









Domain-Specific Appendix: ANTIBIOTIC DOMAIN

REMAP-CAP: Randomized, Embedded, Multifactorial Adaptive Platform trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia

Antibiotic Domain-Specific Appendix Version 2 dated 12 December 2017

Summary

In this domain of the REMAP-CAP trial, participants with community-acquired pneumonia admitted to participating intensive care units will be randomized to receive one of up to 5 antibiotic interventions depending on availability and acceptability:

- Ceftriaxone + Macrolide
- Moxifloxacin or Levofloxacin
- Piperacillin-tazobactam + Macrolide
- Ceftaroline + Macrolide
- Amoxicillin-clavulanate + Macrolide

At this participating site the following interventions have been selected within this domain:

Beta-lactam and Macrolide Options				
Beta-L	actam interventions for this site		option	ned with one IV macrolide and one enteral option by site
	Ceftriaxone	One of beta- lactam		IV Azithromycin IV Clarithromycin
	Piperacillin-tazobactam	interventions (randomized)		IV Erythromycin No IV preparation
	Ceftaroline	combined with an Intravenous (IV) option and		Enteral Azithromycin Enteral Clarithromycin
	Amoxicillin-clavulanate	an enteral macrolide		Enteral Roxithromycin No Enteral preparation
	Respirator	option ry Fluroquinolone	Options	S
	Moxifloxacin	Fluroquinolone options chosen		
	Levofloxacin	by site (randomized)		

REMAP-CAP: A	Antibiotic Domain Summary
Interventions	Ceftriaxone + Macrolide
	Moxifloxacin or Levofloxacin
	Piperacillin-tazobactam + Macrolide
	Ceftaroline + Macrolide
	Amoxicillin-clavulanate + Macrolide
Strata	Analysis and Response Adaptive Randomization are by strata (shock) to allow for strata-by-intervention interaction
Evaluable	Intervention-intervention interactions will be evaluated between beta-lactam antibiotic
Interactions	interventions in this domain and interventions in the Macrolide Duration Domain; and
	between all interventions in this domain and the Corticosteroid Domain.
Timing of	Randomization with Immediate Reveal of allocation and Initiation
Reveal	
Inclusions	Inclusion criteria are the same as the REMAP see Core Protocol Section 7.4.1
Domain-	Patients will be excluded from this domain if they have any of the following:
Specific	Received more than 48 hours of intravenous antibiotic treatment for this index illness
Exclusions	More than 24 hours has elapsed since ICU admission
	Known hypersensitivity to all of the study drugs in the site randomization schedule
	A specific antibiotic choice is indicated, for example:
	 Suspected or proven concomitant infection such as meningitis
	 Suspected or proven infection with resistant bacteria where agents being
	trialed would not be expected to be active. This includes cystic fibrosis,
	bronchiectasis or other chronic suppurative lung disease where infection with
	Pseudomonas may be suspected but does not include patients with suspected
	methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection (see MRSA
	below).
	 Febrile neutropenia or significant immunosuppression (including organ or
	bone marrow transplantation, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) Infection
	with CD4 cell count <200 cells/μL, systemic immunosuppressive, systemic
	corticosteroids comprising prednisolone, or equivalent, ≥20mg/day for > 4
	preceding weeks).
	 Suspected melioidosis (tropical sites during melioidosis season – see melioidosis below)
	pneumonia is suspected (including fungal pneumonia, tuberculosis)
	The treating clinician believes that participation in the domain would not be in the best
	interests of the patient
Intervention-	Known non-serious hypersensitivity to penicillins will result in exclusion from receiving
Specific	interventions that include piperacillin and amoxicillin
Exclusions	Known non-serious hypersensitivity to cephalosporins will result in exclusion from
	receiving interventions that include ceftriaxone and ceftaroline
	 Known serious hypersensitivity to beta-lactams, including penicillins or cephalosporins,
	will result in exclusion from interventions that include piperacillin, amoxicillin,
	ceftriaxone, and ceftaroline.
	Known hypersensitivity to moxifloxacin or levofloxacin will result in exclusion from
	moxifloxacin or levofloxacin intervention
	Known serious hypersensitivity to the macrolide will result in exclusion from
	interventions that include piperacillin, amoxicillin, ceftriaxone, and ceftaroline.
	Known or suspected pregnancy will result in exclusion from moxifloxacin or levofloxacin
	and ceftaroline interventions. It is normal clinical practice that women admitted who
	are in an age group in which pregnancy is possible will have a pregnancy test
	conducted. The results of such tests will be used to determine interpretation of this
	exclusion criteria.

Outcome measures Primary REMAP endpoint: all-cause mortality at 90 days. Secondary REMAP endpoints refer to Core Protocol Section 7.6.2 Secondary Domain-specific endpoints (during index hospitalization censored 90 days from the date of enrollment): 1. Multi-resistant organisms (MRO) colonization/infection: Isolation of multi-drug resistant (MDR) bacteria from clinical or screening specimens including vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE), methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), extended spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL)-producing enterobacteriacae, carbapenem resistant enterobacteriacae (CRE).

