



Community-acquired Pneumonia in Children

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Every year infants and children are seen in local clinics or emergency rooms for pneumonia. Often times hospital admission is necessary to adequately stabilize and treat the patient who is more critically ill. The incidence varies by season and by geography. The microbiology for community acquired pneumonia in this population is less varied. *Streptococcus pneumoniae* remains the number one cause of community-acquired pneumonia. Having the conjugated pneumococcal vaccine has benefited this age group but has not eradicated the disease. Group A streptococcus, *Moraxella*, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Staphylococcus aureus*, including MRSA, continue to be on the list of bacteria causing pneumonia in otherwise healthy children. Complications arise with associated sepsis syndrome, empyema and with antibiotic resistance. Atypical bacteria such as *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* and *Chlamydia pneumoniae* occur in the young patients although perhaps not as commonly as in adults. This topic will be addressed in the session on Pediatric Issues.