**How to differ common cold (URTI) from pneumonia**

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| **Common cold/URTI – no antibiotics** |  | **Pneumonia – antibiotics**  |
| Virus. Antibiotics useless.Normal children have 6-7 common colds a year and an adult 2-3.**Symptoms:**CoughRunning noseFeverSoar throatNot so sick3-5 days but can last longer**Treatment:**Symptomatic (paracetamol, nasal drops, cough syrup) |  | Bacteria. Antibiotic is needed.**Symtoms:**CoughIncreased respiratory rateRespiratory distressHigh feverMore sick-lookingChest wall indrawings and nasal flaring on small childrenCrepitations often heard when examining the lungs**Treatment:** Antibiotics and symptomatic treatment |

**Gastroenteritis**According to Kenyan Basic Paediatric Protocols for ages up to 5 years: “Antimicrobials are not indicated unless there is dysentery or proven amoebiasis or giardiasis.”
Shigella-dysentery: Bloody diarrhea. Ciprofloxacin.
Amoebiasis: More sick. Abdominal discomfort. Can be bloody. Metronidazol.
Giardiasis: Watery diarrhea, abdominal cramping. Metronidazol.

*/Åsa Lundgren, Rotary Doctors’, Sweden, June 2024*