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## Antibiotics for the prevention of surgical site infections, current strategy

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#### State of The Problem:

Surgical Site Infections (SSIs) develop in 2 to 5 percent of surgical cases. They are defined as infections which occur near surgical site during 30 to 90 days after surgical incision. Since the beginning of antibiotic era antibiotics are using for prevention of SSIs but still is the controversies about the optimal use of this preventive tool, which can improve the outcome after surgery but on the other hand can lead to antibiotic resistance and increase the cost of treatment.

#### Current Strategy:

According to European Centre for Disease prevention and Control (ECDC), there are 5 key points of antibiotic prophylaxis in surgery:

1. Forming of multidisciplinary team for developing and implementation of protocol for Perioperative Antibiotic Prophylaxis (PAP).
2. Administration of PAP within 60 minutes before incision.
3. Assigning PAP administration responsibility to the anesthesiologist.
4. Administering only single dose.
5. Discontinue PAP at the end of surgery.

By the implementation of these five principles is possible to decrease antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance. There are significant barriers for the implementation of this strategy. At first it is the lack of education and psychological barriers, fear of litigation, lack of antibiotic resistance awareness and professional regulations. In our hospital we have already began the implementation of this strategy but in this initial stage there are psychological barriers which mainly leads to continue antibiotic therapy after surgery too.

#### Conclusion:

ECDC PAP protocol is simple and clear but it is implementing step by step because main barrier is the psychology of doctors and fear of litigation.

#### Biography

Levan Ratiani is Professor, Head of the Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Department in The Tbilisi State Medical University, Tbilisi, Georgia. He is also General Director of The First University Clinic of [Tbilisi State Medical University](#). He has published more than 90 papers in reputed journals. He is a member of European Society of Intensive Care Medicine. He is Member of the Professional Development Council and Member of the board for Accreditation of educational programs.

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