

ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP FOR LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

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OBJECTIVES

- 1. Define Antibiotic Stewardship Programs
- Recall two key components of CMS F881, Antibiotic Stewardship Program
- 3. Describe CDC Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship in Nursing Homes
- Explore tools for assessing residents for infection, interpreting antibiograms, measures of use.



ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (F881)

Antibiotic Stewardship Program (F881) will be surveyed in Phase 2, effective November 28, 2017.

§483.80(a) Infection prevention and control program.

- The facility must establish an infection prevention and control program (IPCP) that must include, at a minimum, the following elements:
- §483.80(a)(3) An antibiotic stewardship program that includes antibiotic use protocols and a system to monitor antibiotic use.



WHAT IS ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP?

 The act of using antibiotics appropriately—that is, using them only when truly needed and using the right antibiotic for each infection.

- It is called "stewardship" because it protects the effectiveness of the most important tool we have to fight life-threatening bacterial infections: antibiotics.
- The Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics states: "Antibiotics are uniquely societal drugs because individual use affects others in the community and environment..."



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE NOT GOOD STEWARDS OF ANTIBIOTICS?

- Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria adapt so that the drugs used to treat infections are less effective or do not work at all.
- Some bacteria (MSRA, VRE, CRE) have become resistant to multiple types of antibiotics, making infections harder to treat.
- Increased antibiotic use increases the risk for health care-associated infections, such as *Clostridium* difficile infections, to emerge in the nursing home.



NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING ANTIBIOTIC EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

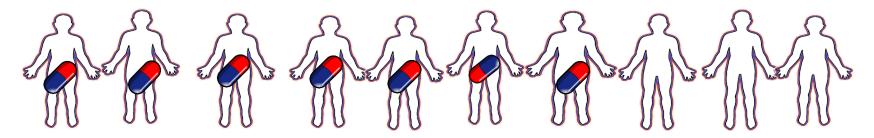
- Antibiotics now save millions of lives each year
- Rise of antibiotic-resistant strains represent a serious threat to public health and economy
- CDC estimates, antibiotic resistance causes at least two million illnesses and 23,000 deaths in US annually

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING ANTIBIOTIC - RESISTANT BACTERIA; September 2014
National Nursing Home Quality Improvement Campaign
Quality Improvement Organization (QIO)



REALITY

- Antibiotics are among the most frequently prescribed medications in nursing homes
- Up to 70% of residents receive <u>one or more</u> courses of systemic antibiotics
- Studies have shown that 40-75% of antibiotics may be unnecessary or inappropriate





REALITY

 Harms from antibiotic overuse may be significant for the frail and older adults in long term care facilities

May include:

- Risk of serious diarrheal infections from Clostridium difficile
- Increased adverse drug events
- Increased drug interactions
- Potential for colonization and/or infection with antibiotic-resistant organisms.



FACTORS AFFECTING UNNECESSARY ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING

- Prescribers treating nursing home residents depend on someone else's assessment.
- Difficulty obtaining lab data
- Older adults with multiple co-morbidities, may not be reliable historians, may have vague symptoms



TEN CLINICAL SITUATIONS IN LONG-TERM CARE FOR WHICH ANTIBIOTICS ARE OFTEN PRESCRIBED BUT RARELY NECESSARY

Urinary Tract Conditions

Positive urine culture/asymptomatic patient

Urinalysis/culture for malodorous urine

Non-specific symptoms (poor appetite, agitation, etc.,)

Respiratory Tract Conditions

Upper respiratory infections (Generally caused by viral pathogens)

Bronchitis absent COPD

Suspected/confirmed influenza

Respiratory Symptoms/terminal patient

Skin

Skin wounds without cellulitis (absence of infection)

Localized abscess (Benefit from I&D)

Decubitus ulcer in terminal patient (focus on comfort care)



CORE ELEMENTS FOR ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP IN LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES (CDC)

> Leadership Commitment

- Write statements that support improving antibiotic use
- Include stewardship-related duties in job descriptions and annual performance reviews
- Ensure staff are given sufficient time to contribute to stewardship activities
- Support training and education
- Ensure participation from the many groups that can support stewardship activities



Why is Antibiotic Stewardship Important for Nursing Homes?