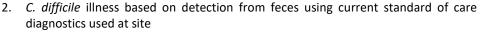






TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	ABBREV	TATIONS	8
2.	PROTO	COL APPENDIX STRUCTURE	9
3.	ANTIBIC	TIC DOMAIN-SPECIFIC APPENDIX VERSION	10
3.1.	Versio	on history	10
4.	ANTIBIC	OTIC DOMAIN GOVERNANCE	10
4.1.	Doma	in members	10
4.2.		ct Details	
5.		OTIC DOMAIN-SPECIFIC WORKING GROUP AUTHORIZATION	
6.		OUND AND RATIONALE	
6.1.	Doma	in definition	12
6.2.	Doma	in-specific background	
	6.2.1.	Microbiology of CAP	12
	6.2.2.	Guidelines recommend a number of different antibiotic treatment options	14
	6.2.3.	There is a diversity of antibiotics used in clinical practice	16
	6.2.4.	New antibiotics may be more effective but data are limited	16
	6.2.5.	Both the efficacy as well as adverse effects of antibiotics need to be considered	l 17
	6.2.6.	All antibiotics used in CAP have a well-established safety profile	17
	6.2.7.	Transition from empiric to targeted antibiotic therapy	17
7.	DOMAII	N OBJECTIVES	18
8.	TRIAL D	ESIGN	19
8.1.	Popul	ation	19
8.2.	Eligibi	lity criteria	19
	8.2.1.	Exclusion criteria from this domain	19
	8.2.2.	Exclusions from individual interventions	20
8.3.	Interv	entions	21
	8.3.1.	Antibiotic interventions	21
	8.3.2.	Recommended antibiotic dosing	22
	8.3.3.	Timing of initiation of antibiotics	23
	8.3.4.	Duration of administration of antibiotics	23
8.4.	Conco	omitant care	23

	8.4.1.	Implications of allocation status for eligibility in other domains	24
8.5.	Endpo	pints	24
	8.5.1.	Primary endpoint	24
	8.5.2.	Secondary endpoints	24
9.	TRIAL C	ONDUCT	25
9.1.	Micro	biology	25
	9.1.1.	Clinical data collection	25
9.2.		ia for discontinuation	
9.3.	Blindi	ng	
	9.3.1.	Blinding	25
	9.3.2.	Unblinding	26
10.		TICAL CONSIDERATIONS	
10.1	. Doma	nin-specific stopping rules	26
10.2		1	
10.3	. Timin	g of revealing of randomization status	26
10.4	. Intera	actions with interventions in other domains	26
10.5		trial sub-groups	
11.	ETHICAI	L CONSIDERATIONS	27
11.1	. Data S	Safety and Monitoring Board	27
11.2	. Poten	itial domain-specific adverse events	27
11.3	. Doma	ain-specific consent issues	28
12.	GOVER	NANCE ISSUES	28
12.1	. Fundi	ng of domain	28
12.2	. Fundi	ng of domain interventions	28
12.3	. Doma	in-specific declarations of interest	29
13.	REFERE	NCES	30

TABLE OF TABLES

Table 1: Distribution of identified pathogens in hospitalized patients with CAP in selected studies	13
Table 2: Empiric antibiotic treatments recommendations for patients with severe pneumonia	1 /
(without risk factors for pseudomonas) requiring intensive care	
Table 4: Organisms of interest as baseline or outcome measures	

1. ABBREVIATIONS

ATS American Thoracic Society

CAP Community Acquired Pneumonia

C. difficile Clostridium difficile

CVVHF Continuous Veno-Venous Hemofiltration
COPD Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CRE Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriacae

DSA Domain-Specific Appendix

DSWG Domain-Specific Working Group

DSMB Data Safety and Monitoring Board

eGFR estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate

ESBL Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

ICU Intensive Care Unit

IDSA Infectious Diseases Society of America
 ISIG International Statistics Interest Group
 ITSC International Trial Steering Committee

IV Intravenous

MDR Multi-Drug Resistance

MRO Multi-Resistant Organisms

MRSA Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

RCT Randomized Controlled Trial

REMAP Randomized, Embedded, Multifactorial Adaptive Platform trial

REMAP-CAP Randomized, Embedded, Multifactorial, Adaptive Platform trial for

Community-Acquired Pneumonia

RAR Response Adaptive Randomization

RSA Region-Specific Appendix

RSV Respiratory Syncytial Virus

SAE Serious Adverse Event

Severe CAP Severe Community-Acquired Pneumonia

VRE Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci

2. PROTOCOL APPENDIX STRUCTURE

The structure of this protocol is different to that used for conventional trials because this trial is highly adaptive and the description of these adaptations is better understood and specified using a 'modular' protocol design. While, all adaptations are pre-specified, the structure of the protocol is designed to allow the trial to evolve over time, for example by the introduction of new domains or interventions or both (see glossary, Section 1.2 Core Protocol for definitions of these terms) and commencement of the trial in new geographical regions.

The protocol has multiple modules, in brief, comprising a Core Protocol (overview and design features of the study), a Statistical Analysis Appendix (details of the current statistical analysis plan and models) and Simulations Appendix (details of the current simulations of the REMAP), multiple Domain-Specific Appendices (DSA) (detailing all interventions currently being studied in each domain), and multiple Regions-Specific Appendices (RSA) (detailing regional management and governance).

The Core Protocol contains all information that is generic to the trial, irrespective of the regional location in which the trial is conducted and the domains or interventions that are being tested. The Core Protocol may be amended but it is anticipated that such amendments will be infrequent.

The Core Protocol does not contain information about the intervention(s), within each domain, because one of the trial adaptations is that domains and interventions will change over time. Information about interventions, within each domain, is covered in a DSA. These Appendices are anticipated to change over time, with removal and addition of options within an existing domain, at one level, and removal and addition of entire domains, at another level. Each modification to a DSA will be subject of a separate ethics application for approval.

The Core Protocol does not contain detailed information about the statistical analysis or simulations, because the analysis model will change overtime in accordance with the domain and intervention trial adaptations but this information is contained in the Statistical Analysis and Simulations

Appendices. These Appendices are anticipated to change over time, as trial adaptations occur. Each modification will be subject to approval from the International Trial Steering Committee (ITSC) in conjunction with advice from the International Statistics Interest Group (ISIG) and the Data Safety and Monitoring Board (DSMB).

