FECAVA Advice on Responsible Use of Antimicrobials

Should I use antimicrobials in this patient?

Use this chart to:
- Support your decision making
- Avoid unnecessary antimicrobial use

Indications where systemic antimicrobial use is normally unnecessary

“Preventive use” in healthy animals
- Routine dental descaling and polishing
- Treatment of in-contact but unaffected cohort animals
- Before mating/at weaning time

Surgery of uninfected/uncontaminated tissue
- Routine castrations and spays
- Routine laparotomy
- Caeusarsection
- Removal of non-infected tumors
- Clean orthopaedic surgery of short duration (< 1.5 hours)
- Neurosurgery
- Reconstructive surgery, cataract, skin flaps, etc.

Uncomplicated conditions of known or suspected viral aetiology
- Acute canine cough
- Acute gastrointestinal infection
- Feline upper respiratory viral infections
- Feline calicivirus infection
- Feline leukaemia virus (FeLV) Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) infections
- Rhinosis

Other conditions without pathogenic bacterial involvement
- Feline lower urinary tract disease (FLUTD)
- Juvenile vaginitis
- Acute conjunctivitis
- Chronic bronchitis
- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
- Prostatic hyperplasia or prostatic cysts
- Anal sac inflammation/engorgement without abscession
- Wounds with well established granulation tissue

Conditions likely to respond to antiseptics or other topical agents
- Uncomplicated skin lesions or mildly infected wounds and bites
- Surface and suppurative pyoderma
- Staphylococcal skin diseases
- Otitis externa
- Periodontal disease

Other uncomplicated conditions with bacterial aetiology
- Bile abscesses in cats
- Salmonella gastroenteritis
- Campylobacter sp. gastroenteritis
- Clostridium difficile gastroenteritis

This table provides examples and should not be considered comprehensive.