

Pneumonia

World Pneumonia
Day 2025:



**12th November is World
Pneumonia Day.**

The latest NICE guidance on pneumonia was released in September 2025. These are the most important changes.

Read the latest
guideline here :



DON'T routinely send Urinary Legionella Antigens

- Testing only recommended for patients exposed to stagnant water
- Pneumococcal antigen testing is still required for hospitalised patients



DO use Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS)

- Ultrasound can help differentiate pneumonia from heart failure
- It can also identify complications (such as parapneumonic effusions)



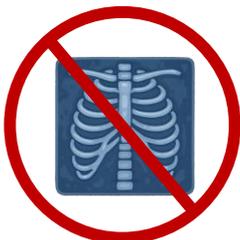
DO consider IV steroids if the patient is severely unwell

- Steroids should be considered if there is shock or severe hypoxia
- NICE recommends IV Hydrocortisone but does not specify the dose



DO consider High Flow Nasal Oxygen (HFNO) if high FiO₂

- HFNO is recommended ahead of non-invasive ventilation (NIV)
- NIV may still be required for patients with Type 2 Respiratory Failure



DON'T routinely request a six-week chest x-ray

- These are now only recommended if there are significant risk factors
- (Patients who are over 50, smoke, or have unexplained weight loss)