**SUPERFICIAL BACTERIAL INFECTIONS**

- **Assess patient factors**

- **Are any of the following present?**
  - Immunocompromised
  - Valvular heart disease
  - Recurrent episode of skin infection (within a few months of last infection)

- **Are any of the following present?**
  - Fever and fatigue
  - Blisters on diaper area, legs and/or armpits
  - Multiple widespread painful lesions
  - Area of inflammation has expanded rapidly over a few hours

- **Assess symptoms to confirm self-diagnosis +/- previous diagnosis of impetigo or folliculitis by physician**

- **Symptoms typical of impetigo:**
  - Individual red lesions which form blisters
  - Yellow exudate forming a crust
  - Painless sores, may be itchy
  - Usually affects face (mouth and nose) and hands

- **Symptoms typical of folliculitis:**
  - Pimples around hair follicles
  - Tender and sore to the touch
  - Itchy

- **Unable to confirm self-diagnosis, or:**
  - Affected area is extensive (larger than 2-3 small patches)

- **- Non-pharmacological treatment; AND,**
  - Impetigo: prescribe mupirocin (5 days) or fusidic acid (7-10 days)
  - Folliculitis: prescribe mupirocin or fusidic acid for 7 – 10 days

- **Follow up in 48 hours**

- **Infection responding to treatment?**
  - **YES**
    - **Infection mostly resolved by end of treatment?**
      - **YES**
        - **Discontinue therapy**
      - **NO**
        - **REFER**
  - **NO**
    - **REFER**

- **Infection mostly resolved by end of treatment?**
  - **YES**
    - **Discontinue therapy**
  - **NO**
    - **REFER**