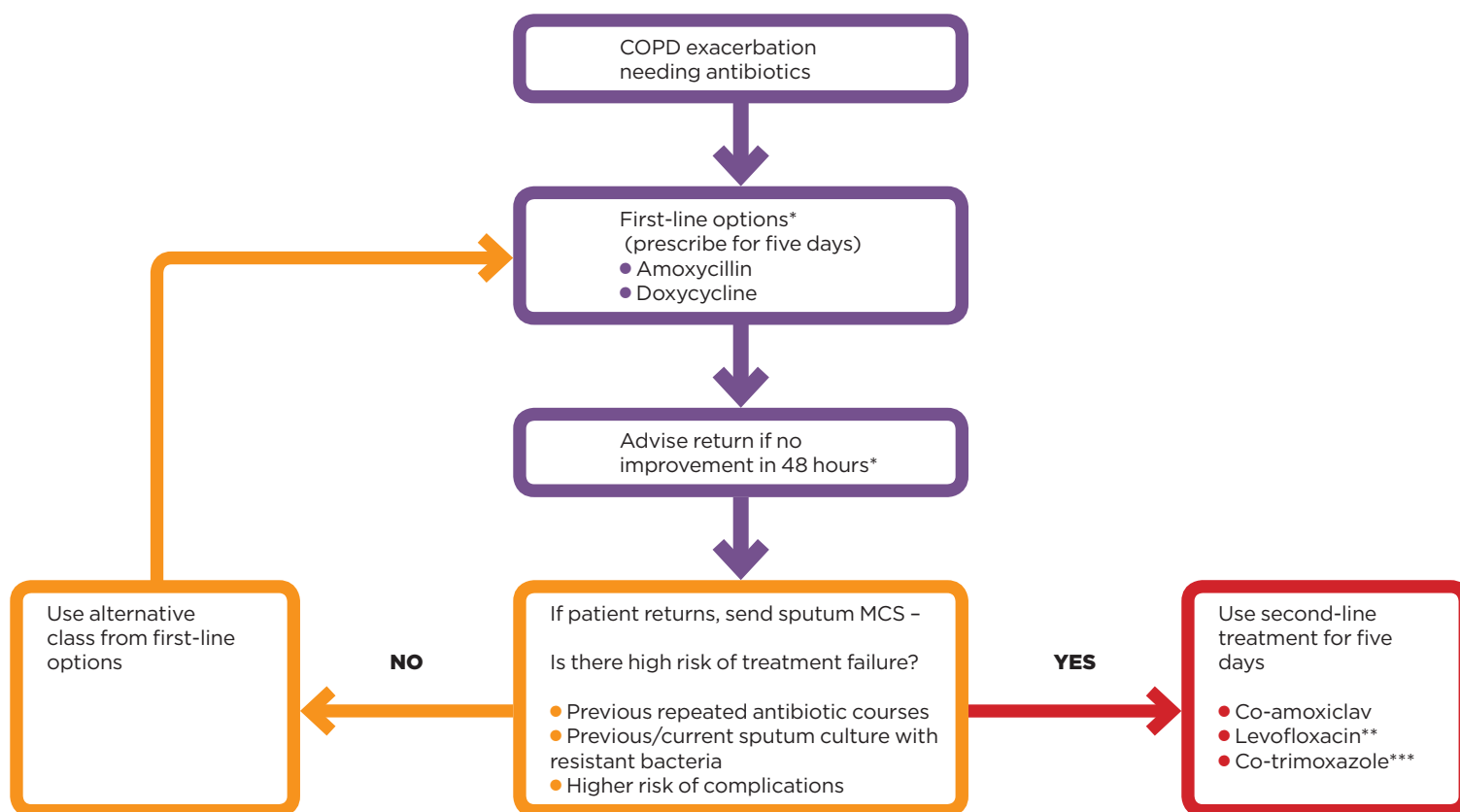


# Antibiotics for COPD exacerbations

An at-a-glance algorithm for a common treatment issue



\* Review most recent/current sputum sensitivity if available. Only change the antibiotic according to susceptibility results if bacteria are resistant and symptoms are not already improving (using a narrow-spectrum antibiotic wherever possible) \*\* Do not use fluoroquinolones in mild to moderate infections unless other antibiotics can't be used due to musculoskeletal/nervous system side-effects \*\*\* Only use co-trimoxazole if bacteriological evidence of sensitivity and good reason to consider this rather than single antibiotic  
Source: NICE. NG114: COPD (acute exacerbation) – antimicrobial prescribing 2018