour of development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Systematic methods were used to search for evidence</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. The criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10. The methods for formulating the recommendations are clearly described</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>11. The health benefits, side effects and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations</td>
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<td>14. A procedure for updating the guideline is provided</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Clarity and presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carbonnelle et al., submitted
Analysis of 30 CAP guidelines with the AGREE Instrument

- Mean scores presented as 'boxes and whiskers' (lowest to highest with 25%-75% and median).
- Scores of domains with different letters are significantly different from each other (Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn's Multiple Comparison Test)

Carbonnelle et al., submitted
### A comparative analysis of two guidelines and their rationale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical situation</th>
<th>North American guidelines</th>
<th>UK guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timing of antimicrobials</strong></td>
<td>Administer initial antibiotic therapy as soon as possible, after firmly establishing the presence of pneumonia</td>
<td>Antibiotics should be given as soon as possible and within 4 h of clinical diagnosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Initial choice of antimicrobials</strong></td>
<td>Treat all patients for pneumococcus (including DRSP) and for the possibility of atypical pathogen co-infection (if endemic rates in the community support a role for these organisms)</td>
<td>Treat all patients for pneumococcus. Other pathogens should be considered only in more severe cases or specific clinical situations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Initial antibiotic choice for adults hospitalized with low-moderate severity CAP treated in the community** | - selected patients with no cardiopulmonary disease or modifying factors → macrolide alone *  
  - outpatients with cardiopulmonary disease or ‘modifying factors’:  
    - monotherapy with a quinolone  
    - combination β-lactam (high dose) + macrolide or tetracycline. | Most patients can be adequately treated with oral antibiotics  
**Oral therapy with amoxicillin is preferred**  
When oral therapy is contraindicated, recommended parenteral choices include iv amoxicillin or benzylpenicillin, or clarithromycin |

* Caution: a macrolide alone should only be used in outpatients or inpatients with no risk factors for resistant S. p. enteric Gram-negatives or aspiration

## A comparative analysis of two guidelines and their rationale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical situation</th>
<th>North American guidelines</th>
<th>UK guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial antibiotic choice for adults hospitalized with moderate severity CAP</td>
<td><strong>Initial IV therapy</strong> (if oral, use a quinolone [high bioavailability])&lt;br&gt;If risk of resistant S.p.:&lt;br&gt; • quinolone monotherapy&lt;br&gt; • or combination IV β-lactam (ceftriaxone, cefotaxime, ertapenem, ampicillin-sulbactam) + a macrolide or tetracycline.&lt;br&gt; → antipseudomonal therapy only if risk factors</td>
<td><strong>Oral therapy with β-lactam +macrolide</strong>&lt;br&gt; If inappropriate:&lt;br&gt; • IV amoxicillin or penicillin G or IV clarithromycin, or&lt;br&gt; • IV levofloxacin iv or combination iv 2&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt;/3&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt; generation cephalosporin + clarithromycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial antibiotic choice for adults hospitalized with severe CAP</td>
<td>If no pseudomonal risk factors&lt;br&gt; • β-lactam +macrolide or&lt;br&gt; • antipneumococcal quinolone (gemifloxacin [oral] &gt; moxifloxacin [oral/IV] &gt; levofloxacin [oral/IV])&lt;br&gt;Note: quinolone &gt; macrolides if suspected or proven Legionella infection&lt;br&gt; If pseudomonas risk factor&lt;br&gt; • antipseudomonal β-lactam + ciprofloxacin / high-dose levofloxacin&lt;br&gt; • combination aminoglycoside + macrolide or antipneumococcal quinolone</td>
<td><strong>IV β-lactamase stable β-lactam (amoxi-clav) + clarithromycin</strong>&lt;br&gt; In penicillin-allergic patients,&lt;br&gt; → 2&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt;/3&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt; generation cephalosporin + clarithromycin&lt;br&gt; If Legionella is strongly suspected, consider adding levofloxacin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limitations in daily practice: an example from general practice

