

2021 Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)* Checklist



Pneumonia documented in Medical Record during the patient's initial stay at your hospital

Ventilator in place > 2 calendar days (Date of ventilator placement = Day 1)
AND
 Ventilator in place on the date of event or the day before.

Imaging:

NO UNDERLYING PULMONARY OR CARDIAC DISEASE*

✓ **ONE** definitive chest imaging result showing:

- New and persistent or progressive and persistent infiltrate
- Consolidation
- Cavitation
- Pneumatoceles in infants ≤1-year-old

OR

YES, UNDERLYING PULMONARY OR CARDIAC DISEASE*

✓ **TWO** or more serial chest imaging results showing:

- New and persistent or progressive and persistent infiltrate
- Consolidation
- Cavitation
- Pneumatoceles in infants ≤1 yo

*Underlying Pulmonary or Cardiac Disease (e.g. Respiratory Distress, Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia, Pulmonary Edema, or COPD)

Signs/Symptoms:

✓ **ONE** of the following:

- Fever (> 38°C or > 100.4°F)
- Leukopenia (<4000 WBC/mm³ or leukocytosis (≥ 12,000 WBC/mm³)
- For adults ≥70 yo, altered mental status with no other recognized cause

✓ **AND** at least **ONE** of the following:

- New onset of purulent sputum, change in character of sputum, increased respiratory secretions, or increased suctioning requirements
- New onset worsening cough, dyspnea or tachypnea
- Rales or bronchial breath sounds
- Worsening gas exchange (O₂ desaturations, PaO₂/FiO₂ ≤ 240, increased O₂ requirements, or increased ventilator demand

Comments:

Laboratory:

✓ **AND** at least **ONE** of the following:

- Organism identified from blood
- Organism identified from pleural fluid
- Positive quantitative culture or corresponding semi-quantitative culture result from minimally-contaminated LRT specimen (BAL or protected specimen brushing or endotracheal aspirate)
- ≥ 5% BAL-obtained cells contain intracellular bacteria on Gram's stain
- Positive quantitative or semi-quantitative culture of lung tissue
- Histopathologic exam shows at least one of the following evidences of pneumonia:
 - Abscess formation or foci of consolidation with intense PMN accumulation in bronchioles and alveoli
 - Evidence of lung parenchyma invasion by fungal hyphae or pseudohyphae

*Definition taken from the National Trauma Data Standard Data Dictionary (2021 Admissions) Consistent with January 2019 CDC-defined VAP

ALL criteria in (✓) **red** must be met for hospital event: **VAP** (Bacterial or Filamentous Fungal Pathogens).

Please consult the appropriate Algorithm for VAP with Viral, Legionella, other Bacterial Pneumonias, VAP in Immunocompromised Patients, and VAP for Infants ≤1 year old, or for VAP for Children > 1 or ≤ 12 years old.