Pharyngitis Culture and Antibiotics prescribing practices in an ambulatory clinic. Phase II

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Introduction
Group A streptococcal pharyngitis is a common illness seen in the setting of an outpatient clinic. Acute pharyngitis is seen in any primary care setting, such as pediatrics, or internal medicine. Most cases of acute pharyngitis encountered in primary care are viral in nature, with group A streptococci making a small percentage, though notable percentages. (IDSA guidelines – 2002). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend a method of differentiating GABHS as a cause of pharyngitis from other causes.

This study was the second phase of an initial examination of the treatment practices in an outpatient clinic. The first phase consisted of a retrospective chart review analyzing the percentage of patients who were cultured and treated for GABHS, and how it correlated with number of positive Centor criteria. The Centor criteria, similar to the first phase of the study. The number of people who were cultured was equal to 2.69, showing that both populations were very similar. A total of seventy-eight (42%) people were culture for GABHS. Out of the percentage of people who were cultured, eighteen (64.3%) had Centor criteria of 0-1 (considered negative), and twenty-five (35.7%) had Centor criteria of 2 (considered positive criteria). The p value between the two samples was 18.22, with a p-value of 0.0001, showing a definite difference in culturing people according to criteria of 0-1 (considered negative), and ten (35.7%) had Centor criteria of 2 (considered positive criteria). The p value between the two groups was 0.2579, showing no difference in culturing people according to criteria of ≥2.

Results
A retrospective chart review was performed on 70 patients with the diagnosis of Acute pharyngitis from November 7, 2005 to February 28, 2006. The charts were gathered from the same hospital based internal medicine ambulatory clinic where the first phase of the study was performed. This study was the second phase of an initial examination of the treatment practices in an outpatient clinic. The first phase of the study was performed. Two charts were excluded due to incomplete documentation. Two charts were excluded due to incomplete documentation. The remaining sixty-eight charts showed the following results. Forty-eight out of sixty-eight charts were noted to have positive criteria. Centor criteria were compared to the previous group using Chi square analysis, which was sized to 3.48. Though the both populations were very similar. A total of forty-eight (60.8%) people were culture for GABHS. Out of the percentage of people who were cultured, eighteen (39.1%) had Centor criteria of 0-1 (considered negative), and twenty (42%) had Centor criteria of 2 (considered positive criteria). The p value between the two groups was 18.22, with a p-value of 0.0001, showing a definite difference in culturing people according to criteria, similar to the first phase of the study. The number of people with a positive culture was 5, or 17.9%. There was a difference between pre-intervention and post-intervention groups. The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%).

Conclusions
Through this study, it was noted that there was no difference in the number of people cultured according to criteria, with the intervention of a lecture on pharyngitis, the number of people receiving antibiotics appeared to have decreased, and the antibiotic prescribing practices of the practitioners in the clinic seemed to have improved. The percentage of people receiving the recommended antibiotic, penicillin, also improved post intervention. Simple lectures with handouts seem to be an appropriate way of updating clinicians on the guidelines concerning common primary care topics such as pharyngitis.

Materials and methods
A retrospective chart review was performed on 70 patients with the diagnosis of Acute pharyngitis from November 7, 2005 to February 28, 2006. The charts were gathered from the same hospital based internal medicine ambulatory clinic where the first phase of the study was performed. Two charts were excluded due to incomplete documentation. Two charts were excluded due to incomplete documentation. The remaining sixty-eight charts showed the following results. Forty-eight out of sixty-eight charts were noted to have positive criteria. Centor criteria were compared to the previous group using Chi square analysis, which was sized to 3.48. Though the both populations were very similar. A total of forty-eight (60.8%) people were culture for GABHS. Out of the percentage of people who were cultured, eighteen (39.1%) had Centor criteria of 0-1 (considered negative), and twenty (42%) had Centor criteria of 2 (considered positive criteria). The p value between the two groups was 18.22, with a p-value of 0.0001, showing a definite difference in culturing people according to criteria, similar to the first phase of the study. The number of people with a positive culture was 5, or 17.9%. There was a difference between pre-intervention and post-intervention groups. The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%). The number of people who received antibiotics was twenty-three (38%) as compared to 63% in the pre-intervention (Fig-2). The majority of these prescribed antibiotics had positive criteria (83%).