

Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Gastroenteritis

Gastroenteritis

Avoid antimicrobial agents unless there is clinical evidence of invasive disease.

Consider viral causes if vomiting is a prominent symptom or if norovirus is active in the community or hospital.

Maintain hydration.

Avoid anti-diarrhoeal agents.

Send stool sample (include travel history on the form if relevant).

Antimicrobial treatment for gastroenteritis is generally pathogen directed.

If there is gastroenteritis with clinical evidence of invasive disease, sepsis, colitis or a history of recent foreign travel or for men who have sex with men (MSM), **discuss empiric therapy/management with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases** to guide empiric antimicrobial therapy.

Refs:

1. IDSA 2017 Treatment guidelines for infectious diarrhoea: Clin Infect Dis 65:1963, 2017.
2. *Recommendation on aspects of management of shigellosis in Ireland in the context of current antimicrobial resistant Shigella species associated with gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (gbMSM)*. HSE; June 2023.
[https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/gastroenteric/shigellosis/guidancepublications/Recommendation%20on%20aspects%20of%20management%20of%20shigellosis%20in%20Ireland%20in%20the%20context%20of%20current%20antimicrobial%20resistant%20Shigella%20species%20associated%20with%20gay%20bisexual%20and%20men%20who%20have%20sex%20with%20men%20\(gbMSM\).pdf](https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/gastroenteric/shigellosis/guidancepublications/Recommendation%20on%20aspects%20of%20management%20of%20shigellosis%20in%20Ireland%20in%20the%20context%20of%20current%20antimicrobial%20resistant%20Shigella%20species%20associated%20with%20gay%20bisexual%20and%20men%20who%20have%20sex%20with%20men%20(gbMSM).pdf)