

Diagnosis of sinusitis

Purulent nasal discharge AND nasal obstruction or facial pressure

no — Have the symptoms been present >4 weeks? — yes

Complete Sinusitis CPM

Consider subacute or chronic sinusitis; Refer to ENT

To diagnose acute bacterial sinusitis (ABS), patient must fall into at least **ONE** of the clinical presentation categories below

SEVERE	Temperature ≥ 102.2 °F (39 °C), facial pain/pressure, and purulent nasal discharge for 3 consecutive days
WORSENING	New or worsening sinusitis signs and symptoms AFTER initial improvement or following URI that has lasted ≥ 7 days
PERSISTENT	Purulent nasal discharge AND facial pain or nasal obstruction without improvement for ≥ 10 days

no — Does patient meet ≥ 1 of the 3 ABS presentations? — yes

Acute VIRAL sinusitis likely

Acute BACTERIAL sinusitis likely

Treat acute VIRAL sinusitis symptoms

- Recommend symptomatic therapy*
- Instruct patient to return if symptoms worsen or persist ≥ 10 days

Treat as acute BACTERIAL sinusitis (see pg 2)

*Symptom relief checklists [Ages \(0-12\) / Spanish](#) ; [Ages \(12-18\) / Spanish](#)

Treatment of acute bacterial sinusitis

Patient <18 with acute bacterial sinusitis

Discuss symptom relief and treat according to clinical presentation

Complete Sinusitis CPM

SEVERE **WORSENING** **PERSISTENT**

Primary antibiotics

amoxicillin-clavulanate:
45 mg amox/kg/dose orally 2 times per day (max 2g amox/dose) for 5 days

If patient is allergic to penicillin use cefdinir + clindamycin

Watchful waiting only

Watchful waiting + delayed antibiotic prescription

Instruct patient to contact doctor or fill delayed prescription if worse in 2-3 days or if no improvement in 5-7 days

If needed

Primary antibiotic for use if WORSENING or no improvement during watchful waiting period*

amoxicillin: 45 mg/kg/dose orally 2 times per day (max 2g/dose) for 5 days

*If patient allergic to penicillin use cefdinir only as 1st line agent

If needed

Secondary antibiotics if needed

cefdinir + clindamycin

- **cefdinir:** 14mg/kg/dose orally once per day (max 600mg/dose) 7 days
- **clindamycin:** 10 mg /kg/dose orally 3 times per day (max 300 mg/dose) for 7 days