- Lack of involvement of stakeholders and lack of applicability: analysis of the compliance to a guideline by GP's using the ‘Lot Quality Assurance Sampling approach’ (in-depth interview)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Introductory comment</th>
<th>1st line treatment</th>
<th>2nd line (and condition)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>acute RTI (adult *)</td>
<td>Acute bronchitis: an antibiotic is not indicated</td>
<td>without co-morbidity: <strong>amoxicillin</strong></td>
<td>if non-IgE-mediated allergy to penicillin: <strong>cefuroxime axetil</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Community acquired pneumonia: antibiotic (oral) if lethal risk is low</td>
<td>with co-morbidity: <strong>amoxicillin-clavulanic acid</strong></td>
<td>if type I allergy to penicillin: <strong>moxifloxacin</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(otherwise, hospitalization is required)</td>
<td>(if no improvement after 48 h, add a macrolide)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPD exacerbation</td>
<td>An antibiotic is, generally speaking, not indicated except for patients with fever (&gt; 38°C), VEMs &lt; 30% of normal values, alteration of the general status and/or no improvement of a non-antibiotic treatment within 4 days in non severe or 3 days in severe exacerbations</td>
<td>- <strong>amoxicillin</strong></td>
<td>if non-IgE-mediated allergy to penicillin: <strong>cefuroxime axetil</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- with co-morbidity: <strong>amoxicillin-clavulanic acid</strong></td>
<td>(if no improvement after 48 h, replace amoxicillin by amoxicillin-clavulanic acid)</td>
<td>if type I allergy to penicillin: <strong>moxifloxacin</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limitations in daily practice: an example from general practice

• **Main medical reasons for not following the guidelines shown on the previous slide (LQAS; n=30)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>Specific reason(s) mentioned (by order of decreasing number of occurrences) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - perceived severity of the disease or disease considered as requiring antibiotic treatment | - duration/worsening of the symptoms (21)  
- worsening of the general status (19)  
- local signs of severity (15) (throat, ear, sinus, ganglions, amygdale; severe discharge)  
- overall suggestive clinical examination (10)  
- pain (9)  
- fever (7)  
- coloured / abnormal sputum (6)  
- presentation similar to a recent infection successfully treated with an antibiotic (5)  
- uncertainty upon auscultation (4)  
- previous treatment ineffective (3)  
- dyspnoea (2)  
- familial epidemic (2)  
- certainty of a bacterial infection (1) |
| - fragility of the patient or whit risk | - objectively frail patient (13)  
(aged, child, overall status or concurrent immunosuppressive medication)  
- general medical history (personal or familial) (11)  
- established co-morbidity (6)  
- COPD patient (5)  
- risk of bacterial surinfection (3)  
- smoker (2)  
- patient not previously known by the prescriber (1) |
| - uncertainty of the etiological diagnostic | - while waiting for the microbiological results (2)  
- suspicion of organism causing atypical pneumonia (1)  
- diagnostic uncertain and possibly worse than thought (1) |

Feron et al. 18th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID)Barcelona, Spain, 19-22 April 2008  
Feron et al. in preparation
Conclusions (and food for thought)

• Guidelines are interesting and most probably useful

• Their writing is a difficult exercise and their implementation is a long journey (unsurprisingly)

• They MUST remain open to accommodate for local and special situations, with the primary emphasis on epidemiology

• At the end of the day, it will be the doctor's choice, but that choice MUST be rational and based on best evidence applied to the patient

• Societal responsibility (in this case, the emergence of resistance) should not be ignored*

• Economic responsibility is also important, although the acquisition costs of antibiotics are MUCH lower than those of many other drugs*

*Not addressed in this lecture but do ask questions…
Back-up slides
Are CAP guidelines based on the risk of emergence of resistance: the case of fluoroquinolones…

Selection of quinolone resistance in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* exposed *in vitro* to subinhibitory drug concentrations

Laetitia Avrain¹, Mark Garvey², Narcisa Mesaros¹, Youri Glupczynski³, Marie-Paule Mingeot-Leclercq¹, Laura J. V. Piddock², Paul M. Tulkens¹, Raymond Vanhoof² and Françoise Van Bambeke¹*

¹Université Catholique de Louvain, Unité de Pharmacologie Cellulaire et Moléculaire, Brussels, Belgium; ²University of Birmingham, Division of Immunity and Infection, Birmingham, UK; ³Université Catholique de Louvain, Cliniques Universitaires de Mont-Godinne, Laboratoire de Microbiologie, Yvoir, Belgium; ⁴Pasteur Institut, Antibiotica Resistentie en Nosocomiale Infecties, Brussels, Belgium

Fluoroquinolones induce the expression of *patA* and *patB*, which encode ABC efflux pumps in *Streptococcus pneumoniae*

Farid El Garch ¹†, Ann Lismond ², Laura J. V. Piddock ², Patrice Courvalin ³, Paul M. Tulkens ¹ and Françoise Van Bambeke ¹*