The Core Protocol also does not contain information that is specific to a particular region in which the trial is conducted, as the locations that participate in the trial are also anticipated to increase over time. Information that is specific to each region that conducts the trial is contained within a RSA. This includes information related to local management, governance, and ethical and regulatory aspects. It is planned that, within each region, only that region's RSA, and any subsequent modifications, will be submitted for ethical review in that region.

The current version of the Core Protocol, DSAs, RSAs and the Statistical Analysis Appendix is listed in the Protocol Summary and on the study website (www.remapcap.org).

3. ANTIBIOTIC DOMAIN-SPECIFIC APPENDIX VERSION

The version of the Antibiotic Domain-Specific Appendix is in this document's header and on the cover page.

3.1. Version history

Version 1: Approved by the Antibiotic Domain-Specific Working Group (DSWG) on 18 November 2016

Version 1.1: Approved by the Antibiotic DSWG on 30 March 2017

Version 2: Approved by the Antibiotic DSWG on 12 December 2017

4. ANTIBIOTIC DOMAIN GOVERNANCE

4.1. Domain members

Chair:

Professor Allen Cheng

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5. ANTIBIOTIC DOMAIN-SPECIFIC WORKING GROUP AUTHORIZATION

The Antibiotic Domain-Specific Working Group (DSWG) have read the appendix and authorize it as the official Antibiotic Domain-Specific Appendix for the study entitled REMAP-CAP. Signed on behalf of the committee,

Chair

Allen Cheng

Date

12th December 2017

6. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

6.1. Domain definition

This is a domain within REMAP-CAP to test the effectiveness of different empiric antibiotic treatments in patients with severe community-acquired pneumonia (severe CAP) who are admitted to an Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

6.2. Domain-specific background

Antibiotics are an essential component of therapy for all patients with suspected or proven community-acquired pneumonia (CAP). In patients with sepsis (including pneumonia) who have organ dysfunction the International Surviving Sepsis Campaign Guidelines recommend initiation of antibiotics within 60 minutes of presentation. (Dellinger et al., 2013)

6.2.1. Microbiology of CAP

In the majority of cases of CAP, no microbiological diagnosis is made. (Charles et al., 2008) In patients in whom a microbiological diagnosis is made, the organism that is isolated most commonly is *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. Other bacteria that cause CAP include *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, and a range of gram-negative organisms. Although studies have demonstrated that clinical features are not specific to bacterial aetiology, the so-called "atypical" pathogens include Legionella species, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, and *Chlamydiphila pneumoniae*. Since the advent of sensitive nucleic acid tests, there is an increasing recognition of the role of viral pathogens, particularly influenza viruses and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), either as the primary pathogen or associated with secondary bacterial pneumonia. (Musher and Thorner, 2014) Pathogens associated with outbreaks include *Legionella* spp, viral pathogens (particularly in closed environments such as cruise ships and institutions) and emerging infectious diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus.

Many studies have characterised the microbiological cause of infection in patients with severe CAP and a summary of these has been reported previously. (Mandell et al., 2007, Lim et al., 2009, Musher et al., 2013, Woodhead et al., 2011, Wiersinga et al., 2012) While there are clinically significant differences between studies in healthcare delivery (including criteria for hospital and ICU admission), the population under study and other epidemiological features, and study methodology, the distribution of identified pathogens is remarkably consistent in temperate developed countries.

The results of studies that have reported the microbiology findings in patients with CAP are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of identified pathogens in hospitalized patients with CAP in selected studies

Type of organisms	Australia (2004-2008) (Charles et al., 2008)	Europe (Woodhead, 2002)	United States (Musher et al., 2013)
Gram positive bacteria	Streptococcus pneumoniae (13.9%) Staphylococcus aureus (1.2%)	Streptococcus pneumoniae (25.9%) Staphylococcus aureus (1.4%)	Streptococcus pneumoniae (24.7%) Staphylococcus aureus (3.5%)
Gram negative bacteria	Haemophilus influenzae (5.1%) Pseudomonas aeruginosa (1.6%) Enterobacteriaecae (1.5%) Moraxella catarrhalis (0.8%)	Haemophilus influenza (4.0%) Moraxella catarrhalis (2.5%) Gram-negative enteric bacteria (2.7%)	Haemophilus influenza (4.6%) Pseudomonas aeruginosa (2.3%) Klebsiella pneumoniae (0.8%) Escherichia coli (0.8%) Moraxella (0.4%)
"Atypical"	Mycoplasma pneumoniae (8.8%) Legionella (3.4%) Chlamydophila species (1.7%)	Legionella spp. (4.9%) Mycoplasma pneumoniae (7.5%) Chlamydia pneumoniae (7.0%) Chlamydia psittaci (1.9%)	
Viral pathogens	Influenza (7.7%) Picornaviruses (5.2%) RSV (1.9%)	Viruses (10.9%)	Rhinovirus (10%) Coronavirus (2.7%) Parainfluenza virus (1.5%) RSV (1.2%) hMPV (1.2%) Influenza (0.4%)
Other	Other pathogens (2.3%) Unknown (54.4%)	Coxiella burnetii (0.8%) Other pathogens (2.2%) Unknown (43.8%)	Other pathogens (6.9%) Unknown (45.9%)

^{*} More than one pathogen detected in 8.5% of patients, including both a viral and bacterial pathogen in 5.3%

