

WEB TABLE II DETAILS OF EXCLUDED STUDIES

<i>Author [Ref.]</i>	<i>Reasons for exclusion</i>
Soofi, <i>et al.</i> [9]	The study compared two strategies of treatment of severe pneumonia (oral amoxicillin treatment and referral to nearest health facility for admission) Comparison of oral and parenteral antibiotics not possible as patients in standard treatment group received varied antibiotics. No separate data on children receiving oral or parenteral treatment.
Bari, <i>et al.</i> [10]	Compared two strategies of treatment for severe pneumonia. The comparison is between oral amoxicillin treatment and referral to nearest health facility for admission after administration of single dose of oral co-trimoxazole.
Atkinson, <i>et al.</i> [11]	Compared oral amoxicillin with Intravenous penicillin in radiographic pneumonia. Inclusion criterion was radiographic pneumonia and outcome measures were improvement in fever. In the present review we included studies that used the WHO criteria for severe pneumonia.
Bradley, <i>et al.</i> [12]	Compared oral levofloxacin and comparator group which included oral drugs such as co-amoxiclavulanic acid, clarithromycin and erythromycin as well as parenteral drug-ceftriaxone). Separate data for children below 5 years of age and for oral and parenteral antibiotics was not available.
Choudhury, <i>et al.</i> [13]	Did not compare oral and parenteral antibiotics for severe pneumonia
Addo-Yobo, <i>et al.</i> [14]	Not a randomized controlled trial
Straus, <i>et al.</i> [15]	Randomized controlled trial compared amoxicillin and co-trimoxazole, both medications given orally.
Sidal, <i>et al.</i> [16]	Children between 3 months to 14 years of age with moderate pneumonia. Definition of moderate pneumonia not clear. Separate data (cure/ failure rates) for children below 60 months of age not available.
Tsarouhas, <i>et al.</i> [17]	Study included children between 6 months to 18 years of age with radiographically confirmed pneumonia. No separate data for children below 60 months of age. In the present review, we included children with WHO defined severe pneumonia.