

# Periorbital/Orbital Cellulitis

## Clinical Practice Guideline

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- Less than 1 year old
- Traumatic eye injury
- Prior eye or sinus surgery
- Abnormal eye or maxillary-facial anatomy
- Known immunocompromise or malignancy
- Clinical signs of severe sepsis/shock

**Patient presents with diffusely red, tender, swollen eyelid/periorbital area**

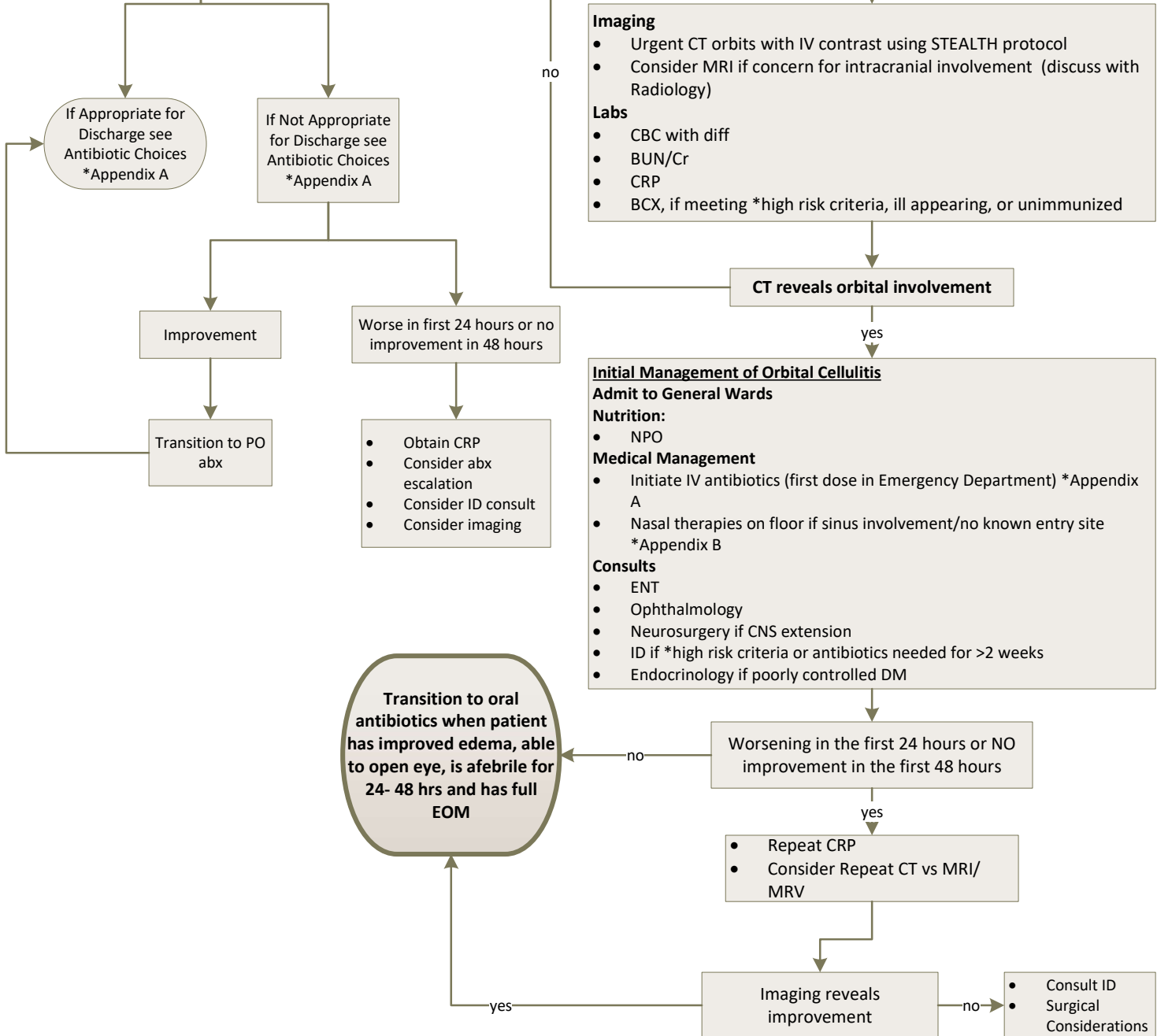
**\*High Risk Patients include any patients with following conditions/circumstances:**

- Failed course of appropriate outpatient antibiotics
- Use of any immune-modulating medications (ie. Chronic steroids, biologics, chemotherapeutics)
  - Concern for CNS infection
  - ANC <1000
- Poorly controlled diabetes mellitus (Hgb A1c >7.5)

Any proptosis, pain or restricted EOM, severe or persistent headache, vision changes  
**OR** ill appearance +/- fever  
**OR** age <3 yo/limited exam  
**OR** meets \*high risk criteria