Drug resistant pathogens are an increasing concern globally. Macrolide resistant pneumococci are of little clinical relevance in patients treated with beta-lactams (Cheng and Jenney, 2016) and it appears that poor outcomes linked to penicillin resistant pneumococci (Tleyjeh et al., 2006) are likely to be attributed to age, underlying disease and severity of illness rather than treatment failure. (Moroney et al., 2001, Yu et al., 2003) Of greater concern is the advent of community-acquired

methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, particularly those associated with the Panton Valentine leucocidin. (Rubinstein et al., 2008)

6.2.2. Guidelines recommend a number of different antibiotic treatment options

A "respiratory" quinolone (moxifloxacin or levofloxacin) or combination antimicrobial therapy with a beta-lactam and a macrolide, are both recommended empiric treatment for CAP in national and international guidelines. (Mandell et al., 2000, Mandell et al., 2007, Woodhead et al., 2011) Data, mostly from retrospective observational analyses, report that guideline-concordant therapy is associated with a mortality benefit in CAP (Baudel et al., 2009, Frei et al., 2010), but whether one of these options results in a lower mortality than the other remains an open question. It has been suggested that fluoroquinolone treatment may be optimal for pneumonia due to *Legionella* spp, but randomized clinical trial data are lacking. (Asadi et al., 2012) A summary of different recommendations in guidelines for the treatment of severe CAP is displayed in Table 2.

Table 2: Empiric antibiotic treatments recommendations for patients with severe pneumonia (without risk factors for pseudomonas) requiring intensive care

Guideline	First line	Second line
British Thoracic Society	1. Co-amoxiclav AND macrolide	1. Cefuroxime or ceftriaxone AND
(Lim et al., 2009)	(clarithromycin)	clarithromycin
United States Infectious	1. Cefotaxime, ceftriaxone, or	1. Respiratory fluoroquinolone
Diseases Society of	ampicillin-sulbactam AND	AND aztre onam
America (IDSA)/ the	either	
American Thoracic	(a) azithromycin or	
Society (ATS) (Mandell	(b) a respiratory fluoroquinolone	
et al., 2007)		
Australia	1. Ceftriaxone AND azithromycin	1. Moxifloxacin
(Antibiotic Expert		
Groups, 2014)		
Canada	Moxifloxacin or levofloxacin	1. Cefuroxime, ceftriaxone or
(Mandell et al., 2000)		beta-lactam/beta-lactamase
		inhibitor AND intravenous (IV)
		macrolide
Swedish guidelines	1. Cephalosporin AND macrolide	
(Spindler et al., 2012)	2. Benzylpenicillin AND	
	respiratory fluoroquinolone	
Europe	1. Non-antipseudomonal 3rd	
European Society of	generation cephalosporin AND	
Clinical Microbiology	macrolide	
and Infectious Diseases		
/ European Respiratory		

Society (Woodhead et	2. Non-antipseudomonal 3rd	
al., 2011)	generation cephalosporin AND	
	either	
	(a) Moxifloxacin or	
	(b) Levofloxacin	
Netherlands	Moxifloxacin or levofloxacin	
Dutch Working Party	2. Penicillin (or amoxicillin) AND	
on Antibiotic Policy /	ciprofloxacin	
Dutch Association of	3. 2nd or 3rd generation	
Chest Physicians	cephalosporin AND macrolide.	
(Wiersinga et al., 2012)		

The most studied interventions for pneumonia have involved antibiotic interventions. A 2008 systematic review that compared respiratory quinolones with beta-lactam and macrolide combinations identified 23 clinical trials that enrolled 7885 patients. (Vardakas et al., 2008) A higher proportion of patients treated with fluoroquinolones had treatment success (defined as clinical cure or improvement) compared with comparator-treated patients (primarily beta-lactam monotherapy and or macrolides), but there were no significant differences in mortality, and the majority of patients in these studies did not have severe pneumonia and were not treated an ICU.

Clinical trials that tested the addition of a macrolide to beta-lactams have not demonstrated clinical benefit. One trial found a shorter time to clinical stability in patients with severe pneumonia although the difference in this small trial was not statistically significant. (Garin et al., 2014) Additionally, there were no differences in other groups or outcomes including length of stay or mortality. A recent cluster randomized trial of beta-lactam monotherapy, beta-lactam and macrolide combination therapy, or fluoroquinolone monotherapy in patients with moderate severity CAP (who were not admitted to ICU at the time of randomization) did not find any differences in mortality or hospital length of stay associated with any strategy. (Postma et al., 2015) A systematic review of antibiotic treatments recommended in the IDSA/ATS guideline did not find any conclusive evidence that "atypical" coverage was associated with better outcomes in clinical trials, although an association with better outcome was found for treatments that included macrolides or quinolones in lower quality observational studies. (Lee et al., 2016)

Most of these studies were performed in hospitalized patients with CAP in whom mortality was relatively low and statistical power limited. Although the available evidence suggests that patients with moderate or severe pneumonia may benefit from atypical coverage, the choice of beta-lactam and whether atypical coverage should include a macrolide (in combination with beta-lactam) or a quinolone (as monotherapy) in severe CAP remains an open question.

6.2.3. There is a diversity of antibiotics used in clinical practice

Current guidelines recommend a number of different antibiotic treatment options and it is likely that others options are also being used at individual hospitals or by individual clinicians.

