ESBL –ALERT

Your Patient is infected by ESBL producing strain; which is a hardy organisms and difficult to treat.

Please remember following points:

- Strain is to be considered resistant to all penicillins and cephalosporins, except cephamycin (cefoxitin, cefotetan). But therapeutic response with them may not be as expected.
- β-lactam and β-lactamase inhibitor combination may show therapeutic response, but it depends on the type of enzyme produced.
- Best therapeutic options are piperacillin - tazobactum combination and imipenem / meropenem.
- They often carry a plasmid that may code for co-resistance to multiple drugs particularly aminoglycosides and quinolones.
- To prevent spread of such strains in hospital environment and to other patients. Follow standard precautions stringently and if possible have dedicated instruments (like stethoscope, thermometer, bedpans etc.) for these patients.