

Reconciliation of conclusions with prior systematic reviews

	Current	Iankova, 2017 PMID 29271844	Huang, 2017 PMID 29168046	Andriolo (Cochrane), 2017 PMID 28099689	Westwood, 2015 PMID 26569153	Prkno, 2013 PMID 24330744
Efficacy: duration of antibiotic therapy compared to usual care	Reduces duration by 1.50 days in subgroup of trials that encourage stopping antibiotics before 5 days	Reduces duration by 1.49 days. Excluded negative trial by Bloos.	Reduces duration by 1.66 days in subgroup of trials that only contained a discontinuation algorithm	No clear benefit	Reduces duration by 3.19 days	Reduction. Hazard ratio 1.27
Heterogeneity	49% (after meta-regression)	81%	71%	86%	95%	0%
Efficacy: mortality	Reduction. Risk ratio 0.85 (95% CI: 0.74 to 0.97)	No reduction. Risk ratio 0.90 (95% CI 0.79– 1.03)	Reduction. Risk ratio 0.87 (95% CI 0.76– 0.98)	No reduction. Risk ratio 0.92 (95% CI: 0.81 to 1.05)	No reduction. Risk ratio 0.98 (95% CI: 0.76 to 1.27)	No reduction. Risk ratio 1.02 (95% CI: 0.85 to 1.23)
Heterogeneity:	16% (in subgroup of trials that encouraging stopping antibiotics before 5 days)	80%	0%	11%	0%	0%