A survey of Australian and New Zealand ICU specialists indicates that more than 95% administer a beta-lactam antibiotic in combination with a macrolide (azithromycin) for empiric therapy but there is substantial variation in the choice of beta-lactam. The majority of patients receive ceftriaxone, as recommended in Australian guidelines, but one third of ICU specialists use piperacillin-tazobactam (unpublished data from the REMAP-CAP investigators). Although piperacillin-tazobactam has wider microbiological coverage, it penetrates less well into lung tissue, is less potent against pneumococci (the commonest cause of severe CAP), and is predicted to impose increased selection for resistant organisms. (Sime et al., 2012)

In New Zealand, IV amoxicillin-clavulanate and cefuroxime (both not available in Australia as IV formulations currently) are also used widely. A 2013 study found that both second/third generation cephalosporins (58%) and co-amoxiclav (36%) were used in patients with severe pneumonia defined by CURB-65 score. (Aikman et al., 2013)

Studies suggest a wide diversity of antibiotic regimens are used for pneumonia in Europe; the most common antibiotics used included penicillin/beta lactamase inhibitors, macrolides, quinolones and third generation cephalosporins, broad spectrum penicillins and second generation cephalosporins (Ansari et al., 2009, Torres et al., 2014)

6.2.4. New antibiotics may be more effective but data are limited.

Ceftaroline is an antibiotic, newly licensed for CAP in a range of countries, with a similar spectrum of activity to ceftriaxone, but with the additional advantage of being active against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. In some Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) of patients with moderate severity CAP, ceftaroline was superior to ceftriaxone in achieving clinical cure. (File et al., 2011, Low et al., 2011) Recent high-profile reviews and guidelines list ceftaroline as a recommended first-line choice for severe CAP, even though the evidence is derived from patients who were not critically ill. (Eccles et al., 2014, Musher and Thorner, 2014) Ceftaroline is approximately 500 times more expensive than ceftriaxone currently.

6.2.5. Both the efficacy as well as adverse effects of antibiotics need to be considered

RCTs that compare antibiotics to treat infections in ICU patients have demonstrated unexpected differences in mortality. For example, doripenem was associated with a higher mortality than imipenem in patients with ventilator associated pneumonia (Kollef et al., 2012, Yahav et al., 2011) Moreover, the choice of agent may influence the risk of nosocomial super-infection including *Clostridium difficile (C. difficile)*. Despite the ubiquity of the agents used to treat severe CAP in clinical practice there have been no RCTs, conducted in critically ill patients, with sufficient statistical power to detect differences in clinically relevant endpoints. It is imperative that the comparative effectiveness of alternative beta-lactam agents and the role of respiratory quinolones is established, including any differences in acquisition of resistant organisms and *C. difficile*.

6.2.6. All antibiotics used in CAP have a well-established safety profile

Ceftriaxone, piperacillin-tazobactam, amoxicillin-clavulanate, moxifloxacin and levofloxacin have a long history of use for pneumonia as well as for other indications and are regarded as having a good safety profile. The pharmacokinetics of all drugs may be altered in critically ill patients due to pathophysiological changes including altered volumes of distribution, augmented renal clearance, renal failure and hepatic failure. (Roberts and Lipman, 2009)

Both immediate and delayed hypersensitivity have been described with ceftriaxone, piperacillintazobactam, amoxicillin-clavulanate and moxifloxacin, and include rare cases of anaphylaxis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis. Diarrhea, including that due to *C. difficile*, is a recognized complication of all antibiotic therapy.

Pipericillin-tazobactam and moxifloxacin have been associated with hematological abnormalities, including agranulocytosis, hemolytic anemia and pancytopenia. Amoxicillin-clavulanate has been associated with cholestasis and hepatitis. Moxifloxacin has been associated with a prolonged QT interval and arrhythmias. Pipericillin-tazobactam, ceftaroline and moxifloxacin have been associated with seizures but this is uncommon with doses within current clinical practice guidelines.

6.2.7. Transition from empiric to targeted antibiotic therapy

Microbiological tests identify a causative organism in less than 50% of patients with CAP. (Jain et al., 2015) It is almost always the case that empiric antibiotic therapy is commenced before a microbiological diagnosis is available. Standard practice and international guidelines recommend that where a causative organism is identified and antibiotic susceptibilities are available that an antibiotic with a narrow spectrum of action that is active against the infecting organism is

substituted for the initial empiric therapy. This domain tests only empiric therapy and the domain intervention is considered complete once microbiological test results are available that can guide appropriate targeted antibiotic therapy or, in the absence of identification of a causative organism for which its antimicrobial susceptibility is known, that sufficient time and clinical improvement have occurred to warrant cessation or de-escalation of initial empiric therapy.

7. DOMAIN OBJECTIVES

The objective of this domain is to determine the comparative effectiveness of different antibiotics or antibiotic combinations in the empiric treatment of severe CAP.

We hypothesize that the probability of all-cause mortality at 90 days will differ based on the empiric antibiotic treatment received. The current antibiotic and antibiotic combinations that will be available to be tested are:

- Ceftriaxone + Macrolide
- Moxifloxacin or Levofloxacin
- Piperacillin-tazobactam + Macrolide
- Ceftaroline + Macrolide
- Amoxicillin-clavulanate + Macrolide

We hypothesize that the treatment effect of different empiric antibiotic and antibiotic combinations is different depending on the presence or absence of shock at the time of enrollment (strata-by-intervention interaction).

We hypothesize that the treatment effect of different empiric beta-lactam agents is different depending on the duration of concomitant treatment with a macrolide. This is an intervention by intervention interaction between the beta-lactam antibiotic options in this domain and the Macrolide Duration Domain (i.e. the Macrolide Duration Domain is nested within the beta-lactam antibiotic interventions in this domain).

We hypothesize that the treatment effect of different antibiotic choices is different depending on whether corticosteroids are administered. This is an intervention by intervention interaction between the Antibiotic Domain and the Corticosteroid Domain.

Each participating site has the option to opt-in to two or more interventions to be included in the site randomization schedule depending on local clinical preference, usual practice, acceptable practice, and the availability of the agent at that site.

