



Errori Comuni nella Terapia Antibiotica

Ragionata e Mirata

Genova 10 Giugno 2025

Francesco G. De Rosa
Associate Professor, Infectious Diseases
University of Turin, Italy

Fellow, Infectious Diseases Society of America

Disclosures

Consultant/advisory board/speaker fees

- Pfizer, MSD, Angelini, Tillots,
- Menarini, Thermo Fisher, Shionogi
- BioTest, Nordic Pharma, InfectoPharma
- Gilead Sciences, GSK, Hikma, Advanz, Correvio

Research grant

- Pfizer, MSD, Shionogi

Sbaglio & Errore

- **Primo Livello**
 - **Diagnostico**
 - Clinico
 - Microbiologico
- **Secondo Livello**
 - **Terapeutico**
- **Terzo Livello**
 - **Relapse / Recidiva**
- **Strategia clinica**
- **Epidemiologia locale**
- **Microbiologia**
- **Farmacologia**
- **Gestione del territorio**

Antibiotic Failure

Cunha BA, Ortega AM, Med Clin North Am 1995;79(3):663-72

- **Most common causes of antibiotic drug failure**

- Drug fevers
- Untreatable infectious diseases
 - Colonization & Infection
- Noninfectious diseases
- Incorrect or inadequate spectrum
- Emergence of resistant organisms
- Superinfections
- Drug interactions

Asymptomatic bacteriuria

Intrabdominal Infections

- **The most common mistake made with apparent antibiotic failure**

- Change or add additional antibiotics

Ten Common Mistakes in ICU Use of Antibiotics

Adamkova V Roxhl Chir 2024;103(3):79-83

- Over-prescribing
- Under-prescribing
- Overlooking toxicities
- Overlooking interactions
- Fungal Infections Diagnostics & Treatment Strategies
- (Not performing on antibiotic-free days)

