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### Impact of clinical pathways on antibiotic prescribing in the outpatient setting

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# Impact of Clinical Pathways on Antibiotic Prescribing in the Outpatient Setting

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The speaker has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

# Background

- An estimated 80% of all antibiotics prescribed are for outpatient use
- At least 30% of antibiotic prescriptions in the outpatient setting are unnecessary
- Overuse of antibiotics increases risk of:
  - Antimicrobial resistance
  - Unnecessary medication adverse reactions
  - Rising cost of care

# Background - Parkview

- Clinical Integrated Network (CIN)
- Evaluating antibiotic prescribing rate for outpatient disease states in the walk-in clinics and emergency departments (ED)

Otitis  
Media

Sinusitis

Bronchitis

# **CURRENT TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

# Acute Otitis Media (AOM) - Management

Age	AOM with Otorrhea	Unilateral or Bilateral AOM with Severe Symptoms*	Bilateral AOM without Otorrhea	Unilateral AOM without Otorrhea
6 months to 2 years	Antibiotic Therapy	Antibiotic Therapy	Antibiotic Therapy	Observation or Antibiotic Therapy
≥ 2 years	Antibiotic Therapy	Antibiotic Therapy	Observation or Antibiotic Therapy	Observation or Antibiotic Therapy

\*Severe symptoms include persistent otalgia > 48 hours, temperature ≥ 102.2°F in the past 48 hours, child is toxic appearing, uncertain access to follow-up

# Acute Otitis Media – Initial Therapy

<i>First Line Therapy</i>	<i>Alternate Therapy (if penicillin allergy)</i>
Amoxicillin 80 – 90 mg/kg/day divided every 12 hours  OR  Amoxicillin-clavulanate (90 mg/kg/day of amoxicillin; 6.4 mg/kg/day of clavulanate divided every 12 hours)	Cefdinir 14 mg/kg/day divided in 1 or 2 doses  Cefuroxime 30 mg/kg/day divided every 12 hours  Cefpodoxime 10 mg/kg/day divided every 12 hours  Ceftriaxone 50 mg/kg IM or IV per day for 1 – 3 days

# Acute Otitis Media - Failure of Initial Therapy

<i>First Line Therapy</i>	<i>Alternative Therapy</i>
<p>Amoxicillin-clavulanate (90 mg/kg/day of amoxicillin; 6.4 mg/kg/day of clavulanate divided every 12 hours)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Ceftriaxone 50 mg/kg IM or IV per day for 3 days</p>	<p>Clindamycin 30 – 40 mg/kg/day in 3 divided doses with or without a third-generation cephalosporin</p> <p>Failure of a second antibiotic: Clindamycin plus a third-generation cephalosporin (if not previously used)</p> <p>Tympanocentesis</p> <p>Consult specialist</p>



# Bronchitis

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and American College of Chest Physicians recommend against the use of antibiotics in the treatment of bronchitis
- > 90% cases are caused by viruses

# Bronchitis – When to Consider Antimicrobials

Evidence of pneumonia

Concern for pertussis infection

Concern for influenza

# Sinusitis

- Bacterial versus viral sinusitis:
  - Persistent symptoms not improving  $\geq 10$  days
  - Severe symptoms for at least 3-4 consecutive days
    - High temperature ( $\geq 39^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
    - Purulent nasal discharge
    - Facial pain
  - Worsening symptoms following an initial improvement of initial disease course

# Sinusitis - Management

Initial Empiric Therapy	Beta-Lactam Allergy	Failed Initial Therapy or Risk of Antibiotic Resistance
<b>Adults</b>		
Amoxicillin-clavulanate 500 mg/125 mg PO TID or 865 mg/125 mg PO BID	Doxycycline, Levofloxacin/moxifloxacin	Amoxicillin-clavulanate 2000 mg/125 mg PO BID
<b>Children</b>		
Amoxicillin-clavulanate 45 mg/kg/day divided every 12 hours	<i>Type I Hypersensitivity:</i> Levofloxacin <i>Type II Hypersensitivity:</i> clindamycin plus a third- generation cephalosporin	Amoxicillin-clavulanate 90 mg/kg/day divided every 12 hours  Clindamycin plus a third- generation cephalosporin  Levofloxacin

