

TABLE 4**Antimicrobials for Skin Infections in Dogs^{1*}**

First-tier empiric antimicrobials	
Clindamycin	5.5–11 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
Cephalexin	22–30 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
Amoxicillin clavulanate	14–25 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
Trimethoprim-sulfadiazine/sulfamethoxazole	15–30 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
First OR second tier	
Cefpodoxime	5–10 mg/kg PO q 24 hr
Cefovecin	8 mg/kg SC q 14 days
Second tier ONLY with culture and susceptibility	
Minocycline	5–10 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
Doxycycline	5–10 mg/kg PO q 12 hr
Enrofloxacin	5–20 mg/kg PO q 24 hr
Marbofloxacin	2.75–5.5 mg/kg PO q 24 hr
Pradofloxacin	3 mg/kg PO q 24 hr
Chloramphenicol	40–50 mg/kg PO q 8 hr
Rifampin	3–6 mg/kg PO q 24 hr ²
Do NOT use for <i>Staphylococcus</i> spp. infections	
Amoxicillin	
Penicillin	
Nitrofurantoin	

PO, orally; SC, subcutaneously.

*For more information on antimicrobial stewardship, see the 2022 AAFP/AAHA Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines at aaha.org/antimicrobials.

- Hillier A, Lloyd DH, Weese JS, et al. Guidelines for the diagnosis and antimicrobial therapy of canine superficial bacterial folliculitis (Antimicrobial Guidelines Working Group of the International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases). *Vet Dermatol.* 2014;25:163–e43.
- Harbour L, Schick A, Mount R, White A. Rifampicin treatment of canine multidrug-resistant meticillin-resistant staphylococcal pyoderma: A retrospective study of 51 cases. *Vet Dermatol.* 2022;33(5):384–91.

The 2023 AAHA Management of Allergic Skin Diseases Guidelines are available at aaha.org/allergic-diseases.

These guidelines were prepared by a Task Force of experts convened by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and were subjected to a formal peer-review process. This document is intended as a guideline only, not an AAHA standard of care. These guidelines and recommendations should not be construed as dictating an exclusive protocol, course of treatment, or procedure. Variations in practice may be warranted based on the needs of the individual patient, resources, and limitations unique to each individual practice setting. ©2023 AAHA.

