

## **Duration of Amoxicillin-clavulanate for Protracted Bacterial Bronchitis in Children: A Multi-Centre, Double Blind, Randomised Controlled Trial**

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- Protracted bacterial bronchitis (PBB) is a leading cause of chronic wet cough (> 4 weeks) in children. The current standard treatment in European and American guidelines is 2 weeks of antibiotics, but the optimal duration of therapy is unknown.
- In this study, amoxicillin-clavulanate was given to 106 children: 52 in the 4-week group (median age 2.2 years) and 54 in the 2-week group (median age 1.7 years).
- A 4-week course confers little advantage compared with a 2-week course in achieving clinical cure by 28 days.
- The rate of recurrence of PBB at 6 months was 53% in the 4-week group vs. 74% in the 2-week group.

**Four-week duration of amoxicillin-clavulanate in PBB led to a longer cough-free period. The time for the next wet cough exacerbation was significantly longer in the 4-week group than the 2-week group (median 150 days vs. 36 days).**