- Antibiotics are some of the most commonly prescribed medications in nursing homes.
- Over the course of a year, up to 70% of nursing home residents get an antibiotic.
- Roughly 40% to 75% of antibiotics are prescribed incorrectly.
- In nursing homes, high rates of antibiotics are prescribed to prevent urinary tract infection (UTI) and respiratory tract infection (RTI). Prescribing antibiotics before there is an infection often contributes to misuse.
- Often residents are given antibiotics just because they are colonized with (carrying) bacteria that are not making the person sick. Prescribing antibiotics for colonization contributes to antibiotic overuse.
- When patients are transferred between facilities, for example from a nursing home to a hospital, poor communication between facilities about prescribed antibiotics (e.g., rationals, number of days) plus insufficient infection control practices can result in antibiotic misuse and the spread of antibiotic resistance.
- Antibiotic-related harms, such as diarrhea from C. difficile, can be severe, difficult to treat, and lead to hospitalizations and deaths, especially among people over age 65.
- Qurrent nursing home regulations (e.g., F-tag 441, F-tag 329, F-tag 428) already include a requirement to review and monitor antibiotic use.

What Can I Do as a Leader to Improve Antibiotic Use?

- Share formal statements in support of improving antibiotic use with staff, residents and families.
- Commit resources for monitoring antibiotic use and providing feedback to staff.
- Identify and empower the medical director, director of nursing, and/or consultant pharmacist to lead stewardship activities.



CORE ELEMENTS FOR ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP IN LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES (CDC)

- > Accountability
 - Empower staff (Medical Director, DON, consultant pharmacist, IP etc.,)
- Drug Expertise
 - Identify consultant Pharmacist
 - Develop relationships with infectious disease experts and other ASPs
- > Action
 - Take action through policy and practice change to improve use

Who are the Antibiotic Stewardship Leaders in Nursing Homes?

- Medical Director
- Director of Nursing
- Consultant Pharmacist

What are their Roles?



Medical Directors can:

- Set standards for antibiotic prescribing practices for all healthcare providers prescribing antibiotics.
- Oversee adherence to antibiotic prescribing practices.
- Review antibiotic use data and ensure best practices (e.g., the right drug at the right dose for the right amount of time) are followed.



Directors of Nursing can:

- Establish standards for nursing staff to assess, monitor and communicate changes in a resident's condition that could impact the need for antibiotics.
- Use their influence as nurse leaders to help ensure antibiotics are prescribed only when appropriate.
- Educate front line nursing staff about the importance of antibiotic stewardship and explain policies in place to improve antibiotic use.



Consultant Pharmacists can:

- Provide education to staff about the different types of antibiotics and their uses.
- Review antibiotic prescriptions as part of the drug regimen review for new medications and ensure they are ordered appropriately.
- Establish laboratory testing protocols to monitor for adverse events and drug interactions related to use of antibiotics and other high risk medications.
- Review microbiology culture results and provide feedback to prescribers on



CORE ELEMENTS FOR ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP IN LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

- > Tracking and Reporting
 - Process measures
 - How and why antibiotics are prescribed
 - Antibiotic use measures
 - How often and how many
 - Antibiotic outcome measures
 - Adverse outcomes and cost
- > Education
 - Clinicians, nursing staff, residents and families

http://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/pdfs/coreelements-antibiotic-stewardship-appendix-b.pdf



This document contains more detailed explanations of antibiotic use process and outcome measures which can be tracked by nursing homes to monitor the impact of their antibiotic stewardship activities.



F-TAG 881 CMS NURSING HOME ASP REGULATIONS

 Regulations requiring an antibiotic stewardship program (ASP) that includes:

- Antibiotic use protocols,
- System to monitor antibiotic use,
- Education for prescribing practitioners, residents and nursing staff
- Be reviewed on an annual basis and as needed
- Effective: November 28, 2017
 - 42 C.F.R 483.80(a)(3) Infection Control

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NURSING HOME ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP **GUIDE**



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Advancing Excellence in Health Care

Provides toolkits to help nursing homes optimize their use of antibiotics. https://www.ahrq.gov/nhguide/index.html

Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide



Overview of the Guide

The Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide provides toolkits to help nursing homes optimize their use of antibiotics.

Browse Antimicrobial Stewardship **Toolkits**

Toolkits on four topic areas are available.