³Pharmacologie cellulaire et moléculaire, Louvain Drug Research Institute, Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium; ²School of Immunity and Infection, College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK; ³Institut Pasteur, Unité des Agents antibactériens, Paris, France
Moxifloxacin MIC's against *S. pneumoniae* in Belgium from 1999 to 2008

**S. pneumoniae** susceptibility to moxifloxacin in Belgium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MIC (mg/L)</th>
<th>Cumulative Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.0078125</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.015625</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.03125</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0625</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.125</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**From data of a national collection**

- Non invasive respiratory tract infections
- Similar results in 2008 for a collection of *S. pneumoniae* from clinically-confirmed CAP

- Surveys from the Belgian Scientific Institute for Public Health for *S. pneumoniae* from community isolates (n=156 in 1999 and 448 in 2008)
- Data available yearly for 1999 through 2008
- [http://www.iph.fgov.be](http://www.iph.fgov.be)

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## Is hepatotoxicity a problem for primary care physicians treating CAP?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antibiotic</th>
<th>Isolated cases and ≤ 0.00007</th>
<th>≤ 0.0002</th>
<th>≤ 0.004</th>
<th>≤ 0.02</th>
<th>?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ciprofloxacin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Levofloxacin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moxifloxacin</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetracycline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erythromycin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarithromycin</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Penicillins</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-trimoxazole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amoxicillin/clavulanate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Telithromycin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Acute liver failure, high mortality

Withdrawal or severe restriction does not allow calculating true incidences

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Hepatotoxicity risk of antibiotics: percentage of prescriptions for antibiotics with main indications for use in the community setting

Guidelines and innovation

• If guidelines allow for a fully satisfactory treatment, we need no innovation…
• But what if innovation fulfills an unmet need?
• The problem will be the market anticipated by the discoverer for the innovation…but…
• In infectious diseases, the ‘unmet need’ is infections caused by resistant organisms, which, hopefully, is a small market…
• As a consequence, either:
  – Novel antibiotics MUST be expensive, or
  – Their ‘too large’ promotion (beyond resistant organisms) will clash with guidelines…
Guidelines and Innovation

• Can novel antibiotics be limited in use and be part of the guidelines for situations when the others fail?
• Yes, if:
  – They are discovered and developed cheaply…
  – Their discovery/development uses resources than those usually devoted by industry for these tasks (e.g. tuberculosis…)
  – They do what anticancer drugs have been doing…

‘Best treatment’ acquisition costs
• For CAP: €200 (see next slide)
• 1-year survival from cancer: €2,000 to >€20,000
  (based on my experience as a member of the Belgian Committee for Drug Reimbursement)
## Drug acquisition costs for treatment of CAP*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>DDD (g) (^a)</th>
<th>DDD acquisition cost (€)</th>
<th>RDD acquisition cost (€) (^e)</th>
<th>Treatment duration (days) (^b)</th>
<th>Treatment acquisition cost (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st line given alone</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amoxicillin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.75 - 1.14</td>
<td>1.5 - 3</td>
<td>1.13 - 3.42</td>
<td>7 - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>doxycycline</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.29 - 1.02</td>
<td>0.2/(0.1) - 0.3</td>
<td>0.58 - 3.05</td>
<td>5 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erythromycin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.33 - 1.33</td>
<td>1 - 4</td>
<td>1.33 - 5.32</td>
<td>7 - 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clarithromycin</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.05 - 2.85</td>
<td>1 - 1</td>
<td>2.09 - 5.69</td>
<td>7 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roxithromycin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.94 - 3.16</td>
<td>0.3 - 0.6</td>
<td>1.94 - 6.32</td>
<td>7 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>azithromycin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.96 - 3.36</td>
<td>0.5 - 1.5</td>
<td>3.26 - 5.60</td>
<td>3 - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clindamycin</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>5.12 - 6.00</td>
<td>0.9 - 0.9</td>
<td>3.84 - 4.50</td>
<td>7 - 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd line or combinations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>co-amoxiclav</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.08 - 1.43</td>
<td>1.875 - 1.89</td>
<td>2.50 - 1.43</td>
<td>5 - 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amoxicillin + azithromycin</td>
<td>1/0.3</td>
<td>2.71 - 4.50</td>
<td>3/0.5 - 3/0.5</td>
<td>5.51 - 9.02</td>
<td>10/3 - 10/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amoxicillin + clarithromycin</td>
<td>1/0.5</td>
<td>1.80 - 3.99</td>
<td>3/1 - 3/1</td>
<td>4.34 - 9.11</td>
<td>10 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>telithromycin</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>3.30 - 3.65</td>
<td>0.8 - 0.8</td>
<td>3.30 - 3.65</td>
<td>7 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>levofloxacin</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>4.41 - 6.38</td>
<td>0.5 - 1</td>
<td>4.41 - 12.75</td>
<td>7 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moxifloxacin</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>4.40 - 5.50</td>
<td>0.4 - 0.4</td>
<td>4.40 - 5.50</td>
<td>7 - 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on guidelines (min – max) and European open pharmacy retail acquisition prices (calculator for adaptation to other prices available on request)

