



# Antibiotics for the Management of Endodontic Infections

## Efficacy of Antibiotics

- Ability to reach site of infection
- Concentration of antimicrobial (MIC)
- Susceptible vs. resistant bacteria
- Immune response of the host

## Conditions NOT requiring antibiotics

- Symptomatic pulpitis
- Symptomatic periodontitis
- Localized fluctuant swelling

## Indications for Adjunctive Antibiotics

### Systemic Involvement

- Fever > 100 degrees F
- Malaise
- Lymphadenopathy
- Trismus

## 1st Line - Empiric Antibiotic Therapy

- Pen VK 500 mg q4-6h (1000 mg loading dose)
- Amoxicillin 500 mg q8h (1000 mg loading dose)
- Augmentin 500 mg q8h (1000 mg loading dose)
- Clarithromycin (Biaxin) 250-500 mg q12h (500 mg loading dose)

## 2nd Line - Empiric Antibiotic Therapy

- Add Metronidazole (Flagyl) 500 mg q6h (1000 mg loading dose) to Pen VK 500 mg q6h

### or change to:

- Clindamycin (Cleocin) 300 mg q6h 600 mg loading dose

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**Antibiotic Prophylaxis: Dental extractions, periodontal procedures, placement of biomimetics, endodontic surgery, initial placement of ortho bands, intraligamentary local anaesthetic injections, prophylactic cleaning**

### Situation

Standard prophylaxis  
 Can't take oral meds  
 Allergic to penicillin

### Agent

**Amoxicillin**  
**Ampicillin**  
**Clindamycin**  
**Biaxin**  
**Clindamycin**

### Regimen

2.0 gm orally 1h before procedure  
 2.0 gm IM 30 mins prior to procedure  
 600 mg orally 1 h before procedure  
 500 mg orally 1 h before procedure  
 600 mg IV 30 mins prior to procedure

Allergy to Pen  
 Can't take oral meds