Algorithm: Acute Pharyngitis

1. Concern for pharyngitis
   - Sore throat plus 2 or more of the following?
     - Absence of cough, runny nose
     - Presence of tonsillar exudates or swelling
     - History of fever
     - Presence of swollen and tender anterior cervical lymph nodes
     - Age <15 years
     - Penicillin V or Amoxicillin (50 mg/kg once daily, max 1000-1200 mg/day) for 10 days

2. Perform rapid streptococcal antigen testing
   - Generally avoid testing in children <3 years

3. Rapid positive?
   - YES
     - Defer antibiotics. Await throat culture. Positive?
   - NO
     - Allergic to penicillins?
       - YES
         - Alternatives for 10 days:
           - Cephalexin
           - Clindamycin
       - NO
         - Penicillin V or Amoxicillin (50 mg/kg once daily, max 1000-1200 mg/day) for 10 days

4. Defer antibiotics.