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**Carbonnelle et al., submitted**
Guideline setting organizations with data used for this presentation

- **ERS/ESCMID**: European Respiratory Society/European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- **AFSSAPS**: Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits de Santé (France)
- **ASP**: Antibiotikasenteret for primærmedisin (Norway)
- **BAPCOC**: Belgian Antibiotic Policy Coordination Committee (Belgium)
- **BTS**: British Thoracic Society (United Kingdom)
- **DSMF/SLD/SYY**: Duodecim Societas Medicorum Fennica/Suomalainen Lääkärieseuran Duodecimin/Suomen Lastenlääkäriyhdistyksen/Suomen Yleislääketieteiden Yhdistys (Finland)
- **CIO (SFN)**: Commissione Controllo Infezioni Ospedaliere (San Filippo Neri) (Italy)
- **IRF**: Institut for Rationel Farmakoterapi (Denmark)
- **KEEL**: Κέντρο Ελέγχου και Πρόληψης Νοσημάτων (Greece)
- **OEGI**: Österreichische Gesellschaft für (Austria)
- **PESC/GRS/GSI/CAPNETZ**: Paul-Ehrlich Society for Chemotherapy/German Respiratory Society/German Society for Infectiology/Competence Network Community-Acquired Pneumonia KompetenzNETZwerk (Germany)
- **RRS/IACMAC**: Russian Respiratory Society/Interregional Association of Clinical Microbiology and Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (Russia)
- **SEPAR**: Sociedad Española de Neumología y Cirugía Torácica (Spain)
- **SILF**: Svenska Infektionsläkarföreningen (Sweden)
- **SIGN**: Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (Scotland)
- **SPI LF**: Société de Pathologie Infectieuse de Langue Française (France and other French-speaking countries)
- **SPP**: Sociedade Portuguesa de Pneumologia (Portugal)
- **SSI**: Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases (Switzerland)
- **SWAB**: Stichting Werkgroep AntibioticaBeleid (The Netherlands)
- **CIDS/CTS**: Canadian Infectious Disease Society/Canadian Thoracic Society (Canada)
- **IDSA/ATS**: American Thoracic Society Infectious Diseases Society of America (United States of America)
- **ALAT**: Asociación Latinoamericana del Tórax (Latin America)
- **BTA**: Brazilian Thoracic Association (Brazil)
- **SACAPWG**: Saudi Arabian Community Acquired Pneumonia Working Group (Saudi Arabia)
- **SATS**: South African Thoracic Society
Questions (multiple choice)
The mortality of CAP is still high (up to 15-30 %). In your opinion, this is because

1. antibiotics are poorly active
2. of patient's factors (age, co-morbidities)
3. current treatments fail to correct for inflammation
4. non of these reasons

Give your first choice amongst the 4 possibilities given above
About choice of guidelines…

Which guidelines do you most trust and use

1. your national guidelines
2. the British guidelines
3. the US guidelines
4. none

Give your first choice amongst the 4 possibilities given above
About content of guidelines…

US and British guidelines and fluoroquinolones

1. both recommend them
2. only the US
3. neither the US nor the British
4. I do not know

Give your first choice amongst the 4 possibilities given above
About antibiotic resistance…

What is your perception of antibiotic resistance in your practice (as a prescriber)

1. I'm very concerned and pay full attention
2. I know about it but let the guidelines decide for me
3. It has little impact in my way of prescribing
4. I do not see resistance in my practice

Give your first choice amongst the 4 possibilities given above
About breakpoints…

What is your perception about breakpoints and who decides about them

1. I guess that US CLSI has the best breakpoints
2. I have learned about EUCAST and may consider those as useful alternatives to CLSI's for my country
3. I'd favour national/Latin American breakpoints
4. I still do not know what are breakpoints and/or their use

Give your first choice amongst the 4 possibilities given above