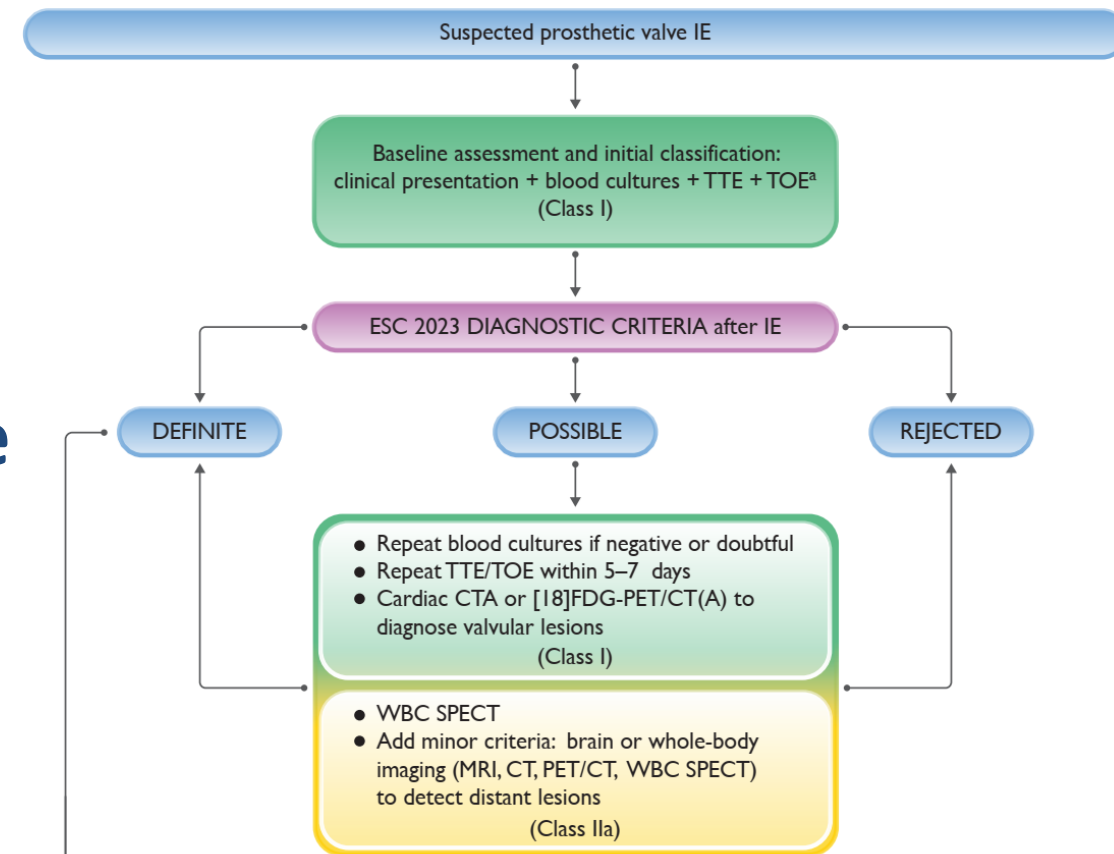
The Issue of Empiric Treatment

- Plenty of Expert Opinions
- Different risk factors
- Plenty of treatment algorithms
- Issue of local epidemiology
 - 20% as threshold
- How much empiric in the era of fast microbiology?
- Timings of treatment

Microbiologia

- **Sensibilità e specificità diagnostica**
 - Fast-track microbiology & colturali
- **Stewardship delle Emocolture**
 - Metrica e appropriatezza
- **Diagnostica delle endocarditi infettive**
 - Linee Guida 2023
- **Infezioni osteoarticolari**

2023 ESC Guidelines for the management of endocarditis



**Meta-analysis: 86% sensitivity and 84% specificity
for [18F]FDG-PET/CT in PVE**

Farmacologia

- Dosaggio
- Infusione
- Interazioni
- Albuminemia & Funzione Renale
- TDM
 - One or Two legs?

The “Finlandogram”

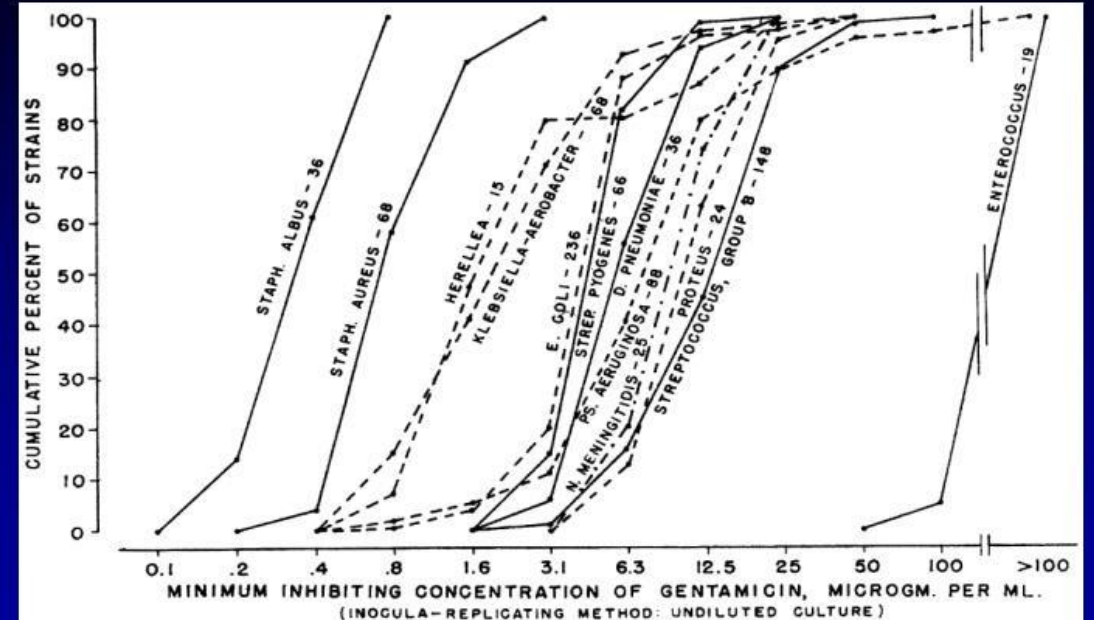


Fig. 1.—Antibacterial spectrum of gentamicin.