Implement, Monitor, and Sustain a Program Two toolkits help nursing homes start and maintain antimicrobial stewardship programs



AHRQ'S ASP GUIDE

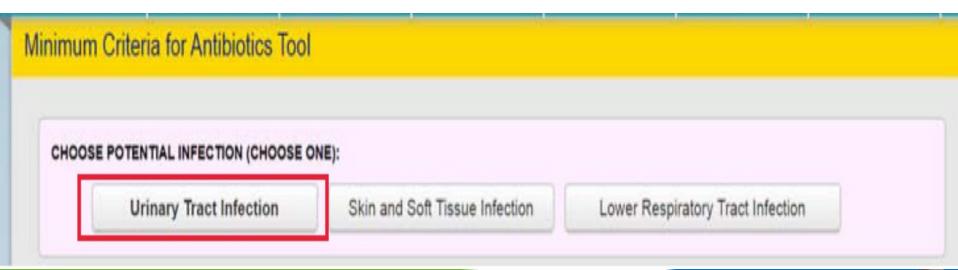
Sections of the AHRQ Guide

- I. Implement, Monitor, and Sustain an Antimicrobial Stewardship Program
- II. Determine Whether it is Necessary to Treat Potential Infections With Antibiotics
- III. Help Prescribing Clinicians Choose the Right Antibiotics
- IV. Educate and Engage Residents and Family Members

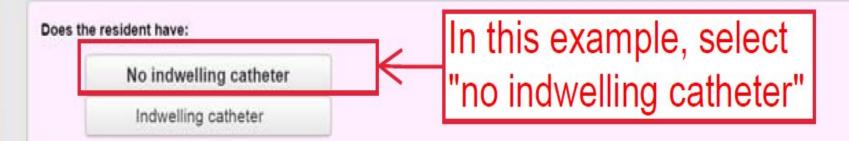


AHRQ SBAR TOOL: MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR ANTIBIOTICS

 Tool is a web app with a diagnostic guidance tool for prescribing clinicians—to improve the use of antibiotics for three common infections. (http://nhguide.airprojects.org/tool3)



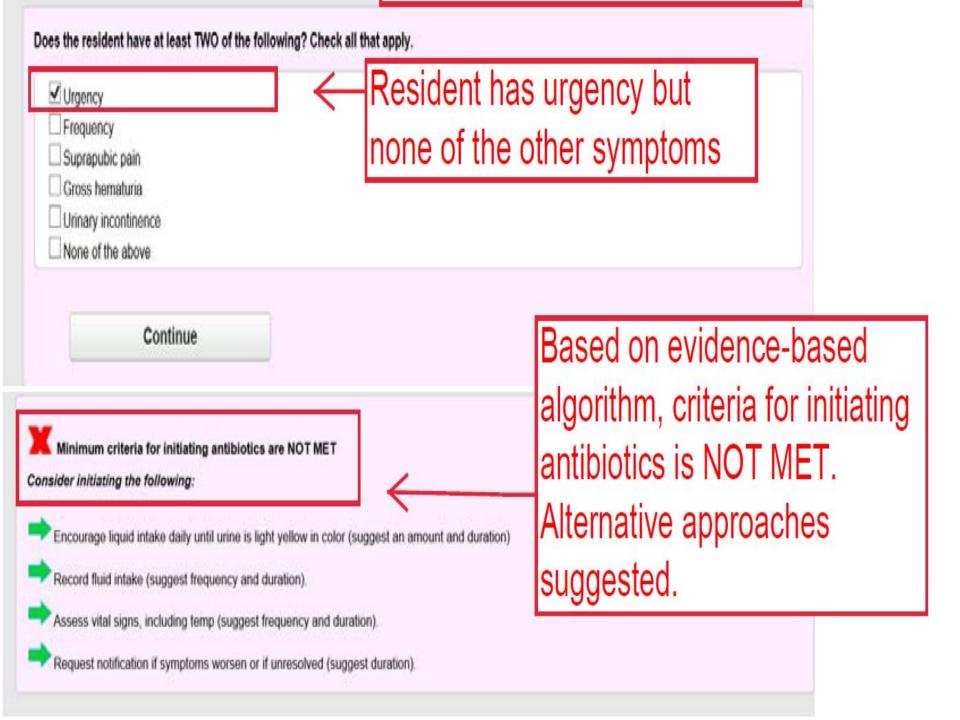




Notes:

- 1. Urine cultures should not be performed on a scheduled basis (e.g., monthly).
- 2. Urine cultures should not be used to identify UTIs in the absence of symptoms.
- 3. Smelly or cloudy urine is not a symptom of a UTI.
- 4. Residents with an intermittent catheter or a condom catheter should be evaluated as if they are not catheterized.
- Urine cultures should be used to identify the most appropriate antibiotic. For residents with acute dysuria, it may be appropriate to initiate empirical antibiotic therapy; but for all other symptoms, wait for a urine culture.
- 6. For residents that regularly run a lower temperature, use a temperature of 2°F (1°C) above the baseline as a definition of a fever.





