

2.17 Implementation of Azithromycin Prophylaxis Guidance in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda

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Background: This poster explores a quality improvement initiative on the use of prophylactic azithromycin at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital (OLOLH). Azithromycin prophylaxis has been shown to decrease the frequency of exacerbations in patients with chronic lung disorders. Patients starting azithromycin prophylaxis should be carefully chosen and continuously monitored to get maximal benefit with the least risk.

Methods: Three hundred and nineteen COPD Outreach patient files who attend OLOLH were reviewed to assess trends in the use of Azithromycin prophylaxis in OLOLH. Thirty-three patients were on prophylactic Azithromycin. Three patient cases were randomly selected in April 2022 to assess the initiation and review trends with the use of the HSE azithromycin audit tool (HSE, 2022).

Results: 10% of COPD patients who attend the OLOLH respiratory service are on Azithromycin and require regular follow up. The audit result revealed that there is 100% compliance with an Azithromycin prophylaxis initiation review, however the completion of the follow-up risk benefit analysis which should be completed every six to 12 months is low.

Conclusions: The candidate ANP conducted an education session on Azithromycin prophylaxis guidance for respiratory team, developed an Azithromycin initiation and review check list sticker, patient information leaflet and an ANP lead Azithromycin prophylaxis review clinic.

Reference: HSE 2022 azithromycin-prohylaxis-audit-tool-2022-0307.pdf <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/gp/antibiotic-prescribing/safe-prescribing/azithromycin-prohylaxis-audit-tool-2022-03-07.pdf>

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