Evaluating Antibiotic Prophylaxis Adherence: Implications For Surgical Site Infections And Wound Care Management

Veloza BC et al. J Tissue Viability 2024;33(3):412-417

- **527 participants recruited, a 30-day follow-up was completed by 78.7 % (n = 415)**
 - Incidence of SSI **9.4 % (n = 39)**
 - Dehiscence most prevalent complication **64.1 % (n = 25)**
 - Increased exudate **51.3 % (n = 20)**
- **Low adherence to the antibiotic prophylaxis protocol** **1.7 % (n = 7)**
- **Increased risk of SSI for every protocol mistake made** **60%**
- **Excessive antibiotic treatment** **17.8 % (n = 74)**
- **Overall mortality rate** **13.5 % (n = 56)**
- **Deaths attributed to SSI** **1% (n=4)**
- **→ Pressing global necessity to enhance antibiotic management**

Oral Neomycin and Bacitracin are Effective in Preventing Surgical Site Infections in Elective Colorectal Surgery: A Multicentre, Randomized, Parallel, Single-blinded Trial (COLORAL-1)

Arezzo A et al. Updates Surg 2021;73(5):1775-1786

- **OIVA Group (N = 100) & IVA (N = 104)**
 - Oral Neomycin and Bacitracin 24 h before surgery + IV Amox/Clav
- **Mechanical Bowel Preparation**
 - According to local habits, not changed for the study
- **SSI Significant Reduction:** **p = 0.010**
- **3 SSIs (3.4%)**

– OIVA	3 (3.4%)
– IVA	14 (14.4%)
– No difference was observed in terms of anastomotic leak	

