

Why So Much Vancomycin and Piperacillin/Tazobactam Usage Given Known Risks of Nephrotoxicity

Andrea H Son, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP, Nina Naeger Murphy, PharmD, BCPS-AQ ID, Christina Wadsworth, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, BCGP, Milana Bogorodskaya, MD, Michelle T Hecker, MD

Contact information: Email: ason@metrohealth.org Phone: 216-778-2347

Background

Despite years of published data describing the increased risk of nephrotoxicity with use of vancomycin and piperacillin/tazobactam (VPT), this combination remains one of the most utilized antibiotic combinations at our institution. There is limited data describing the appropriateness of empiric use of this broad-spectrum regimen.

Study Objectives

Primary Objective

• To evaluate the appropriateness of the anti-methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), anti-pseudomonal, and anti-anaerobic spectrum of activity for patients empirically treated with this combination

Secondary Objectives

- To evaluate rates of de-escalation of empiric therapy based on culture results
- To describe the diagnostic evaluation in patients started on VPT

Methods

Setting: MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio

- Academic teaching hospital
- Formal active antimicrobial stewardship program since 2012

Design: Quality improvement study

• Data was collected from MetroHealth's electronic medical record, EPIC®

Timeframe: October 1st, 2019 – March 31st, 2020

Inclusion Criteria

- Patients \geq 18 years of age
- Patients who received more than 1 dose of VPT from October 2019 through March 2020
- Randomly selected 100 unique patients

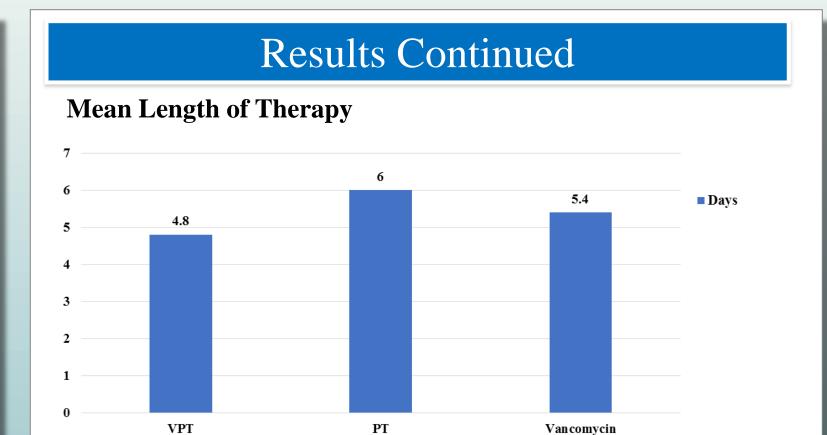
Exclusion Criteria

No additional exclusion criteria

Results	
Baseline Characteristics (n=100)	
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Age (range)	56 (19 – 84)
Gender, Male	62
DM	26
Immunocompromised condition	24
COPD/ Interstitial lung disease	16
History of MRSA	11
History of PSDA	11
CKD	9
IVDU	8
History of AKI	5
Cirrhosis	4
History of MSSA	3

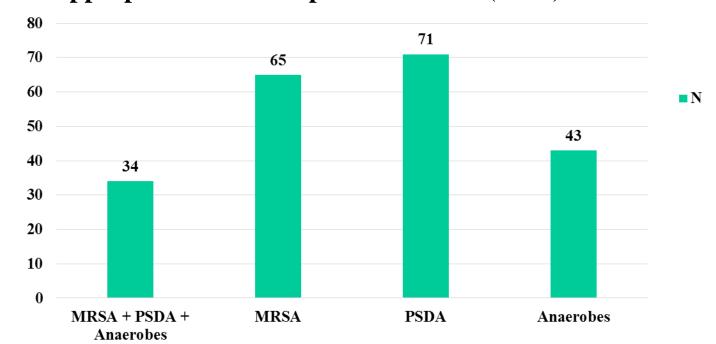
Indications for VPT

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Indication	n	
Pneumonia	47	
Community Acquired Pneumonia		25
Hospital-/ Ventilator Acquired Pneumonia		19
Empyema		3
Skin and Soft Tissue/ Bone/ Joint Infection	30	
Osteomyelitis		8
Non-Purulent Cellulitis		6
Ulcer/ Wound Infection		6
Abscess/ Perirectal Abscess		5
Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infection		2
Hardware Infection		1
Preseptal Cellulitis		1
Cat Bite		1
Bacteremia	10	
Intra-abdominal Infection	5	
Sepsis	2	
Fever	5	
Urosepsis/ Pyelonephritis/ Urinary Tract Infection	3	
Central Nervous System Infection	2	
Sinusitis	2	
Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Infection	1	



