

BACTERIAL SKIN INFECTIONS AND CHOOSING THE CORRECT ANTIBIOTIC

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Skin infections can be superficial like impetigo and folliculitis which should be treated with topical agents, but could also involve deep tissue and necrotic infections requiring systemic antibiotics. Severe infections are often associated with bacteremia and in the most severe cases - septic shock. Early initiation of the most appropriate antibiotic can be limb and life-saving. There have been remarkable advances in antibiotic development in the last few years including antibiotics that can be delivered once a week or even just 1 dose to treat conditions that would previously need 14-days of antibiotics. This presentation will describe commonly seen cutaneous bacterial infections and the guidelines regarding choice of the appropriate antibiotics.