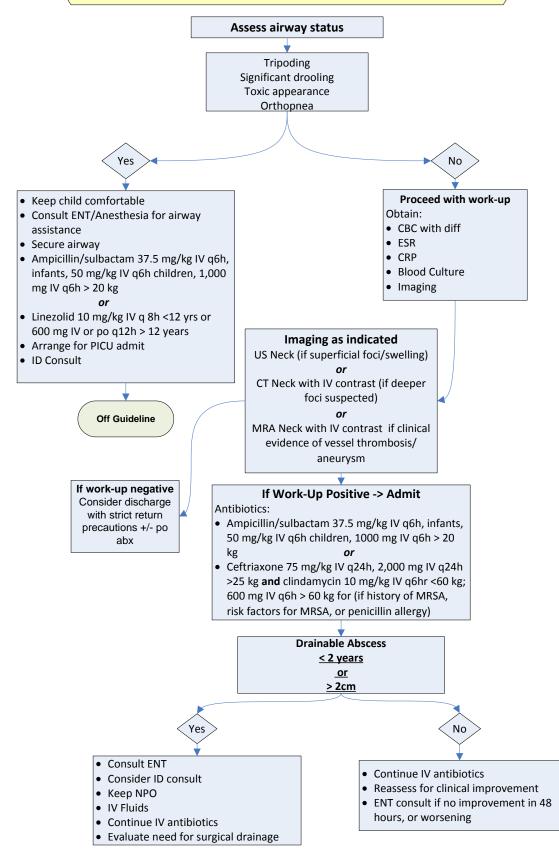
# **ED/Inpatient Deep Neck Infections Care Guideline**



**Inclusion Criteria:** presence of fever, decreased neck movement, dysphagia, inability to tolerate secretions, change in voice, stertor, stridor

**Exclusion Criteria:** immune compromised status, trauma, recent neck surgery, hemodynamic instability, impending respiratory failure, neonatal (<3 months)



### **Recommendations/Considerations**

### **Deep Neck Infections**

# **Retropharyngeal Abscess**

- · Ages: 2-4 years
- Risk factors: recent URI, OP trauma

#### Peritonsillar Abscess

Peaks in adolescence (average 13.6 yr)

### **Parapharyngeal Space Infections**

(Lateral pharyngeal space infection) · most often arises via contiguous spread of infection from a peritonsillar or retropharyngeal abscess

Common Pathogens: Group A Streptococcus, Staph aureus (including MRSA), Haemophilus species, Bacteroides, Prevotella, Fusobacterium, Veillonella Peptostreptococcus and Propionibacterium. Infections are usually polymicrobial.

Complications: airway obstruction, aspiration pneumonia, carotid artery pseudoaneurysm or rupture resulting in sepsis or hemorrhage, Internal jugular vein thrombosis, septic thrombophlebitis of internal jugular vein (Lemierre Syndrome), mediastinitis

# **Education**

Cerner Discharge Education -Peritonsillar Absecss

# **Discharge Criteria**

- Afebrile
- Free range of motion
- Resolution of neck swelling
- No respiratory difficulty
- Tolerating diet
- Antibiotic course prescribed

References Deep Neck Abscess
Adil E, Tarnshish Y, et al. The public health impact of pediatric deep neck space infections. Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, 2015: 153(6). DOI: 10.1177/0194599815606412
Lawrence R, Bateman N. Controversies in the management of deep neck space infection in children: an evidence-based review. Clinical Otolaryngology, 2017: 42m 156-1636.
Balfour-Lynn IM, Wright M. Acute infections that produce upper airway obstruction. Kendig's Disorders of the Respiratory Tract in Children. Elsevier Masson ISBN 978-0-323-4487-01.