•

Real-Life Perspectives



Common Errors in Treatment of Periprosthetic Joint Infection

Li C & Trampuz A Int Orthop 2020;44(1):3-14

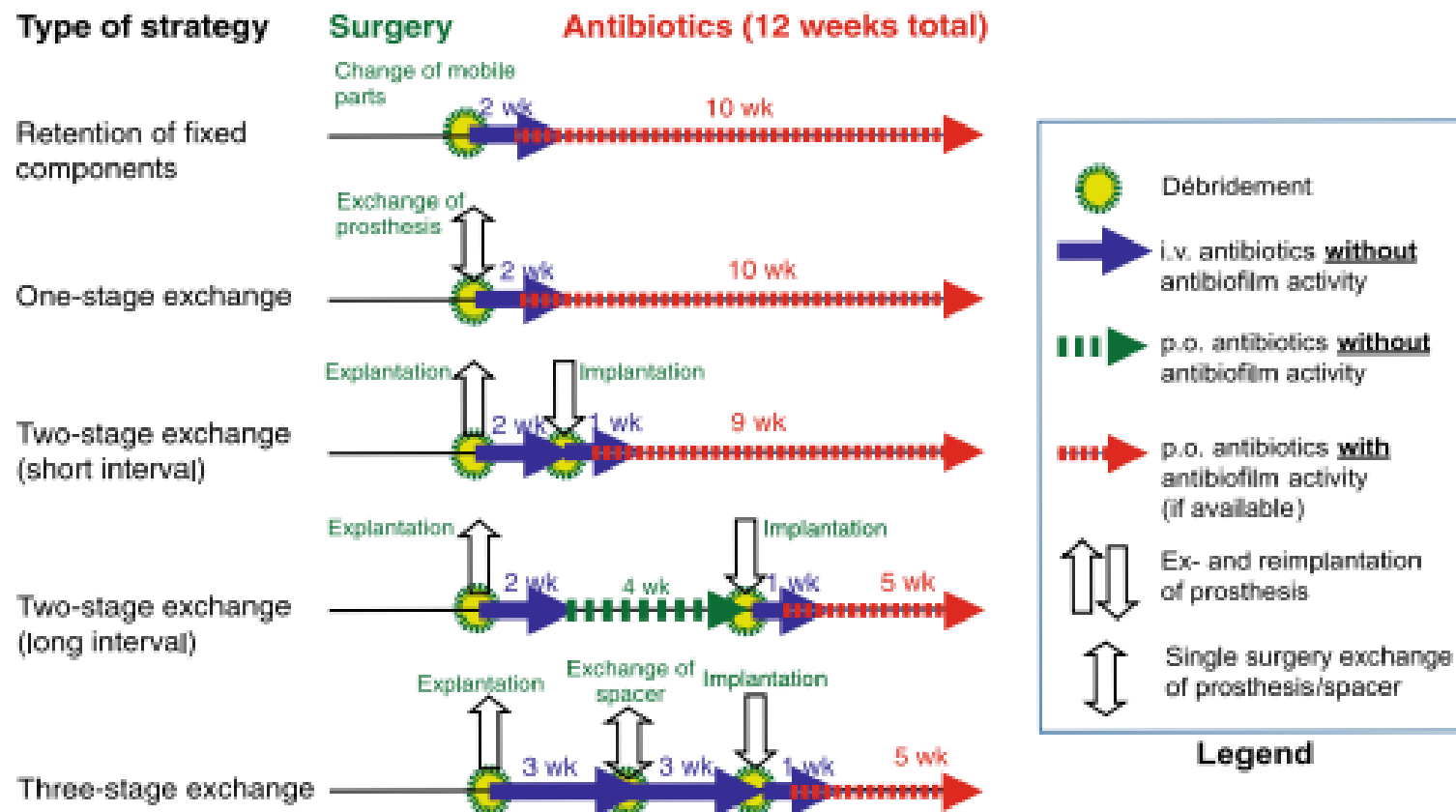
- **Conservative treatment with antibiotics in early infections**
- **Antibiotic treatment prior to microbiological diagnosis**
- **Errors in selection of antibiotics**
- **Failure to individualize treatment**
- **Arthroscopic lavage for PJI treatment**
- **Insufficient debridement or incomplete exchange of implants**
- **High-pressure pulse lavage during surgery**
- **Errors using antibiotic-loaded cement spacers**
- **Antibiotic «holiday» and joint aspiration before re-implantation in two-stage exchange surgery**
- **Inadequate management of soft tissues**
- **Lack of multidisciplinary teamwork**

Common Errors in Treatment of Periprosthetic Joint Infection

Li C & Trampuz A

Int Orthop 2020;44(1):3-14

SURGICAL PROCEDURES



Low Utilization of Lead Extraction Among Patients With Infective Endocarditis and Implanted Cardiac Electronic Devices

Sciria CT et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2023;81(17):1714-1725

After adjustment for comorbidities, TLE associated with significantly lower mortality adjusted OR: 0.47; 95% CI: 0.37-0.60 by multivariable logistic regression, and adjusted OR: 0.51; 95% CI: 0.40-0.66 by propensity score matching

- Utilization of lead extraction among patients with CIEDs and endocarditis is low
- Lead extraction management is associated with significantly lower mortality

***Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteraemia, Cardiac Implantable Electronic Device, Extraction, & Risk of Recurrent Infection**
Berge A et al. Infect Dis (Lond) 2024;56(7):543-553

- **Low extraction rates & few recurrences**
- **Possible caution with extraction**
 - Undetected pocket infection**
 - Undetected changes on the CIED**
 - No definite endocarditis**

Key Priorities for Implementation of the 2023 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Endocarditis in Low-Resource Settings

