

Compliance with guidelines for the management of community acquired pneumonia at primary health care centers Cumplimiento de la guía clínica de manejo ambulatorio de la neumonía adquirida en la comunidad en personas mayores en centros de atención primaria

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Background: Community acquired pneumonia (CAP) has a high mortality rate among older people. To increase its treatment efficiency, the Chilean Ministry of Health elaborated a clinical management guideline for CAP. **Aim:** To assess the degree of compliance with the clinical guidelines for CAP among professionals working at primary health care centers. **Material and methods:** A follow up of a cohort of 2,797 subjects aged 67 years or more, incorporated to a clinical study. All cases of bronchopneumonia or pneumonia diagnosed at primary health care centers between September 2005 and June 2008, were recorded. **Results:** During the follow up period, 192 cases of CAP were diagnosed. A chest X ray was requested in 81% of cases and a confirmation consultation was done in 58%. Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid was the most common antimicrobial prescription in 61% of cases, followed by Clarithromycin in 17% and Amoxicillin in 12%. The antimicrobial used was not registered in 5% of cases. **Conclusions:** The cl