AHRQ TOOL 2: SUSPECTED UTI SBAR

- The Suspected UTI Situation, Background, Assessment, and Request (SBAR) toolkit helps nursing home staff and prescribing clinicians communicate about suspected UTIs and facilitates appropriate antibiotic prescribing.
- Suspected UTI SBAR form consists of questions that help nurses collect the most relevant information about a resident with a suspected UTI for the prescribing clinician, who then uses the information to assess the need for an antibiotic prescription.



Complete this form before contacting the resident's physician.	Date/Time			
Nursing Home Name				
Resident Name	Date of Birth			
Physician/NP/PA	_ Phone			
	Fax			
Nurse				
Submitted by □ Phone □ Fax □ In Person □ Other				
Cubinities Dy Diribite Dies Dinities Dealer				
S Situation				
I am contacting you about a suspected UTI for the above residen				
Vital Signs BP / HR F	Resp. rate Temp			
B Background				
Active diagnoses or other symptoms (especially, bladder, kidney/	genitourinary conditions)			
Specify				
□ No □ Yes The resident has an indwelling catheter	\neg			
□ No □ Yes Patient is on dialysis				
□ No □ Yes The resident is incontinent If yes, new/wors	ening? □ No □ Yes			
□ No □ Yes Advance directives for limiting treatment related	ed to antibiotics and/or hospitalizations			
Specify				
□ No □ Yes Medication Allergies				
□ No □ Yes Medication Allergies Specify				





Nursing Home Name Facility Fax										
Resident Name										
A Assessment Input (check all boxes that apply)										
Resident WITH indwelling catheter Resident WITHOUT indwelling catheter										
The criteria are met to initiate										
antibiotics if one of the below	No Yes									
are selected No Yes	□ □ 1. Acute dysuria alone									
□ □ Fever of 100°F (38°C) or OR										
repeated temperatures of 99°F (37°C)*	 2. Single temperature of 100°F (38°C) and at least one new or worsening of the following: 									
□ □ New back or flank pain	□ urgency □ suprapubic pain									
□ □ Acute pain	☐ frequency ☐ gross hematuria									
□ □ Rigors / shaking chills	□ back or flank pain □ urinary incontinence									
□ New dramatic change in mental status	— OR —									
□ □ Hypotension (significant	□ □ 3. No fever, but two or more of the following symptoms:									
change from baseline BP	 □ urgency □ suprapubic pain □ frequency □ gross hematuria 									
or a systolic BP <90)	□ incontinence									
Nurses: Please check box to indicate	whether or not criteria are met									
□ Nursing home protocol criteria are	met. Resident may require UA with C&S or an antibiotic.†									
 Nursing home protocol criteria are prescription for an antibiotic, but m 	NOT met. The resident does NOT need an immediate ay need additional observation.††									
R Request for Physician/NP/	PA Orders									
Orders were provided by clinician through	gh □ Phone □ Fax □ In Person □ Other									
□ Order UA										
☐ Urine culture										
□ Encourage ounces of liquid	l intake times daily until urine is light yellow in color.									
□ Record fluid intake.										
	, including temp, every hours for hours.									
□ Notify Physician/NP/PA if symptoms worsen or if unresolved in hours.										
□ Initiate the following antibiotic										
	Dose: Route: Duration:									
□ No □ Yes Pharmacist to adjusted										
□ Other										
Physician/NP/PA signature	Date/Time									
Telephone order received by	Date/Time									
Family/POA notified (name)	Family/POA notified (name) Date/Time									
* For residents that regularly run a lower tempera	sture, use a temperature of 2°F (1°C) above the baseline as a definition of a fever.									

† This is according to our understanding of best practices and our facility protocols. Minimum criteria for a UTI must meet 1 of 3 criteria listed in box.