Borger MA et al. Eur Heart J Qual Care Clin Outcomes 2025

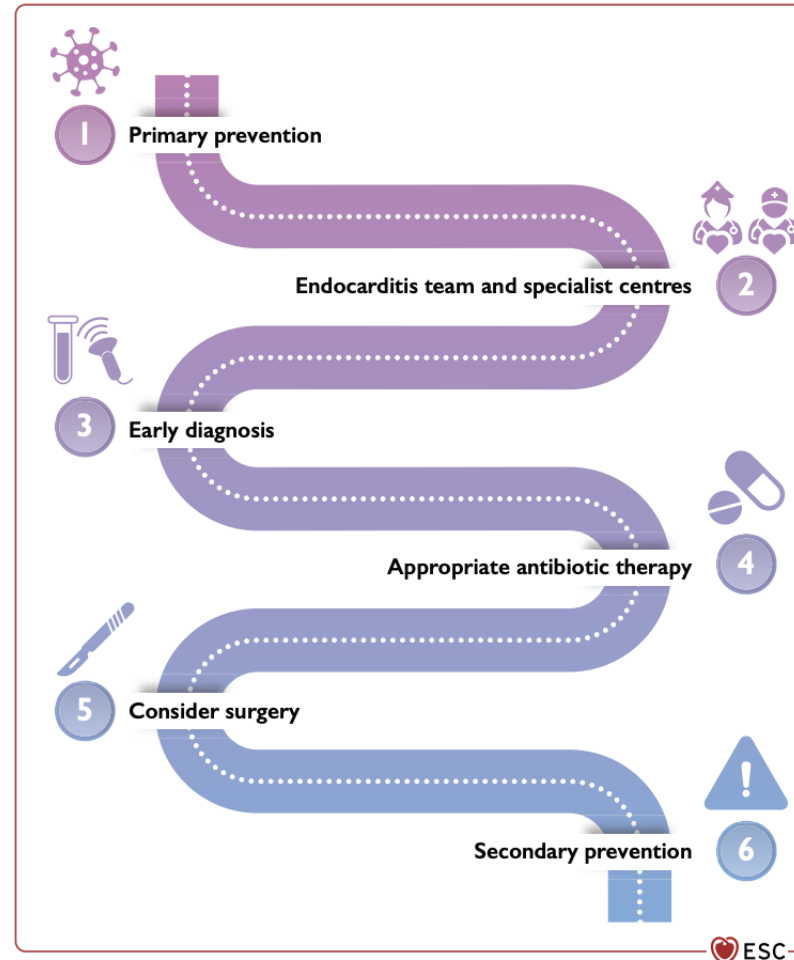


Figure 2 The six key priorities for the implementation of the 2023 ESC Guidelines for the management of endocarditis in low-resource settings.

Health Economic Evaluation of Antimicrobial Stewardship, Procalcitonin Testing, and Rapid Blood Culture Identification in Sepsis Care: A 90-Day Model-Based, Cost-Utility Analysis

Sligl WI et al. *Pharmacoecon Open*. 2024 Nov 19

- **Decision tree model-based cost-effectiveness analysis**
 - Two ICUs in Alberta with 727 adult critically ill patients
- **Primary outcome: Cost per sepsis case**
- **Secondary outcomes:**
 - Readmission rates, *Clostridioides difficile* infections, mortality, and lengths of stay
- **Lower mean expected cost in the intervention group**
- **\$110,580 Vs. \$125,745, with a difference of \$15,165**
- **No statistically significant differences in quality adjusted life years (QALYs)**
- **The bundled intervention of ASP, PCT, and BCID**
 - Potentially cost-effective
 - Substantial decision uncertainty

