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## **Antibiotics are indicated for acute exacerbations of mild to moderate bronchiectasis**

Adult patients with acute exacerbations of mild to moderate bronchiectasis typically present with worsening of  $\geq 3$  key symptoms: cough, change in sputum colour, increase in sputum volume, fever, haemoptysis or malaise.

Treatment with antibiotics is indicated if Pseudomonas is not found in their sputum cultures (Pseudomonas requires specialist advice).<sup>1</sup> Sputum cultures from previous samples are especially helpful.

The antibiotics chosen are usually sensitive to H. influenzae or S. aureus e.g. amoxicillin: 500mg orally tds (or higher) or doxycycline 100mg BD if allergies.

If no previous bacteriology, first-line treatment is amoxicillin-clavulanic acid 625 mg tds until culture results available. Treatment is for 14 days.

Reference:

1. British Thoracic Society Guideline for bronchiectasis in adults (2019) [View here](#)

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