†† This is according to our understanding of best practices and our facility protocols. The information is insufficient to indicate an

active UTI infection.

TOOLKIT 1-IMPLEMENT THE SUSPECTED UTI SBARS

Implementing the toolkit involves four steps.

- 1. Introduce the Suspected UTI SBAR form to prescribing practitioners (Tool 1)
- Clinician Letter: A template for a letter to prescribing clinicians explaining the form and its rationale (Tool 2)
- 3. Introduce the tools to nurses (Tool 4)
- 4. Incorporate tools into daily practice (Tool 3)



SYSTEM TO MONITOR ANTIBIOTIC USE

F881 states that Antibiotic Stewardship Program must include:

- 1) Antibiotic use protocols and
- 2) System to monitor antibiotic use

Appendix PP, F881 states, A system of reports related to monitoring antibiotic usage and resistance data may include:

• Summarizing antibiotic resistance (e.g., antibiogram) based on laboratory data from, for example, the last 18 months.

 In the new LTC survey Infection Control Care Pathway, Antibiogram is also referenced.



WHAT IS AN ANTIBIOGRAM?

- A tool that presents specific nursing home facility microbiologic sensitivity data to assist prescribing clinicians to choosing the right antibiotic.
- Facility can ask lab partner to help develop antibiogram.
- A report that displays the organisms present in diagnostic clinical specimens that nursing homes send for laboratory testing—aggregated across all residents suspected of having an infection during a certain time period—along with the susceptibility of each organism to various antibiotics.



HOW TO OBTAIN AN ANTIBIOGRAM FROM A LAB

HTTPS://WWW.AHRQ.GOV/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/WYSIWYG/NHGUIDE/5 TK1 T2-WORKING WITH A LAB FINAL.PDF

Step-by-Step Guide to Working With a Laboratory To Obtain an Antibiogram:

- 1. Contact the nursing home's lab to inquire about creating an antibiogram use at least 12 months of culture data
- 2. Make an agreement with the lab to create an antibiogram, if needed (see sample Tool 3)
- 3. Establish the specifications for the antibiogram lab creates the antibiogram in accordance with quality standards as established by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guideline number M39 (see www.clsi.org)
- 4. Specify the format of the antibiogram(see sample Tool 4)



Antibiogram for dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy

Your Nursing Home Name / Clinical Lab Name

Example of Antibiogram report

Gram Negative							Grai	m Positive	
Antibiotic Tested	Escherichia coll	Klebslella pneumoniae	Proteus mirabilis	Pseudomonas aeruginosa		Staphylococcus aureus non-MRSA I MRSA †		Staphylococcus coag. Neg	Enterococcus sp
# of Isolates±	165	75	39	33		10"	35	18	68
	Oral Equivale			Oral or Oral Equivalent					
Ampicillin	46%	0%	62%			50%	0%	50%	96%
Amox / Clav	77%	96%	100%						
Cefazolin	70%	93%	88%			100%	0%	50%	
Cefoxitin	82%	100%	100%						
Ceftriaxone	85%	79%	92%						
Ciprofloxacin	58%	79%	62%	56%			0%	0%	47%
Levofloxacin	59%	79%	62%	57%		33%	20%	0%	64%
Nitrofurantoin	100%	0%	0%			100%	100%	100%	100%
TMP / SMX	64%	79%	54%			67%	100%	100%	
Tetracycline	64%	60%	0%			100%	100%	80%	38%
Oxacillin						100%	0%	50%	
Clindamycin						50%	50%	100%	
Erythromycin						50%	0%	0%	
Linezolid						100%	100%		100%
		IV Only						IV Only	
Plp / Taz	98%	96%	100%	100%					
Cefepime	89%	95%	92%	91%					
Ceffazidime				91%					
Gentamicin	85%	83%	92%	91%		100%	100%	67%	
Imipenem	100%	100%	100%	71%					
Vancomycln						100%	100%	100%	100%

^{*} Organisms with fewer than 30 isolates should be interpreted with caution, as small numbers may bias the group susceptibilities

Abbreviations: PIP/TAZ = Pipercillin/Tazobactam; TMP/SMX= Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole; Amox/Clav = Amoxicillin/Clavunate Please direct questions to: Insert program champion name, phone, e-mail

⁺ MRSA - Methicilin-resistant Staph aureus, represents a subset of all Staph aureus isolates

