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[Discharge Education](#)

[Antibiogram](#)

[Antibiotic Dosing](#)

Exclusion Criteria:

- Suspected sepsis
- Animal/human bites
- Post-surgical site
- Suspected toxin mediated reaction
- Concern for deeper infection
- Concern for necrotizing infection
- Immunocompromised

Inpatient Criteria:

- Altered mental status
- Worsening despite 48 hours of appropriate oral antibiotics
- Unable to tolerate oral antibiotics
- Suspected Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome

Patient >60 day old with suspected skin and soft tissue infection

Risk Factors for MRSA:

- Personal history of MRSA
- Family history of MRSA
- Recent or frequent hospitalization

History and Physical

- Labs typically **NOT** needed (CBC and Inflammatory Markers)
- Blood culture typically **NOT** needed
- Consider wound culture if there is purulent drainage
- Consider ultrasound if need to determine abscess size

Does patient meet Inpatient criteria?

Yes → [Inpatient Algorithm](#)

No

[Paronychia \(images\)](#)

[Cellulitis or Erysipelas \(Images\)](#)

[Folliculitis \(images\)](#)

[Impetigo \(Images\)](#)

[Abscess \(Images\)](#)

Paronychia with Cellulitis?

No

Warm compresses + Incision & Drainage

Preferred
[PO cephalexin](#)

Alternative
[PO amoxicillin-clavulanate](#)

If severe cephalosporin allergy or risk for MRSA
[PO clindamycin](#)

Duration: 5 days

Folliculitis with Cellulitis?

No

≥ 5 Lesions or Lesions near mouth or Covering large surface area

Yes

Preferred
[PO cephalexin](#)

If severe cephalosporin allergy or risk for MRSA
[PO clindamycin](#)
 OR
[PO TMP-SMX](#)

Duration: 7 days

Does abscess require incision & drainage?

No

Warm compresses + [PO clindamycin](#) (inherently high risk for MRSA)

If severe cephalosporin allergy
[PO TMP-SMX](#)

Duration: 5 days

Incision & Drainage + [PO clindamycin](#) (inherently high risk for MRSA)

Alternative
[PO TMP-SMX](#)

Duration: 5 days

(There is little evidence for or against antibiotics for abscesses <2cm. Clinical judgment is needed.)

Incision & Drainage + Warm compresses + Topical mupirocin x 5 days

Topical mupirocin x 5 days

Recommend reevaluation by medical professional within 5 days if not improved. (Extend treatment to total of 7-10 days if not improved.)

Recommend reevaluation by medical professional within 5 days if not improved or sooner if worsening.