

Appendix 2: Full list of authors' declarations of interests

Pre-screening

All panel members were pre-screened for conflicts of interest prior to the guideline process that resulted in the *BMJ* Rapid Recommendations. The pre-screening was performed by the RapidRecs Executive team from the non-profit organisation MAGIC (www.magicproject.org) with support and approval from at least two unconflicted *BMJ* editors. No financial conflicts of interest were allowed (specifically, no financial ties to pharmaceutical companies with any stake in steroids or antibiotics) and intellectual and professional conflicts of interest were managed appropriately (see appendix 3: Methods for *BMJ* Rapid Recommendations). Panel members could not have a conflict for the past three years and do not anticipate a conflict arising in the foreseeable future, which we defined as at least one year.

Disclosures

Financial disclosures: No panel members had any financial conflicts of interest to disclose related to this clinical question. Catherine Liu was a paid contributor an Independent Efficacy Adjudication Committee for a study funded by Theravance (drug company). This company does not make any oral antibiotics or medications considered in this guideline. It does make an antibiotic (Telavancin), which is an intravenous antibiotic used exclusively for serious infections in hospitalised patients. Serious infections after an uncomplicated abscess are extremely rare.

Professional disclosures: The majority of the physician panel members routinely see patients with uncomplicated skin abscesses, but their practice and remuneration will be unaffected by these recommendations.

Intellectual disclosures: Valéry Laverge works as a guideline methodologist for the Infectious Diseases Society of America, but has not made recommendations about skin abscesses. Catherine Liu chaired a guideline panel on management of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) by the Infectious Diseases Society of America, which made a previous recommendation (against antibiotics) in patients with MRSA-abscesses; this was judged to be a potential conflict of interest. Jako Burgers co-authored a guideline on skin infections, but did not make recommendations about this issue. Wang Wen, Xin Sun, Reed Siemieniuk, Thomas Agoritsas, and Gordon Guyatt, participated in the writing the complementary systematic review that formed the evidence base for this guideline. Reed Siemieniuk, Arnaud Merglen, Thomas Agoritsas, Per Vandvik, Lyubov Lytvyn, and Gordon Guyatt are members of the GRADE Working Group: *BMJ* Rapid Recommendations adheres to GRADE methods. No panel member had any other intellectual conflict to disclose.