

**SELECTED PROCEDURES ONLY**

Prophylaxis **not** required for:

- Lymph node biopsy
- Clean skin and soft tissue surgery
- Uncomplicated skin abscess incision and drainage
- Hernia repair without prosthetic material
- Uncomplicated cystoscopy/ureteroscopy
- Tonsillectomy, adenoidectomy
- Clean non-extensive head and neck surgery
- Diagnostic endoscopic procedures
- ERCP • EUS-FNA
- Closed fracture reduction without fixation
- Cardiac catheterization without implantable device
- CVC insertion (unless port or immunocompromised)

**START CORRECT ANTIBIOTIC AT OPTIMAL TIME**

**If** prophylaxis required:

**Cephazolin 30 mg/kg (2 g) iv**

15-60 min before incision (inject over 5 min)

**If** intra-abdominal, pelvic, deep wound debridement,  
ischaemic limb, risk of bowel lumen entry, open fracture:

**Add Metronidazole 12.5 mg/kg (500 mg) iv**

Start 30-120 min before incision (infuse over 20 min)

**If** known (or risk of) MRSA colonisation or infection;  
or if reoperation (prosthetic cardiac valve, joint, vascular)

**Add Vancomycin 15 mg/kg (750 mg) iv**

Start infusion 30-60 min before incision (rate 10 mg/min)

**If** urological prosthesis:

**Add Gentamicin 2 mg/kg iv**

Start infusion 15-60 min before procedure; (5 mg/kg if procedure >6h)

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on behalf of RCH Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee.  
Based on Australian Therapeutic Guidelines – Antibiotic v15.

**SEVERE BETA LACTAM ALLERGY**  
Previous anaphylactic symptoms

*FOR MOST PROCEDURES, REPLACE CEPHAZOLIN WITH:*

**Vancomycin 15 mg/kg (750 mg) iv**

Start infusion 30-60 min before incision (rate 10 mg/min)

*FOR CARDIAC & VASCULAR SURGERY, USE:*

**Vancomycin 15 mg/kg (750 mg) iv**

Start infusion 30-60 min before incision (rate 10 mg/min)

**& Gentamicin 5 mg/kg (400 mg) iv**

Start infusion 15-60 min before procedure;

*FOR ENT SURGERY, USE:*

**Clindamycin 15 mg/kg (600 mg) iv**

15-60 min before incision

*FOR UPPER & LOWER GI SURGERY, USE:*

**Vancomycin 15 mg/kg (750 mg) iv**

Start infusion 30-60 min before incision (rate 10 mg/min)

**& Gentamicin 2 mg/kg) iv**

Start infusion 15-60 min before procedure; (5 mg/kg if procedure >6h

**& Metronidazole 12.5 mg/kg (500 mg) iv**

Start 30-120 min before incision (infuse over 20 min)

**SINGLE DOSE**

Single pre-op dose sufficient for most procedures

May need intra-op antibiotics if prolonged or blood loss:

- Every 8h (cephazolin, metronidazole, clindamycin) or 12h (vancomycin), or more frequently if cardiac bypass
- If excessive blood loss during surgery, give extra dose

**STOP**

Most procedures do not need post-op antibiotics

- Post-op antibiotics increase resistance and *C. difficile* risk
- Cardiac & orthognathic surgery **only** may need max 24 h
- Catheters or drains *in situ* are **not** a justification to extend