Primary Objective:

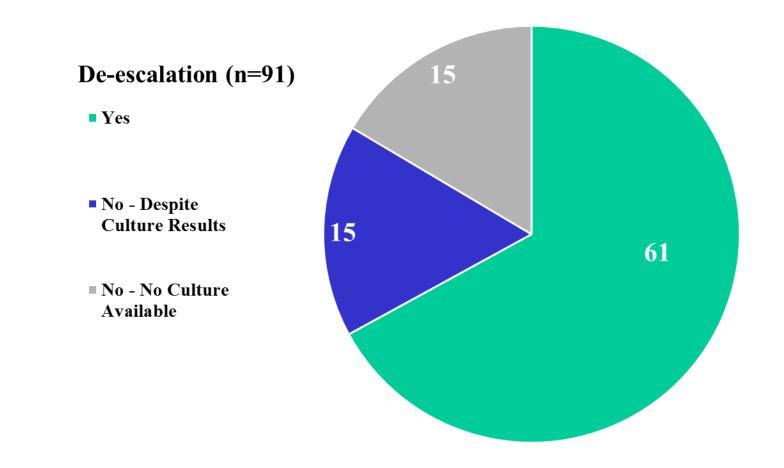
- VPT was used as empiric treatment in 96 patients
- Appropriateness of empiric treatment (n=96)

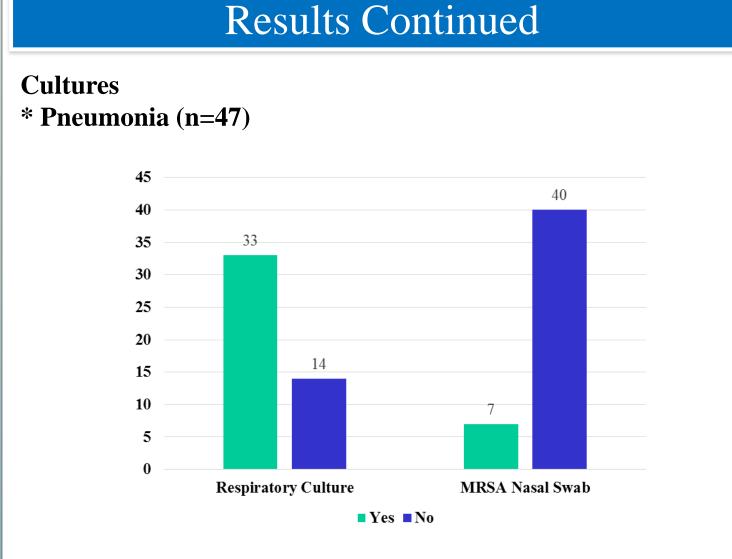


Secondary Objectives:

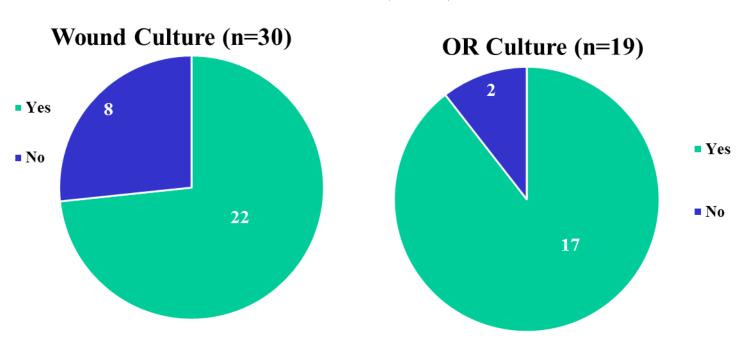
De-escalation of Empiric Therapy

• VPT was required in 5 patients based on culture results





• ABSSSI/ Bone/Joint Infection (n=30)



Conclusions

- At our institution VPT use was usually empiric and unnecessarily broad for the syndrome being treated
- Microbiologic testing was suboptimal and may have resulted in prolonged therapy

Future Directions

- Prospective audit and feedback for patients on VPT
- VPT antibiotic time out best practice advisory in the electronic medical record
- Hospital wide education session
- Follow up drug utilization evaluation

Disclosures

None of the authors have anything to disclose