

**Table 5.** Suggested antibiotics for empirical treatment of acute uncomplicated pyelonephritis

Antibiotic	Suggested dose and duration	Common side effects	Practice tips
<b>Amoxicillin-clavulanate</b>	875/125 mg BD x 10-14 days <sup>†</sup>	Diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, mucocutaneous candidiasis (including vulvovaginal candidiasis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contraindicated in patients with history of amoxicillin-clavulanate-associated jaundice/hepatic dysfunction or history of hypersensitivity to beta lactams.</li> <li>• No renal dose adjustment required in patients with CrCl &gt;30 mL/min. Refer to product insert for more information.</li> </ul>
If amoxicillin-clavulanate is not suitable			
<b>Cefuroxime axetil</b>	250-500 mg BD x 7-10 days	Headache, dizziness, GI disturbances including diarrhoea, nausea, abdominal pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No renal dose adjustment is required in patients with CrCl &gt;30 mL/min.</li> <li>• Contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to cephalosporin antibiotics.</li> <li>• A higher dose of oral cefuroxime axetil (500 mg BD) may be required to effectively treat acute uncomplicated pyelonephritis.</li> <li>• For patients with type 1 penicillin allergy, cross-reactivity to cefuroxime is unlikely due to structural differences in their side chains.<sup>37</sup> However, caution is still advised.</li> <li>• Medications that reduce gastric acidity (e.g., antacids, H2 antagonists, or proton pump inhibitors) may reduce the effectiveness of oral cefuroxime.</li> </ul>

A note about parenteral antibiotics: while the focus of this ACG is on oral antibiotics, in certain situations, parenteral antibiotics, or mixed parenteral followed by oral antibiotics, are effective and may be required to treat acute pyelonephritis. Examples of parenteral antibiotics may include ceftriaxone, cefuroxime sodium, or gentamicin. The availability of these antibiotics may vary depending on setting, hence referral may be required to access the appropriate treatment.

Dosing information, common side effects and practice points are based on information from local product information leaflet/product insert, reference guidelines and expert opinion.

BD, two times a day; CrCl, creatinine clearance; GI, gastrointestinal

<sup>†</sup>Treatment should not be extended beyond 14 days without review