Endotracheal tube and/or tracheostomy for >48 hours and colonisation of upper airways

Yes

evaluate immune impairment in the pre-infection period [7,30]

No

Use the combination of PCT plus CPIS
Order CXR (if not done in last 24 hrs)

Yes

Calculate CPIS

>6

Probable VAP
Obtain BAL: evaluate S100A8, lactotransferrin and actinin 1 [19]
Antibiotics advised : Quantitative polymerase chain reaction reduces the time for microbiological diagnosis, allowing to start immediately the right antibiotics [27]

No

VAP Score of 6 or less
Antibiotics not advised
Repeat in 24 hours

Day 3 Review
Check Microbiology results

Negative cultures and no new infiltrates on CXR
Consider stopping antibiotics *

Positive cultures = confirmed VAP
7 day course of antibiotics advised *
De-escalate to narrower spectrum antibiotic based on sensitivities *