

Criteria for Antimicrobial Prophylaxis for Traumatic Ear Wounds Involving the Cartilage

Conditions for which antibiotic prophylaxis is needed:

- Wounds that involve the perichondrium
- “Dirty” or contaminated wounds often with foreign objects like rocks or pavement
- Required multiple layer closure
- Bolster placement for hematoma prevention x 3-5days.

Common organisms include staphylococcus aureus and pseudomonas aeruginosa

Levofloxacin 750mg (orally when able) daily x 5 days. Longer therapy may be needed if additional days of bolster placement are needed however this should apply to few patients.

Topical therapies (like Silvadene or bacitracin) may prevent topical contamination but are not supported in the literature and/or have side effects that were deemed unacceptable.