

Clinical Commissioning Group

Standard Operating Procedure for the Management of Clostridium difficile TOXIN positive cases within General Practice

Receive notification from PAHT laboratory services of a TOXIN positive Clostridium difficile.

Contact patient, review symptoms and inform them of the result

Review antibiotics and stop everything where possible – including UTI prophylaxis.

Review PPI usage and consider stopping¹, de-escalating dose or changing to H2 antagonist where clinically appropriate.

Prescribe appropriate antibiotics (take advice from Microbiology if required – 0161 656 1641/2). However the general advice would be:

1st episode (mild) - Metronidazole 400mg tds for 10 days

1st episode (moderate/severe) & 2nd episode (whatever the time span between episode 1 and 2) - Vancomycin 250mg qds for 14 days.

 3^{rd} episode (within 1 yr – if longer duration and patient not too unwell treat as 2^{rd} episode).

3rd episode - Vancomycin 250mg qds for 14 days then taper; 125mg qds for 7 days; 125mg tds for 7 days; 125mg bd for 7 days; 125mg od for 7 days; 125mg alt day for 7 days; 125mg every 3rd day for 2 doses then stop.

If concerns remain then discuss with Microbiology appropriateness of alternative therapy.

Discuss (with Microbiology) all relapses and all cases where patient is troubled with symptoms that are not settling or are severe in the first episode. Also discuss any cases where patients are particularly vulnerable e.g. on chemotherapy; v frail etc... and symptoms are not improving or are deteriorating.

Advise the patient / carer that they should re-contact the GP if symptoms are not improving or getting worse.

For vulnerable patients, it is advised to review the patient clinically ASAP (take WCC / CRP / U&Es) & undertake 2nd review at 48 -72hrs.

FOR ALL CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE TOXIN (EIA or PCR)
POSITIVE CASES DO NOT RE-TEST

Public Health Infection Prevention & Control Team based at OMBC notify Oldham CCG of Toxin positive cases.

Oldham CCG request GP to complete Root Cause Analysis (RCA) via email.

Email completed RCA securely by the due date to

Sharon.butterworth@nhs.net

IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS IN A NURSING / CARE HOME, THEY MUST BE ISOLATED UNTIL THEY ARE 48hrs SYMPTOM FREE