# Community Acquired Pneumonia – Improving the Time-to-Antibiotics in the Emergency Dept.

## The Problem

Timeliness of Antibiotic administration

***Antibiotics must be given within 4 hrs of patient to meet CMS criteria.***

## Aim/Goal

*Improve the percentage of patients who receive the correct antibiotic, by the correct route, within the CMS timeframe*

## The Team

- Shelly Calder R.N., Emergency Dept.
- Howard Gold M.D., Infectious Disease
- Chris McCoy PharmD, Pharmacy
- Lawrence Mottley M.D., Emergency Medicine

## The Interventions

- Developed a protocol to start evaluation and treatment at Triage, in appropriate patients.
- Just-in-time Reminders of CAP dosages in the Omnicell
- Reduced drug acquisition time by stocking in the ED all antibiotics required by protocol
- Developed a flow chart to select the correct antibiotic and route to conform with CMS requirements (Fig 1)

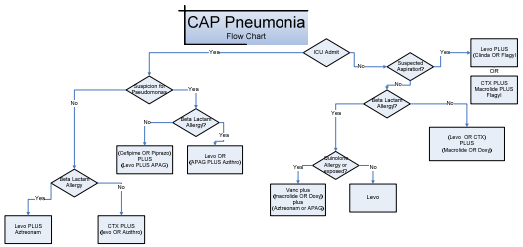


Fig 1

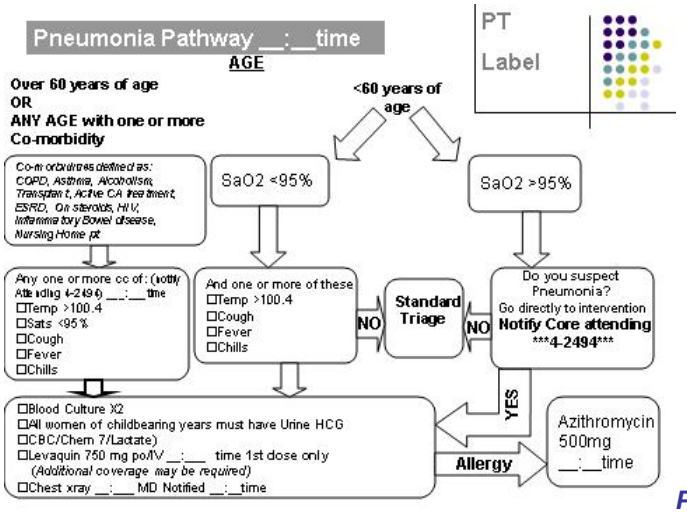


*Fig 2*

## Lessons Learned

Medical protocols to allow evaluation and initial treatment by professional nursing personnel are essential to achieve compliance.(Fig 2).
Documentation of accurate times is essential from provider to provider, as the sequence of events is as important as the timeliness.
CMS requires a complex stepwise process to determine the most appropriate antibiotic and route. A flow chart makes it easier to comply with this process.

## Next Steps/What Should Happen Next:

The flow chart for antibiotic choice will be automated through the ED Dashboard with an automatic antibiotic recommendation compliant with CMS guidelines.

## The Results/Progress to Date…….

*Data for the second quarter of the Federal year will be available later this year*

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | A teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School | The Silverman Institute For Healthcare Quality and Safety


**For More Information Contact**
Lawrence Mottley, MD
Vice Chair – Quality, Emergency Department
lmottley@bidmc.harvard.edu