8. TRIAL DESIGN

This domain will be conducted as part of a REMAP-CAP trial of CAP (see Core Protocol Section 7). Treatment allocation will be adaptive, as described in the Core Protocol.

8.1. Population

The REMAP enrolls patients with severe CAP admitted to ICU (see Core Protocol Section 7.3).

8.2. Eligibility criteria

Patients are eligible for this domain if they meet all of the REMAP-level inclusion and none of the REMAP-level exclusion criteria (see Core Protocol Section 7.4). Patients who may be eligible for the REMAP may have conditions that may exclude them from the Antibiotic Domain, or from one or more of the individual interventions available within this domain.

8.2.1. Exclusion criteria from this domain

Patients will be excluded from this domain if they have any of the following:

- Received more than 48 hours of IV antibiotic treatment for this index illness
- More than 24 hours has elapsed since ICU admission
- Known hypersensitivity to all of the study drugs in the site randomization schedule
- A specific antibiotic choice is indicated, for example:
 - Suspected or proven concomitant infection such as meningitis
 - Suspected or proven infection with resistant bacteria where agents being trialed would not be expected to be active. This includes cystic fibrosis, bronchiectasis or other chronic suppurative lung disease where infection with *Pseudomonas* may be suspected but does not include patients with suspected methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection (see MRSA below).
 - Febrile neutropenia or significant immunosuppression (including organ or bone marrow transplantation, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) Infection with CD4

- cell count <200 cells/ μ L, systemic immunosuppressive, systemic corticosteroids comprising prednisolone, or equivalent, \geq 20mg/day for > 4 preceding weeks).
- Suspected melioidosis (tropical sites during melioidosis season <u>see melioidosis</u>
 below)
- Chronic pneumonia (more than 2-weeks of symptoms) or where non-bacterial pneumonia is suspected (including fungal pneumonia, tuberculosis)
- The treating clinician believes that participation in the domain would not be in the best interests of the patient

MRSA: Patients in whom MRSA might be suspected should be included (see below "interventions" Section 8.3).

Melioidosis: Sites in tropical areas (defined in Australia as hospitals located north of a latitude of 21°S) will not randomize to the Antibiotic Domain during the melioidosis season (defined as the monsoonal period according to local guidelines).

8.2.2. Exclusions from individual interventions

Prior to the study commencement, sites will select which interventions that patients at their site will be allocated to, based on the current standards of acceptable care, local epidemiology and regulatory status of antibiotics as outlined below.

Patients may also be excluded from receiving one or more interventions within the domain for patient-specific reasons. In such cases, patients will be randomly allocated a remaining intervention from among those available at that site. An example would include patients with a history of a penicillin hypersensitivity, who may receive a cephalosporin or moxifloxacin. Patients may have multiple intervention exclusions (e.g. both a penicillin and a cephalosporin hypersensitivity).

Patients who are eligible for only a single intervention at a site (i.e. all other interventions are contraindicated) are not eligible for this domain. Patients in whom all interventions are contraindicated will be treated according to the current standard of care at the clinician's discretion.

Criteria that exclude a patient from a one or more interventions are:

- Known non-serious hypersensitivity to penicillins will result in exclusion from receiving interventions that include piperacillin and amoxicillin
- Known non-serious hypersensitivity to cephalosporins will result in exclusion from receiving interventions that include ceftriaxone and ceftaroline

- Known serious hypersensitivity to beta-lactams, including penicillins or cephalosporins, will
 result in exclusion from interventions that include piperacillin, amoxicillin, ceftriaxone, and
 ceftaroline.
- Known hypersensitivity to moxifloxacin or levofloxacin will result in exclusion from moxifloxacin or levofloxacin intervention
- Known serious hypersensitivity to the macrolide will result in exclusion from interventions that include piperacillin, amoxicillin, ceftriaxone, and ceftaroline.
- Known or suspected pregnancy will result in exclusion from moxifloxacin or levofloxacin and
 ceftaroline interventions. It is normal clinical practice that women admitted who are in an
 age group in which pregnancy is possible will have a pregnancy test conducted. The results
 of such tests will be used to determine interpretation of this exclusion criteria.

8.3. Interventions

8.3.1. Antibiotic interventions

Patients will be randomly assigned to receive one of the following study interventions. While it is expected that all sites will participate in the ceftriaxone intervention, each site has the option to optin to one or more of the remaining 4 interventions based on local practice and the availability of the antibiotic in the country. For sites that are including the moxifloxacin or levofloxacin intervention it is strongly encouraged that the sites participate in at least one intervention that includes a cephalosporin and one intervention that includes a penicillin so that causal inference by random allocation is possible for patients who have known non-serious intolerance to either cephalosporins or penicillins but not both. All patients receiving ceftriaxone, piperacillin-tazobactam, ceftaroline, or amoxicillin-clavulanate will also receive a macrolide. Patients allocated to the moxifloxacin or levofloxacin intervention will not receive a macrolide or any beta-lactam or monobactam agent.

The choice of macrolide (see front page) will depend on the availability and acceptability of the agents at each site in the following order of preference;

- 1. IV azithromycin, with switch to enteral azithromycin when appropriate
- 2. IV clarithromycin, with switch to enteral azithromycin when appropriate
- 3. Enteral azithromycin
- 4. Enteral clarithromycin or roxithromycin
- 5. IV or enteral erythromycin. Sites in which only erythromycin is available are not able to participate in the Macrolide Duration Domain.

Vancomycin, linezolid or other antimicrobials active against MRSA (other than ceftaroline) may be added if MRSA is suspected at the discretion of the treating clinician, irrespective of the intervention to which the participant is allocated.

8.3.2. Recommended antibiotic dosing

The doses specified are recommended minimum doses and may be modified according to local guidelines or practice.

