**Preoperative Antibiotics: The Basics**

- **Purpose**: To prevent surgical site infections!
  - *Prophylactic antibiotics need to be given regardless of other antibiotics prescribed to the patient; consideration should be given to prior dose/time*

- **Timing**: Most antibiotics should be **administered 15-60 minutes prior to surgical incision**
  - Allows for maximum tissue penetration prior to incision
  - Exceptions:
    - Vancomycin (2 hours prior to incision)
    - Gentamicin (60 minutes prior to incision)
    - Fluconazole (60 minutes prior to incision)
    - Gentamicin (60 minutes prior to incision)

- **Ordering**: **Surgical Service is responsible for ordering antibiotics**
  - Preoperative Antibiotic Grids available to guide correct antibiotic selection
  - Correct antibiotic selections are embedded into Preop Order Sets for most surgical services
  - Penicillin/Cephalosporin allergy recommendations available
    - *Use only for patients with TRUE allergies* (anaphylaxis, hives, bronchospasm)
    - Verify reactions with patients during clinic visit or prior to surgery & document in IHIS
    - New evidence that patients with documented PCN allergy have 1.5x higher risk of surgical site infection
  - MRSA Screens required for some Cardiac, Neurosurgical, & Orthopedic procedures
  - To ensure timely administration, the goal should be to **order the antibiotics PRIOR TO admission** for planned procedures or in the Preoperative Clinic visit
    - If ordering ahead of time “Sign and Hold” the Orders for release on day of surgery

- **Where you do access the grids?**: OneSource

> **Click here!**

**Type in Antibiotic Grid into Search Bar**

**Choose the Surgical Category**