Pneumonia

- To obtain the best results with a portable CXR, request a 2-view film and provide the reading radiologist with some background information.

- Patients are at risk for drug resistant organisms if they have been hospitalized or on antibiotics within the last 3 months or have a chronic indwelling device such as a trach, PICC line or Foley catheter. Patients with advanced COPD are also at risk for colonization with Pseudomonas.

- Inhalers are as effective as nebulizers for most patients.

- Treat a patient with pneumonia for 5-7 days assuming the patient has a good clinical response within the first 2-3 days of initiating antimicrobial therapy.

- Fluoroquinolone antibiotics are not the first line treatment for pneumonia as other antibiotics are just as efficacious in treating pneumonia in most patients and have a safer side effect profile.

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