

Four Moments of Antibiotic Decision Making in Long-Term Care



1

Make the Diagnosis

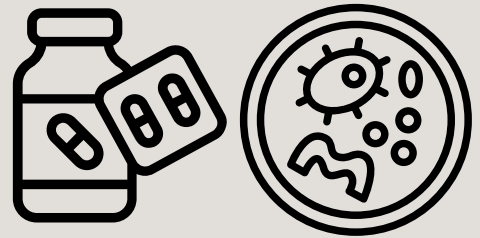
Does the resident have symptoms of infection?

- Fever
- Productive cough
- Dysuria
- Purulence from skin
- Warm, red skin

Cultures & Empiric Therapy

- What type of infection is it?
- Have the appropriate cultures been collected before starting antibiotics?
- What empiric therapy should be initiated?

2



3

Length of Therapy

- What duration of antibiotic therapy is needed for the diagnosis?
- Most bacterial infections need 7 days or less



Stop, Narrow, or Change to Oral

- Re-evaluate the resident, test results, and need for antibiotics after a couple of days.

4

