ANTIBIOTIC DURATIONS FOR COMMON INFECTIONS IN PRIMARY CARE (ADULTS)

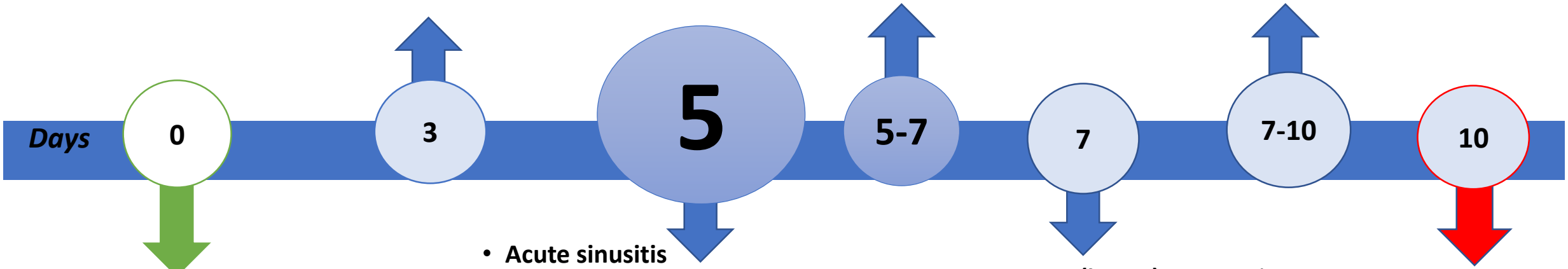
NHS England

NICE recommended durations of antibiotic courses for **first-line treatments**

- **UTI (lower)** *non – pregnant women*

- **Cellulitis and Erysipelas**
- **Acute otitis media** *with risk of complication or systemically unwell*

- **Pyelonephritis (acute)** *men and non-pregnant women*



- **Sinusitis** *symptoms less than 10 days*
- **Acute cough** *no risk of complications*
- **Viral sore throat** *according to FeverPAIN/CENTOR score*
- **Asymptomatic bacteriuria**
- **Acute otitis media**

- **Acute sinusitis**
- **COPD *acute exacerbation***
- **Acute cough** *with risk of complications or systemically unwell*
- **Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP)**
- **Sore throat** *according to FeverPAIN/CENTOR score for symptomatic cure only*

- **UTI (lower)** *men and pregnant women*
- **Catheter-associated UTI (CAUTI)**

- **Sore throat -** *according to FeverPAIN/CENTOR score* ***10 days for Penicillin V ONLY for microbiological cure***

NICE RECOMMENDED FIRST LINE ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT (CHECKED APRIL 2023)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To increase awareness of and promote the important antimicrobial stewardship principle of shorter course lengths.
To develop a set of visual aids/infographics that will highlight NICE-recommended treatments and durations for common infections (first-line) and promote key messages of safety around treatment course lengths

TARGET AUDIENCE

Resources will be aimed at Prescribers/Clinicians in primary care settings
Resources can be used for training purposes and can be used as screensavers, posters, lanyard cards, mouse mats etc…

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

Visual timeline to depict course lengths for common infections for adults. In line with NICE guidance for first line treatments only. 5 day course lengths are highlighted here with darker font and darker blue. Colours used i.e. green for 0 as some conditions are self-limiting and don't warrant antibiotics. Red for sore throat to prescribe with caution for persistent symptoms and/or confirmed Group A Streptococcus or Scarlet fever.