



## **Antibiotic Guideline for Open Sternum**

### **PCICU Patients:**

- Prophylaxis with **Cefazolin** from time of chest opening until **24 hours post chest closure**.
  - Dosing:
    - Postnatal Age  $\leq 7$  days: IV: 30mg/kg/dose every 12 hours.
    - Postnatal Age  $> 7$  days: IV: 30 mg/kg/dose every 8 hours.
- “MRSA Screen”- Order #: LAB234 (ideally sent 1-7 days preop):
  - If Pre-op MRSA Screen **POSITIVE**:
    - **Add vancomycin** 15mg/kg IV, (max dose 2000mg)  
“Pharmacy to dose” in addition to cefazolin
    - Chlorhexidine and Mupirocin per standard post-op protocol
  - If Pre-op MRSA Screen **NEGATIVE**:
    - Chlorhexidine and mupirocin per standard post-op protocol
    - Cefazolin alone for open chest prophylaxis
  - If Pre-op MRSA Screen **UNKNOWN or not sent**:
    - Send “MRSA Screen” (order #: LAB234)
    - Chlorhexidine and mupirocin per standard-post op protocol
    - Add vancomycin 15mg/kg IV, (max dose 2000mg) “Pharmacy to dose” in addition to cefazolin if screen results positive