

# Learning objectives

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To understand: The characteristics of the common surgical pathogens • and their sensitivities The factors that determine whether a wound will become • infected The classification of sources of infection and their severity • The clinical presentation of surgical infections • The indications for and choice of prophylactic antibiotics • The spectrum of commonly used antibiotics in surgery • and principles of therapy The misuse of antibiotic therapy with the risk of resistance • to antibiotics (such as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus [MRSA]) and emergence of resistant strains (such as Clostridium difficile enteritis) Learning objectives

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Revision #1

Created 2025-12-31 15:18:39 UTC by Omar Ayman

Updated 2025-12-31 15:18:39 UTC by Omar Ayman