

Exclusion criteria:

- Patients < 2 months of age
- Immunocompromised pts
- Patients receiving home mechanical ventilation
- Patients with underlying lung disease (e.g., cystic fibrosis), immunodeficiency, technology dependence, or other chronic conditions that may impact antibiotic selection

Imaging

- Chest X-ray is not routinely recommended for uncomplicated pneumonia.
- Consider chest X-ray in cases of diagnostic uncertainty, documented hypoxemia and respiratory distress, or failed initial antibiotic therapy to assess for complications of pneumonia

Labs

- Blood cultures may be obtained for hospitalized pts meeting the following criteria:
 - < 6 months of age with fever
 - Not fully immunized
 - Central venous catheter
 - Admission to ICU
 - Effusion or empyema on chest radiograph
- Additional labs, including CBC and inflammatory markers, are not routinely recommended for pts with uncomplicated CAP

IR

- Consult IR for moderate to large parapneumonic effusions or empyema

Alternative diagnoses:

- Foreign body aspiration
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Tuberculosis or histoplasmosis*
- Other uncommon infections of the lungs*
- Tumor
- Anatomic malformation

*ID consult recommended