- Ceftriaxone ≥1 gram IV q24h
- Moxifloxacin 400mg IV q24h or Levofloxacin 750mg IV q24h
- Piperacillin-tazobactam ≥4.5 grams IV q8h
- Ceftaroline 600 mg IV q12h
- Amoxicillin-clavulanate ≥1200mg IV q8h

If no local guidelines exist, it is recommended that subsequent doses of antibiotics will be adjusted for estimated renal function (based on estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR)) as follows:

Table 3: Minimum doses of antibiotics, by eGFR

Agent	eGFR >50 ml/min	eGFR10-50 ml/min	eGFR <10	Continuous Veno- Venous Hemofiltration (CVVHF)
Ceftriaxone	1g-2g IV daily	1g-2g IV daily	1g IV daily	1g IV daily
Piperacillin- tazobactam	4.5g IV q6h	(eGFR 20-40) 4.5g IV q8h	(eGFR<20) 4.5g IV q12h	4.5g IV q8h
Ceftaroline	600mg IV q12h	400mg IV q12h	200mg IV q12h	400mg IV q12h
Amoxicillin- clavulanate	1200mg IV q8h	1200mg IV q8h	1200mg IV q12h	1200mg IV q8h
Moxifloxacin	400mg IV q24h	400mg IV q24h	400mg IV q24h	400mg IV q24h
Levofloxacin	750mg IV q24h	(eGFR 20-50) 750mg IV load, 750mg IV q48h	(eGFR<20) 750mg IV load, 500mg IV q48hr	750mg IV load, 500mg IV q48hr

8.3.3. Timing of initiation of antibiotics

In keeping with all international guidelines optimized empiric antibiotic treatment should commence as soon as possible. Usual practice for patients admitted to the ICU with severe CAP is either immediate administration of empiric antibiotics, if antibiotics have not already been administered, or initiation of the empiric antibiotic treatment that will be continued during admission to the ICU, even if antibiotics have been administered already. As such, initiation of antibiotic therapy to a patient with severe CAP, within this REMAP should commence immediately after admission to the ICU.

8.3.4. Duration of administration of antibiotics

The duration of empiric antibiotics will be determined by the treating clinician based on daily reviews of the following criteria:

- Change to oral antibiotics once patient is clinically stable
- Change to a targeted antibiotic therapy if a microbiological diagnosis has been made
- Cease antibiotics if an alternative diagnosis is made
- Cease antibiotics when there is evidence of sufficient clinical improvement, no
 microbiological diagnosis has been made and no clinical evidence of deep infection (e.g.
 empyema or lung abscess). The duration of antibiotic therapy will be decided by the treating
 clinician and local guidelines.

8.4. Concomitant care

Additional non-beta-lactam antibacterial agents, such as vancomycin, gentamicin, clindamycin or cotrimoxazole, will be permitted at the discretion of the treating clinician. Other beta-lactams, carbapenems (meropenem, imipenem, doripenem, ertapenem), monobactams (aztreonam) and quinolones are not permitted at study enrollment, but a change to these agents is permitted if clinical cultures are positive for a resistant pathogen that necessitates commencement of one of these agents. Administration of an influenza antiviral agent (i.e. oseltamivir) will also be permitted in patients with suspected or confirmed influenza.

Any subsequent change of antibiotics, based on availability of microbiological data, will be permitted at the treating clinician's discretion.

8.4.1. Implications of allocation status for eligibility in other domains

Patients randomized to intervention moxifloxacin will not be included in the Macrolide Duration Domain in this REMAP.

8.5. Endpoints

8.5.1. Primary endpoint

The primary endpoint for this domain is the REMAP primary outcome (all-cause mortality at 90 days) as specified in Core Protocol Section 7.6.1.

8.5.2. Secondary endpoints

All secondary endpoints as specified in the Core Protocol Section 7.6.2.

The domain-specific secondary outcome measures (occurring during the index hospitalization, censored at 90 days after enrollment) will be:

- Multi-resistant organisms (MRO) colonization/infection: Isolation of multi-drug resistant
 (MDR) bacteria from clinical or screening specimens including vancomycin resistant
 enterococci (VRE), methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), extended spectrum
 beta-lactamase (ESBL)-producing enterobacteriacae, carbapenem resistant
 enterobacteriacae (CRE).
- C. difficile illness based on detection from feces using current standard of care diagnostics used at site
- Serious adverse event (SAE) as defined in Core Protocol

Table 4: Organisms of interest as baseline or outcome measures

Site	Organisms of interest
Blood, lower respiratory tract	Staphylococcus aureus
(endotracheal suction,	Streptococcus pyogenes, or S.
bronchoalveolar lavage,	pneumoniae
sputum), Pleural fluid (e.g.	Haemophilus influenzae
pleural aspirate, chest drain)	Moraxella catarrhalis
	Enterobacteriacae**
	Acinetobacter spp.
	Pseudomonas spp.

Multi resistant organisms	VRE,
from any clinical or	MRSA,
screening* site	ESBL- producing Escherichia coli or
	Klebsiella spp
	Carbapenem-resistant gram-negative

^{*}screening specimens include fecal/rectal swabs, swabs of intact skin or nose

9. TRIAL CONDUCT

9.1. Microbiology

Isolates will be tested for susceptibility to study antibiotics using routine clinical testing. Specific isolates may be referred to a reference laboratory according to current clinical practice Domain-specific data collection

9.1.1. Clinical data collection

Additional domain-specific data will be collected.

- Risk factors for aspiration neuromuscular weakness, hazardous alcohol intake
- Selected microbiological results
- Antimicrobial susceptibility results
- C. difficile isolation from feces

Refer to Core Protocol Section 8.9 for other data collection fields and processes.