[‡] N= pooled isolates by species from urine, wound, sputum and blood specimens

THE NURSING HOME ANTIBIOGRAM PROGRAM TOOLKIT 3

Phase 2. Development

https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/5 TK2 P2O-Comprehensive Antibiogram Toolkit Phase 2 Development.pdf

- Nursing Home/Clinical Laboratory Communication
 - The Antibiogram Program: Sample Letter of Agreement (Word only)
 - The Antibiogram Program: Sample Data Request (Word only)
 - The Antibiogram Program: Antibiogram Specifications

Antibiogram Development

- The Antibiogram Program: Antibiogram Development Tool Workbook (Excel)
- The Antibiogram Program: Sample Laboratory Data Print Out (Word only)
- The Antibiogram Program: Checklist for Identifying Nursing Home-Specific Antibiogram Modifications

https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/5 TK2 P2T7-Checklist for Identifying Nursing Home Specific Antibiogram Modifications Phase 2.pdf

The Antibiogram Program: Sample Antibiogram
 The Antibiogram Program: Sample Antibiogram



EXAMPLE REPORTS FOR MONITORING ANTIBIOTIC USAGE &RESISTANCE DATA

Reports to prescribers, providers and staff could include data on:

- Compliance with antibiotic use protocols based on review of medical records;
- Prescription documentation including the indications for use, dosage, and duration; and the clinical justification for the use of an antibiotic beyond the initial duration order;
- Summarizing antibiotic use from pharmacy data such as the rate of new starts to types of antibiotics prescribed;
- Summarizing antibiotic resistance based on laboratory data and tracking measures of outcomes related to antibiotic use. For example, infections from clostridium difficile and multi drug resistant organisms.



MCKNIGHT'S LTC NEWS

- Antibiotic use has to be tracked, and not only through a prevalence survey.
- Clinical management should know when antibiotics start and how days of therapy are calculated.
- Interventions related to antibiotics need to be documented.



Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide

Toolkit 2. Monitor and Sustain Stewardship

ool 2. Antibiotic Use Tracking Sheet [8.5x11 format, simplified]

onth:	th:												
nt er	Room #	Admit Date	Admit From	Onset Date	Type of Infection	Signs & Symptoms	Indicate Diagnostic Tool Used and Whether Criteria Were Met	HAI/CAI/ NHAI/ Other Nosocomial*	X-ray or Lab Results (organism identified)	Prescribing Clinician (PC)	Prescription Date and Duration	Antibiotic Name	Dose
								, and a second					
	-												

CAI = community-acquired infection; HAI = hospital-acquired infection; NHAI = nursing home-acquired infection; Other Nosocomial = acquired in another health care setting



AHRQ Pub. No. 17-0006-2-EF October 2016



TOOL 3 - SAMPLE MONTHLY SUMMARY REPORT

Summary Report of Infections and Antibiotic Use

(This example focuses on data for evaluating antibiotic use for suspected UTIs)

(I III CAUI	inpic rocus	ocs off dat	a for evale	ideliig diff.	ibiotic use	TOI Buspe	<u>ctcu 0 113)</u>
Month	Number of Resident Days	Number of Antibiotic Rx	Number of Antibiotic Rx Divided by Number of Resident Days	Number of Residents Receiving Antibiotics for UTI (incl. Repeats)	Number of UTI SBAR Forms Used	Number of UTIs That Met Diagnostic Criteria	Number of Negative Cultures
Jan	2,790 (90 residents x 31 days)	3	3/2790 x 1000 = 1.1	3	3	3	0
Feb							
Mar							
Apr							
May							
Jun							
Jul							
Aug							
Sept							
Oct							
Nov							
Dec							
TOTAL							



Percent of residents receiving antibiotics (time): Number of residents on antibiotic Total number of residents in the facility x 100

(Can be stratified by specific characteristics....long versus short stay)



Percent of new admissions receiving antibiotics:

Number of residents admitted on antibiotic

Total number of new admissions x 100



Rate of New Antibiotic Starts (in LTCF):

Number of new antibiotic prescriptions
Total number of resident days x 1000

(Can be stratified by indication....UTI for example)



Rate of New Antibiotic Start by Provider:

Number of prescriptions by provider

Total number of new admissions (by prescriber) x 1000



Rate of Antibiotic DOT:

