

PNEUMONIA PATHOCHART

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Pneumonia is an inflammatory condition of the lungs primarily affecting the alveoli which may fill with fluid or pus. It is either infectious (bacterial or viral) or noninfectious (aspiration, community acquired, or opportunistic).

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Febrile, crackles, wheezes, increased sputum production, tachypnea, dyspnea, pleuritic chest pain, low oxygen saturation, coughing

DIAGNOSTICS

- Chest x-ray
- Pulse ox
- CBC (white count, specifically)
- ABG's
- Sputum culture

NURSING PRIORITIES

- Optimize activity tolerance
- Ensure adequate airway clearance
- Promote sufficient gas exchange

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Administer oxygen
- Position patient in High-Fowler's
- Coughing and deep breathing
- Administer meds
- Promote energy conservation
- Promote nutrition
- Obtain appropriate labs (blood cultures BEFORE antibiotics initiated)

MEDICATION THERAPY

- Antibiotics
- Bronchodilators
- Corticosteroids