9.2. Criteria for discontinuation

Refer to Core Protocol Section 8.7 for discontinuation criteria for the participation in REMAP-CAP.

Once a bacterial pathogen has been isolated, then it is expected that antimicrobial therapy will be modified but patients will continue in the trial.

9.3. Blinding

9.3.1.Blinding

All antibiotics will be administered on an open-label basis.

^{**}Enterobacteriacae includes Escherichia coli, Klebsiella spp, Enterobacter spp.

9.3.2. Unblinding

Not relevant.

10.STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

10.1. Domain-specific stopping rules

If a Platform Conclusion of equivalence in the primary endpoint is demonstrated the DSMB and the ITSC may consider continuation of randomization if clinically relevant differences in secondary endpoints have not been demonstrated and it is considered plausible that clinically relevant differences in one or more secondary endpoints may be capable of being demonstrated. In all other respects the stopping rules for this domain are those outlined in the Core Protocol Sections 7.8.6 to 7.8.9.

10.2. Strata

Both analysis of treatment effect and the Response Adaptive Randomization (RAR) will utilize the stratum of shock in this domain.

10.3. Timing of revealing of randomization status

The timing of the revealing of allocation status and administration of interventions is as specified to be Randomization with Immediate Reveal and Initiation (see section 7.8.3.4 in Core Protocol)

10.4. Interactions with interventions in other domains

An *a priori* interaction with the beta-lactam antibiotics and the Macrolide Duration Domain is considered possible and will be incorporated into the statistical models used to analyze this domain.

An *a priori* interaction with the Corticosteroid Domain is considered possible and will be incorporated into the statistical models used to analyze this domain.

No interaction is evaluable between the Ventilation Domain and this domain.

10.5. Post-trial sub-groups

Domain-specific post-hoc sub-groups will be used in analysis following the conclusion of one or more interventions within the domain. The *a priori* sub-groups of interest include:

- The causative organism, in patients from whom a microbiological diagnosis for the qualifying pneumonia has been made on the basis of culture or other investigations (nucleic acid testing, urinary antigen testing).
- Patients with risk factors for aspiration pneumonia (neuromuscular weakness, hazardous alcohol use)
- Elderly (≥65 years) and non-elderly (<65 years) patients
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

11.ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

11.1. Data Safety and Monitoring Board

The DSMB should be aware that the superiority, inferiority, or equivalence of different interventions with respect to the primary endpoint is possible, and if equivalence is demonstrated, determination of the optimal intervention may be based on secondary endpoints, such as the incidence of *C. difficile* – associated diarrhea or isolation of MRO organisms.

11.2. Potential domain-specific adverse events

The antibiotics used in this domain largely have a known toxicity profile. Additionally, it is expected that a high proportion of critically ill patients who will be enrolled in this trial will experience mortality or substantial morbidity.

The following potential adverse outcomes relating to antibiotic therapy will be reported as secondary outcome measures (and do not need to be reported separately as SAEs):

- Acquisition of multi-drug resistant organisms in clinical or screening specimens (including VRE, MRSA, ESBL or CRE)
- *C. difficile* associated diarrhea

Other SAEs should reported only where, in the opinion of the site-investigator, the event might reasonably have occurred as a consequence of a study intervention or study participation (see Core Protocol Section 8.13).

11.3. Domain-specific consent issues

All the antibiotics to be tested in this domain are approved for this indication or are in common use in many countries for CAP or both. Sites will be able to opt out of interventions for all patients at that site if they believe that an intervention is not part of reasonable care of patients with pneumonia, or are not approved for use in the country, or conflict with local antimicrobial stewardship considerations. Additionally, clinicians may choose not to enroll individual patients if they feel that participation is not in the patient's best interests, and safety criteria are used to exclude patients from individual interventions for appropriate clinical reasons (e.g. hypersensitivity to one or more study drugs).

Where all interventions that are available at the participating site are regarded as being part of the acceptable spectrum of standard care and given the time imperative to commence antibiotics, entry to the study, for participants who are not competent to consent, is preferred to be via waiver-of-consent or some form of delayed consent.

Pregnant women are susceptible to pneumonia and a number of different antibiotics, including amoxicillin-clavulanate and ceftriaxone, are widely used and have a track record of safety in this population. Pregnant women will be excluded from the moxifloxacin and ceftaroline interventions.

Ceftaroline is not in widespread use but is licensed for use for CAP by regulatory agencies in Australia, New Zealand, the European Union and North America and has been recommended as appropriate therapy for patients with severe CAP in some reviews. (Jain et al., 2015)

12.GOVERNANCE ISSUES

12.1. Funding of domain

The REMAP trial is funded by an Australian National Health and Medical Research Council project grant (APP1101719), a European Union 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development grant (602525) and a Health Research Council New Zealand Programme grant (16/631).

12.2. Funding of domain interventions

Sites that participate in the ceftaroline intervention will have this antibiotic provided by the trial in Australia and New Zealand. Astra Zeneca have indicated in-principle support for the provision of

ceftaroline for at least some participating countries (Australia and New Zealand). The contract between the trial Sponsors and Astra Zeneca must meet criteria set out in the Core Protocol for provision of interventions by commercial entities. Arrangements for supply of ceftaroline will be set out in operational documents.

All other antibiotics will be provided by participating hospitals on the basis that if the patient was not participating in the trial, appropriate antibiotics would always have been indicated and provided by the treating hospital.

12.3. Domain-specific declarations of interest

All investigators involved in REMAP-CAP maintain a registry of interests on the REMAP-CAP website. These are updated periodically and publicly accessible on the study website.

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