Total monthly DOT

Total monthly resident days x 1000



Antibiotic Utilization Ratio:

Total monthly DOT

Total Monthly resident days



TOOL 6- QUARTERLY OR MONTHLY PRESCRIBING PROFILE

An example of how to communicate results to prescribing practitioner

Resident Name	Infection Type/ Diagnosis	Last Treated	Organism Identified	Rx Date	Rx Duration	Antibiotic Name	Dose	Met Minimum Criteria



AHRQ SECTION 4 EDUCATE CLINICIANS, STAFF AND RESIDENTS

- Facility must provide educational resources and materials about antibiotic resistance and opportunities for improving antibiotic use to include:
- Prescribing practitioners (MD, NP, PA, Pharm D)
- Nursing staff (RN, LPN, CNA)
- Residents and representatives



EDUCATING RESIDENTS AND FAMILY

- Residents Talking Points is for nurses to educate residents about antibiotics and encourage them to ask questions or report symptoms (Tool 1)
 - Long version

https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/6 TK1 T1-Talking with Residents checklist version Final.docx

- Talking With Residents' Family Members provides similar talking points for nurses to use (Tool 2)
 - Long version

https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/6 TK1 T2 Talking with Residents Family Members Final.docx

Resident Information Sheet: Antibiotic-Resistant
 Bacteria provides a template for informing and educating
 residents who test positive for a resistant organism (Tool 3)



EDUCATE CLINICIANS, STAFF, AND RESIDENTS

- Be Smart About Antibiotics is a handout that can be given to residents to provide basic information about antibiotics and their risks (Tool 4)
- Suspect a Urinary Tract Infection? Handout for residents to explain the risks associated with unnecessary antibiotic use to treat a suspected UTI (Tool 5)
- Managing Resident and Family Expectations provides a template to discuss the tools at a staff meeting (Tool 6)



SAMPLE EDUCATION TOOLS

Be Smart About Antibiotics



Taking antibiotics when you don't need them is like leaving the lights on all the time.

- The lights may burn out, leaving you in the dark when you most need them.
- If you use antibiotics when you don't need them, they may not work when you get sick.

Antibiotics can help the body fight infections caused by germs called bacteria, but they are not miracle drugs for everything.

When antibiotics are NOT needed:

- You have an infection caused by a virus (such as a cold, bronchitis, the flu, or most types of diarrhea). Antibiotics don't work on viruses.
- You don't have an infection but instead have some other medical problem (such as anemia).
- · You are not actually sick (except in rare cases where antibiotics



Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide Determine Whether To Treat

Toolkit 3. Minimum Criteria for Common Infections Toolkit

Tool 4. Letter to Prescribing Clinicians on the Protocol for Three Common Infections

PRINTED ON NURSING HOME OR MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S STATIONERY

[DATE]

[PRESCRIBING CLINICIAN NAME] RECIPIENT ADDRESS CITY, STATE ZIP]

Re: Change in protocol regarding three common infections and antibiotic stewardship

Dear Dr./Ms./Mr. [LAST NAME],

Based on clinical practice guidelines developed by nursing home, infectious disease, and geriatric experts, our facility has decided to modify its protocol around the three most common infectious syndromes treated in nursing homes—urinary tract infections (UTIs), skin and soft-tissue infections, and lower respiratory tract infections. We will use the Minimum Criteria for Common Infections toolkit. The tools seek to facilitate gathering critical information by nurses to communicate to prescribing clinicians and/or to enable prescribing clinicians to make decisions based on the most recent guidelines. The toolkit includes a Web-based application with



RESOURCES

- CDC Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship for Nursing Homes (https://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/pdfs/core-elements-antibiotic-stewardship.pdf)
- AHRQ Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide (https://www.ahrq.gov/nhguide/index.html)
- AHRQ SBAR UTI form (https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/nhguide/4 4 TK1 T1-SBAR UTI Final.pdf
- AHRQ: Toolkit for How to Build a Nursing Home Antibiogram (https://www.ahrq.gov/nhguide/toolkits/help-clinicians-choose-the-right-antibiotic/toolkit2-concise-antibiogram-toolkit.html)



"Let us glory in living in a time when antibiotics can save us from death related to infection, but let us also recognize that they are not to be trifled with."

Elizabeth Newman, McKnight's LTC News.



QUESTIONS?