**Consider Periorbital Cellulitis**

**Consider Orbital Cellulitis**



## Appendix A

<b>Orbital Cellulitis</b>					
	Drug	Dose	Route	Frequency	Notes
<b>First-Line</b>	Ampicillin/sulbactam	75mg of ampicillin/kg/dose	IV	Q6h	Max 2g ampicillin/dose
<b>Unimmunized for age</b>	Ceftriaxone	50mg/kg/dose	IV	Q24h	Max 2g/dose
<b>MRSA suspected<sup>1</sup></b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	IV	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose
<b>History of clindamycin-resistant MRSA<sup>2</sup></b>	Ampicillin/sulbactam AND Vancomycin	75mg of ampicillin/kg/dose  Use Vancomycin Panel in Epic	IV	Q6h  Per panel	Max 2g ampicillin/dose
<b>Allergy to first-line therapy</b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	IV	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose  If unimmunized for age, add ceftriaxone 50mg/kg/dose (max 2g/dose)
<b>Concern for imminent sight-threatening infection based on exam by ophthalmology</b>	Ampicillin/sulbactam AND Vancomycin	75mg of ampicillin/kg/dose  Use Vancomycin Panel in Epic	IV	Q6h  Per panel	If penicillin allergy, use vancomycin (per panel) + ceftriaxone 50mg/kg/dose q24h (max 2g/dose) + metronidazole 10mg/kg/dose (max 500mg/dose) q8h
<b>Concern for CNS extension on exam<sup>3</sup> or imaging</b>	Vancomycin AND Ceftriaxone AND Metronidazole	Use Vancomycin Panel in Epic 50mg/kg/dose  10mg/kg/dose	IV	Per Panel  Q24h  Q8h	Max 2g/dose  Max 500mg/dose

**Duration:** 14-21 days (consider >14 days if presence of abscess, complicated course or slow to improve)

Microbes to consider: *S. pneumoniae*, *S. pyogenes*, anginosus group streptococci (*S. anginosus*, *constellatus* & *intermedius*), *H. influenzae*, *M. catarrhalis*, *S. aureus*, oral anaerobes. Consider Gram-negative rods s/p trauma.

If surgery performed, tailor therapy based on operative culture results.

<sup>1</sup>MRSA suspected: history of MRSA infection or frequent SSTI in patient or immediate family members

<sup>2</sup>Approximately 80% of MRSA locally are susceptible to clindamycin. If patient has a history of clindamycin-resistant MRSA< add vancomycin to ampicillin-sulbactam.

<sup>3</sup>Signs of optic nerve or CNS involvement:

- Change in visual acuity
- Severe headache
- Pupillary defect
- Altered mental status
- Bilateral symptoms
- Seizure

## Periorbital Cellulitis

	Drug	Dose	Route	Frequency	Notes
<b>Known Entry Site<sup>1</sup></b>					
<b>First Line Oral</b>	Cephalexin	20mg/kg/dose	PO	Q8h	Max 1g/dose
<b>Oral Alternative - Cephalosporin allergy or MRSA suspected</b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	PO	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose
<b>First Line IV</b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	IV	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose
<b>IV Alternative - Clindamycin allergy</b>	Vancomycin	Per panel	IV	Per panel	
<b>No known entry (often associated with sinusitis or unimmunized)</b>					
<b>First Line Oral</b>	Amoxicillin-clavulanate	45mg/kg/dose	PO	Q12h	Max 2g/dose
<b>Oral Alternative – Penicillin allergy</b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	PO	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose
<b>First Line IV</b>	Ampicillin-sulbactam	75mg of ampicillin/kg/dose	IV	Q6h	Max 2g ampicillin/dose
<b>IV Alternative – Penicillin allergy</b>	Clindamycin	13mg/kg/dose	IV	Q8h	Max 600mg/dose

Duration: 7 days

Microbes to consider: *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, oral anaerobes, *Strep pneumoniae*. *H influenzae* now uncommon in immunized children.

<sup>1</sup>Known entry site: evidence of scratch or trauma on history or physical exam

## Appendix B

### Systemic Steroids

Systemic steroids are generally not recommended as there is no evidence that they improve recovery in orbital cellulitis. May consider on a case by case basis as per consultants

### Nasal Therapies in Orbital Cellulitis

Age	Treatment
1-4 years old	Nasal Saline spray (Ocean Spray) TID
	*Oxymetazoline nasal spray: 1 spray in each nare twice daily; Maximum duration of therapy: 3 days
4 years or older	Nasal Saline spray (ie. Ocean Spray) TID
	(Could consider saline irrigation in child with more severe sinus disease after discussion with ENT)
	*Oxymetazoline nasal spray: 2 sprays in each nostril twice daily; Maximum duration of therapy: 3 days
	Upon completion of oxymetazoline start Fluticasone propionate: 1 spray (50 mcg/spray) in each nostril once a day

\*Oxymetazoline FDA approved for children >6 years old and should only be used for pediatric inpatients under supervision  
Fluticasone approved for children aged 4yrs and older (once daily until 12yo; 1-2 sprays BID for children. >12yo and adults)