Acute Hematogenous Osteomyelitis (AHOM) Treatment Protocol at Palmetto Health Children’s Hospital

Inclusion criteria:

1. Hospitalized at PHCH
2. Acute (< 2 weeks) Hematogenous Osteomyelitis
3. Ability to take enteral medication
4. Age < 18 years old

Exclusion criteria:

1. Significant co-morbid condition such as immunocompromised (sickle cell, cancer, etc.)
2. Admission to the NICU or PICU
3. Persistent bacteremia
   a. 3 positive daily blood cultures after initiation of appropriate antibiotics
4. Post-surgical osteomyelitis; Recent trauma; Chronic osteomyelitis

Protocol (when AHOM suspected):

- Consult Orthopedics and Infectious Disease
- Obtain Baseline Labs:
  o Blood Culture
  o BMP/CBC
  o CRP
  o ESR
- Surgical intervention(s) as recommended per Pediatric Orthopedics
- Start patient on Vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV q6-8h* until sensitivities are available or cultures are negative at 48 hours
  o Add Ceftriaxone 75 mg/kg/dose IV q24h* (max 2000 mg/dose) for patient age 3 – 36 months
- Repeat CRP every other day
- Repeat CBC as clinically indicated
- When sensitivities are available (or at 48 hours if all cultures negative); adjust intravenous antibiotics (usually switch to clindamycin or cefazolin)
  o Clindamycin 13 mg/kg/dose IV q8h* (max 900 mg/dose)
  o Cefazolin 50 mg/kg/dose IV q8h* (max 2000 mg/dose)

*Dosing is for patients >28 days old with normal renal function

Criteria for Transition to Oral Antibiotics / Discharge:

1. Clinically improving
2. At least 2-4 days of IV treatment
3. Two consecutive decreases in CRP
4. The patient can tolerate oral therapy
5. The patient tolerates a dose of the home oral therapy in the hospital
6. Highly encourage the concierge service supplying a 30 day supply of the antibiotic to ensure taste preference (same as inpatient dose) and reduce compliance issues related to travel to the pharmacy
7. Weekly follow up with ID and follow up with pediatric orthopedics

Criteria for completing therapy

1. Clinically resolved
2. CRP < 20mg/L
3. At least 20 days of antibiotic therapy total from start of appropriate empiric therapy

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