II. What Is the Appropriate Evaluation and Treatment for Purulent SSTIs (Cutaneous Abscesses, Furuncles, Carbuncles, and Inflamed Epidermoid Cysts)?

Recommendations
3. Gram stain and culture of pus from carbuncles and abscesses are recommended, but treatment without these studies is reasonable in typical cases (strong, moderate).

4. Gram stain and culture of pus from inflamed epidermoid cysts are not recommended (strong, moderate).

5. Incision and drainage is the recommended treatment for inflamed epidermoid cysts, carbuncles, abscesses, and large furuncles, mild (Figure 1) (strong, high).

6. The decision to administer antibiotics directed against *S. aureus* as an adjunct to incision and drainage should be