Stewardship Initiative

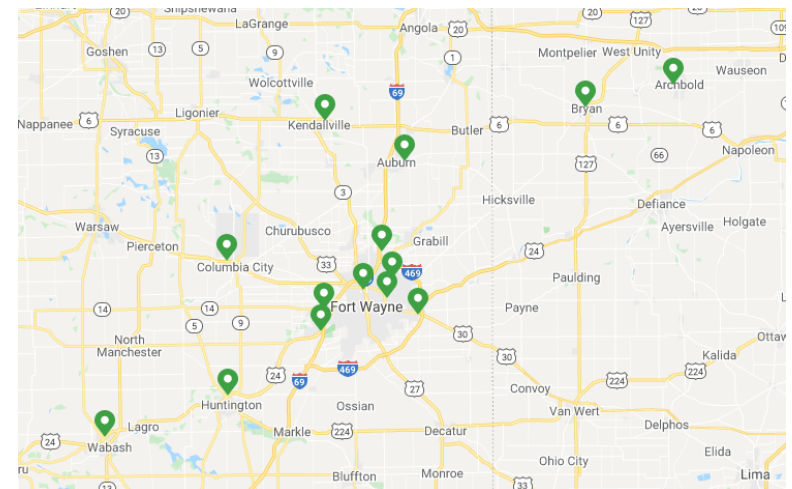
# **CLINICAL PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT**

# Purpose

The objective of this study is to evaluate the efficacy of clinical pathways on outpatient antibiotic prescribing rates for AOM, bronchitis, and sinusitis.

# Setting

- Parkview Health System
  - Not-for-profit, community-owned organization
  - Northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio
  - 10 hospital health system
    - 9 emergency departments
    - 12 walk-in-clinics



# Demographics

- Pediatric and adult patients from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

	Walk-in-Clinics	Emergency Departments
Acute Otitis Media	11,341	1,511
Bronchitis	3,881	2,390
Sinusitis	11,155	694
<b><i>Total Patients</i></b>	<b>26,377</b>	<b>4,595</b>



# Pre-Intervention Prescribing Rate

<b>Antibiotic Prescribing Rate</b>		
	<i>Emergency Departments (ED)</i>	<i>Walk-in-Clinics</i>
<b>Bronchitis</b> n, (%)	594 (24.85%)	3126 (80.55%)
<b>Sinusitis</b> n, (%)	571 (82.28%)	10,810 (96.91%)
<b>Acute Otitis Media</b> n, (%)	1396 (90.60%)	10,702 (94.37%)

# Pre-Intervention Dosing: Pediatrics

Percentage of Appropriate Dosing	
Percentage of Appropriate Dosing	67.7%

Antibiotics Prescribed	
Amoxicillin	65%
Cefdinir	20%
Amoxicillin-Clavulanate	8%
Azithromycin	6%
Other*	1%

\*Cephalexin, sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim, clindamycin, cefprozil, erythromycin, cefpodoxime, cefuroxime, doxycycline

# Clinical Pathways

- Set of treatment recommendations with the aim of providing optimal standard-of-care recommendations for patients

Efficacy

Toxicity

Affordability

# Clinical Pathways

- Ideal pathways include:
  1. Structured multidisciplinary plan of care
  2. Translation of guidelines or evidence into an algorithm
  3. Detailed steps within the pathway along a timeframe in a course of treatment care plan
  4. Standardized care for a specific population

