

Ampicillin/sulbactam (Unasyn)

Ampicillin/sulbactam is a beta-lactam/beta lactamase inhibitor combination antibiotic. It has activity against MSSA, streptococci, enterococci (that are ampicillin-susceptible) and anaerobes. Its activity against gram-negative organisms is limited; an increasing number of *E. coli* and *Proteus* isolates are now resistant. Because of this, its use for intraabdominal infections is not advised although it previously was widely used for this purpose.

Acceptable uses

- Treatment of human or animal bites if parenteral therapy is needed.
- Treatment of oral infections
- Treatment of lung abscess
- Treatment of culture-negative endocarditis (ID consult advised)

Unacceptable uses

- Empiric treatment of biliary tract infections, diverticulitis, or secondary/peritonitis/GI perforation. Use should be limited to infections that are proven to be susceptible.

Dose

1.5 - 3 g IV q6-8h (higher doses may be used for multi-drug resistant *Acinetobacter*)