Antibiotic Stewardship in the ICU: Time to Shift into Overdrive

Mokrani D et al. Ann Intensive Care 2023;13(1):39

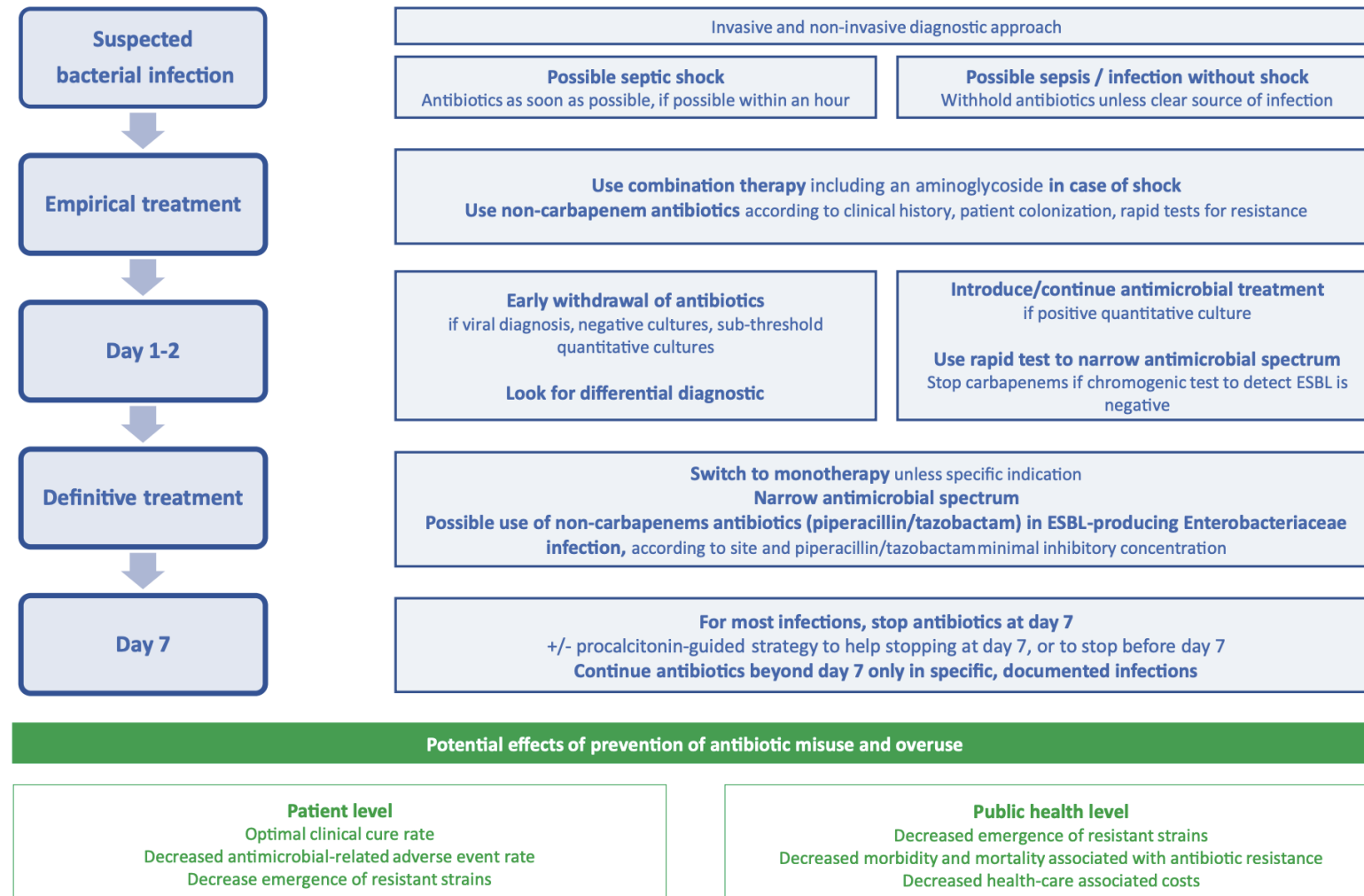
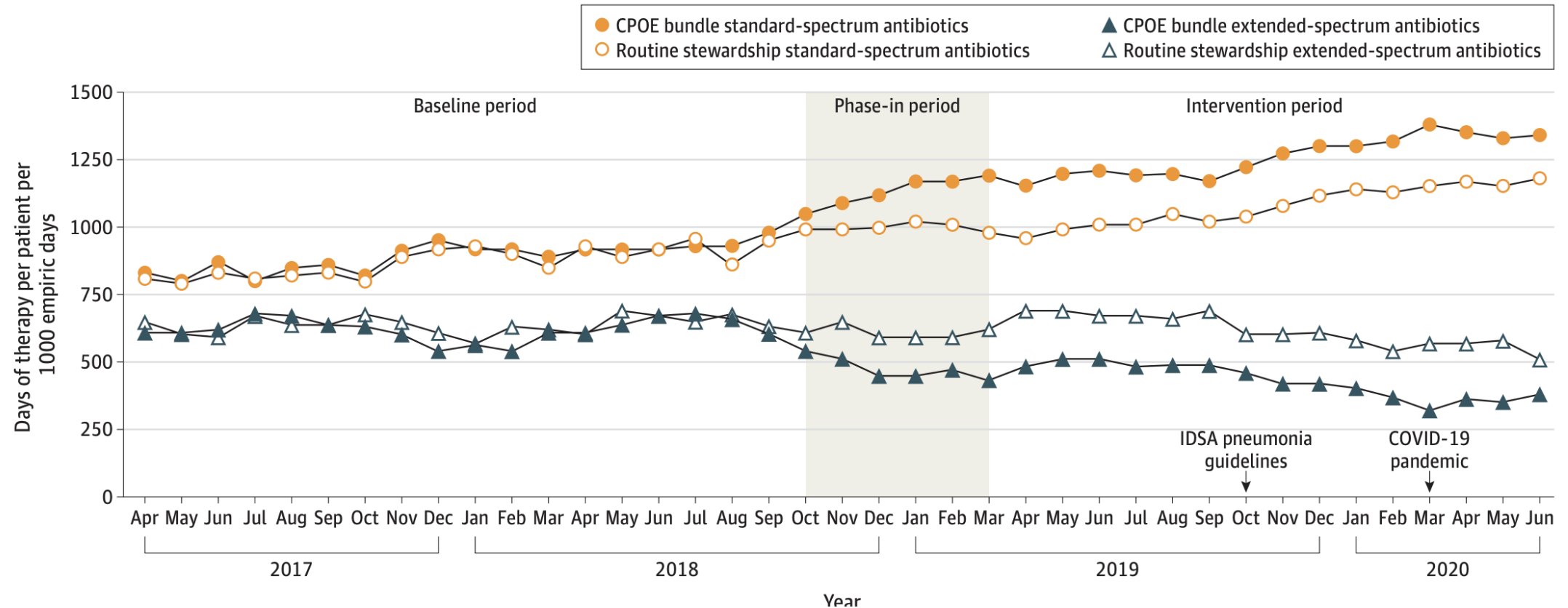


Fig. 2 Proposed algorithm to decrease antimicrobial consumption in the ICU (in blue) and potential beneficial effects of reducing antibiotics consumption (in green). *ESBL* extended-spectrum beta-lactamase

Stewardship of Pneumonia in ICU: The INSPIRE Randomized Trial

Figure 2. Monthly Empiric Extended- and Standard-Spectrum Antibiotic Days of Therapy in the Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) Bundle vs Routine Stewardship Across the Baseline and Intervention Periods

A Extended and standard-spectrum empiric days of therapy in patients with pneumonia



Personal Opinion: Areas of Improvement

- **Appropriate consideration of:**
 - Differential diagnosis
 - Individualization of diagnosis and treatment
- **Follow guidelines**
- **Tricks & Timings**
 - Local Epidemiology and pathomorphosis
- **Build a treatment strategy rather than administer drugs**
 - De-escalation and duration of treatment