# Clinical Pathways versus Guidelines

Guidelines offer what they *could* do



Pathways offer what they *should* do



Neither say what they *must* do

# Recommended Stewardship Initiatives

## Proposed Dynamic Alerts

- Alerts when antibiotics are ordered for a disease state that likely does not need therapy
- Can be based on primary diagnosis code (i.e. bronchitis)
- Assist providers in reconsidering prescribing antibiotics or directing to recommended therapy

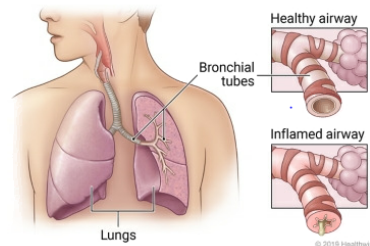
# Recommended Stewardship Initiatives

## Patient Education

- Attached to after visit summary (AVS)
- Explains disease state, appropriate therapies, and what to expect

### Bronchitis: Care Instructions

#### Your Care Instructions



Bronchitis is inflammation of the bronchial tubes, which carry air to the lungs. The tubes swell and produce mucus, or phlegm. The mucus and inflamed bronchial tubes make you cough. You may have trouble breathing.

Most cases of bronchitis are caused by viruses like those that cause colds. Antibiotics usually do not help and they may be harmful.

Bronchitis usually develops rapidly and lasts about 2 to 3 weeks in otherwise healthy people.

**Follow-up care is a key part of your treatment and safety.** Be sure to make and go to all appointments, and call your doctor if you are having problems. It's also a good idea to know your test results and keep a list of the medicines you take.

# Recommended Stewardship Initiatives

## Interventional modalities:

- Difficulty assessing clinical/subjective data for sinusitis and otitis media
  - Severity of symptoms
  - Duration of symptoms
- Will assist for future data pulls and assessment of appropriate antibiotic use



# Outcome Measurements

- Primary
  - Rate of antibiotic prescribing
- Secondary
  - Use of interventional modalities for subjective data documentation
  - Dosing and duration of antibiotics in pediatric patients

# Next Steps

Approval of clinical pathways by  
Medical Director of walk-in-clinics

Implement initiatives within walk-  
in-clinics

Obtain measurable data for  
analysis of stewardship initiatives

# Future Directions

- Implementation in ED setting
- Expand to Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Family Medicine offices
- Use of clinical pathways for other disease states

# Lessons Learned

Ensure correct  
multi-disciplinary  
team members

Set  
responsibility for  
specific tasks

Plan meeting  
and discussion  
times

Define clear  
feedback  
timelines

Have a provider  
champion

# ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

# Question #1

What is the purpose of a clinical pathway?

- A. Limit providers to treatment recommendations they must make for a specific patient.
- B. Walk providers through the various guideline recommendations for each specific disease state.
- C. Guide providers to appropriate treatment recommendations based on guidelines and expert recommendations.
- D. Explain how to diagnosis various infectious diseases in the outpatient setting.

# Question #1 - Answer

What is the purpose of a clinical pathway?

- A. Limit providers to treatment recommendations they must make for a specific patient.
- B. Walk providers through the various guideline recommendations for each specific disease state.
- C. Guide providers to appropriate treatment recommendations based on guidelines and expert recommendations.**
- D. Explain how to diagnosis various infectious diseases in the outpatient setting.

## Question #2

What treatment choice would be most appropriate to include in a dynamic alert within the EMR for a 6-year-old child who has had a persistent cough for around two weeks, recently treated with amoxicillin for an ear infection, and is diagnosed with acute bronchitis?

- A. Amoxicillin
- B. Amoxicillin-Clavulanate
- C. Ceftriaxone IM
- D. No therapy needed



## Question #2 - Answer

What treatment choice would be most appropriate to include in a dynamic alert within the EMR for a 6-year-old child who has had a persistent cough for around two weeks, recently treated with amoxicillin for an ear infection, and is diagnosed with acute bronchitis?

- A. Amoxicillin
- B. Amoxicillin-Clavulanate
- C. Ceftriaxone IM
- D. No therapy needed**

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# References

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