

Antibiotics And Their Use in Collapse Medicine(tm), Part 4

Hey Preppers,

Anyone that is interested in preserving the health of their loved ones in a collapse will have to learn what antibiotics will work in a particular situation. It's not enough to have a supply of the medication; you have to know how and when to use it. Even more importantly, it's important to know when NOT to use it. This is part 4 and the final part, for now, of the series.

In part 1, I listed the antibiotics that I would recommend in times of trouble, and their veterinary equivalents. They are:

- **Amoxicillin** 250mg AND 500mg (FISH-MOX, FISH-MOX FORTE)
- **Ciprofloxacin** 250mg and 500mg(FISH-FLOX, FISH-FLOX FORTE)
- **Cephalexin** 250mg and 500mg (FISH-FLEX, FISH-FLEX FORTE)
- **Metronidazole** 250mg (FISH-ZOLE)
- **Doxycycline** 100mg (BIRD-BIOTIC)
- **Ampicillin** 250mg and 500mg (FISH-CILLIN, FISH-CILLIN FORTE)
- **Sulfamethoxazole 400mg/Trimethoprim 80mg** (BIRD-SULFA)



For your reference, Part 1 discussed Amoxicillin, which is somewhat similar to both Cephalexin and Ampicillin in its indications, dosage, usage, and risk of allergy. Part 2 discussed Ciprofloxacin and Doxycycline. Part 3 discussed **Azithromycin** and **Clindamycin**, two antibiotics that were not on the original list but were recently found to be available on some aquarium medication websites.

Today we'll discuss the last two on the list: Metronidazole 250mg and Sulfamethoxazole 400mg/Trimethoprim 80mg.

Metronidazole is an antibiotic in the nitroimidazole family that is used primarily to treat infection with anaerobic bacteria and protozoa. "Anaerobes" are bacteria that do not depend on oxygen to live. Protozoa have been defined as single-cell organisms with animal-like behavior. In other words, they can propel themselves from place to place by the means of a flagellum; a tail-like "hair" they whip around which allows them to move. Only some protozoans are like this; some do not move at all, and it's probable that some new terminology will come out someday that explains this group more efficiently.

Metronidazole works by blocking some of the functions within bacteria and protozoa, thus, resulting in their death. It is probably better known by the brand name "Flagyl" and usually comes in 250mg and 500mg tablets. Metronidazole is used in the treatment of:

Bacterial

- Diverticulitis (intestinal infection in older individuals)
- Peritonitis (infection due to ruptured appendix, etc.)
- Some pneumonias
- Diabetic foot ulcer infections
- Meningitis (infection of the central nervous system)
- Bone and joint infections

- Colitis due to Clostridia bacterial species (sometimes caused by taking Clindamycin!)
- Endocarditis (heart infection)
- Bacterial vaginosis (common vaginal infection)
- Pelvic inflammatory disease (“female”infection which can lead to abscesses) – used in combination with other antibiotics
- Uterine infections (especially after childbirth and miscarriage)
- Dental infections (sometimes in combination with amoxicillin)
- H. pylori infections (causes peptic ulcers)
- Some skin infections

Protozoal

Amoebiasis: dysentery caused by Entamoeba species (contaminated water/food)

Giardiasis: infection of the small intestine caused by Giardia Species (contaminated water/food)

Trichomoniasis: vaginal infection caused by Trichomonas species which can be sexually transmitted

Amoebiasis and Giardiasis can be caught from drinking what appears to be the purest mountain stream water. Never fail to sterilize all water, regardless of source, before drinking it.

Treatment of the highly varied groups of illness above varies; here are the dosages and frequency of administration of Metronidazole for several:

Amoebic dysentery: 750 mg orally 3 times daily for 5-10 days. For children, give 35 to 50 mg/kg/day orally in 3 divided doses for 10 days (no more than adult dosage, of course, regardless of weight).

Anaerobic infections (various): 7.5 mg/kg orally every 6 hours not to exceed 4 grams daily

Clostridia infections: 250-500 mg orally 4 times daily or 500-750 orally 3 times daily

Giardia: 250 mg orally three times daily for 5 days. For children give 15 mg/kg/day orally in 3 divided doses (no more than adult dosage regardless of weight)

Helicobacter pylori: 500-750mg twice daily for several days in combination with other drugs like Prilosec (Omeprazole)

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID): 500 mg orally twice daily for 14 days in combination with other drugs, perhaps doxycycline or azithromycin

Bacterial Vaginosis: 500mg twice daily for 7 days. →

Trichomoniasis: 2 g single dose (4 500mg tablets at once) or 1 g twice total

Like all antibiotics, Metronidazole has side effects which you can review by picking up a Physician’s Desk Reference or going to drugs.com or rxlist.com. One particular side effect has to do with alcohol: drinking alcohol on Metronidazole will very likely make you vomit. Metronidazole should not be used in pregnancy.

Sulfamethoxazole 400mg/Trimethoprim 80mg is a combination of medications in the Sulfonamide family.

This drug is well-known as its brand names Bactrim and Septra. Our British friends may recognize it by the name Co-Trimoxazole. Sulfamethoxazole acts as a false-substrate inhibitor of an important bacterial enzyme. Trimethoprim interferes with the production of folic acid in bacteria, which is necessary to produce DNA. The two antibiotics together are stronger in their effect than alone, at least in laboratory studies.

Sulfamethoxazole 400mg/Trimethoprim 80mg is effective in the treatment of the following:

- • Some upper and lower respiratory infections (chronic bronchitis and pneumonia)
- • Kidney and bladder infections
- • Ear infections
- • intestinal infections caused by E. Coli and Shigella bacteria
- • skin and wound infections,
- • Traveler’s diarrhea
- • Acne

The usual dosage is one tablet every 12 hours for most of the above conditions in adults for 10 days (less in traveler’s diarrhea). The recommended dose for pediatric patients with urinary tract infections or acute otitis media is 8 mg/kg trimethoprim and 40 mg/kg sulfamethoxazole per 24 hours, given in two divided doses

every 12 hours for 10 days. This medication is contraindicated in infants 2 months old or younger. In rat studies, the use of this drug was seen to cause cleft palate anomalies.

Sulfamethoxazole 400mg/Trimethoprim 80mg is well known to cause allergic reactions in some individuals. This frequency is almost as common as seen in Penicillin allergies. Some countries have reported a significant rate of resistance to this antibiotic.

Armed with your Physician's Desk Reference and the rest of your medical library, you'll be able to use the antibiotics in this series of articles effectively to keep your family healthy in the event of societal collapse. Don't, however, practice medicine in the here and now; it's illegal without a license. Remember that the medical strategies and information we provide here and in other medical preparedness sites are only for information purposes, and do not constitute the practice of medicine or actual medical advice. The practice of holistic medicine involves physically seeing and examining your patient, and online diagnosis and treatment is not only unethical, but foolhardy.

Dr. Bones