



St. Paul's Hospital

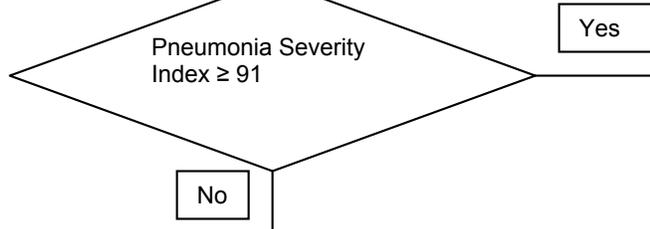
**Diagnostic and Treatment Unit / Emergency Department
GUIDELINES FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OF COMMUNITY ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA**

DATE: _____

Pneumonia Diagnosis confirmed in an immunocompetent adult with community acquired pneumonia on the basis of signs and symptoms + infiltrate on CXR¹

Absolute contraindications to outpatient Tx
SaO₂ < 90% R/A
Hemodynamic instability
Inability to tolerate PO medications

Pneumonia-Specific Severity of Illness Scoring (PSSI)²



Risk Class I
Consider Discharging Patient Home Outpatient Therapy

Risk Class II, III
Consider discharging patient or Admit to DTU for further observation and treatment

Other factors
Frail physical condition
Unstable living situation

Risk class IV, V
Consider Admission to Hospital
Start Antibiotics within 4 hrs of presentation to Emergency Department

Discharge Home:
Outpatient Empiric Antibiotic Recommendations³
-Discharge Patient Information Sheet⁴

Admit DTU if criteria met. Timeframe: < 12 hours

Meets DTU Discharge Criteria?

Consult CTU (Medicine-CAP Pre-printed orders)

Pneumonia Severity Index Score (PSSI) ²		
Patient Characteristic	Points Assigned	Patient's Score
Age/Males	Age (Yrs)	
Age/Females	Age - 10	
Nursing Home Resident	+ 10	
Comorbid Illness		
Neoplastic Disease	+ 30	
Liver Disease	+ 20	
Congestive Heart Failure	+ 10	
Renal Disease	+ 10	
Physical Examination		
Altered Mental Status	+ 20	
Respiratory Rate \geq 30	+ 20	
Systolic BP < 90mmHg	+ 20	
Temp < 35°C or \geq 40	+ 15	
Pulse \geq 125/min	+ 10	
Laboratory Findings		
PH < 7.35	+ 30	
BUN \geq 11.0 mmol/L	+ 20	
Sodium < 130mmol/L	+ 20	
Glucose \geq 14 mmol/L	+ 10	
Hematocrit < 30%	+ 10	
PaO ₂ < 60mmHg or O ₂ sat < 90%	+ 10	
Pleural Effusion	+ 10	
	Total Score	

¹ Exclusion Criteria: HIV+ve, ?TB, Cystic fibrosis, Positive S. Aureus
² Fine MJ et al. "A Prediction rule to identify low risk patients with community acquired pneumonia." *New England Journal of Medicine* 336: 243-50, 1997.
³ Outpatient Empiric Antibiotic Recommendations: Appendix 2
⁴ Discharge Instruction Sheet: Appendix 3