Antimicrobial Stewardship

Antimicrobial stewardship focuses on providing patients with optimal infection treatment by targeting specific pathogens and aiming to reduce resistance. Broad spectrum antibiotic use carries a higher risk of developing resistant pathogens. Narrow spectrum anti-infective use and de-escalation of empiric therapy for known pathogens reduces resistance prevalence. Resistant pathogens threaten more severe and/or less responsive infections. Utilizing susceptibility reports, local antibiograms, sharing antimicrobial use data, and collaboration amongst healthcare providers reduces antibiotic use and pathogen resistance, contributing to the greater health of the community.

Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Program, 2019 Update.¹

**Hospital Leadership Commitment:** Dedicated time and resources for antimicrobial stewardship leaders to operate the program effectively

**Pharmacy Expertise:** appointed pharmacist as a staff member or ideally a co-leader of the antibiotic stewardship program

**Accountability:** Physician and pharmacist management of program and outcomes

**Action:** Priority ASP interventions are prospective audit, feedback, facility-specific treatment guidelines, and preauthorization

**Tracking:** Submit antibiotic use data to National Healthcare Safety Network and prioritize assessment of the impact of interventions

**Reporting:** Regularly report antibiotic use data to providers and hospital leadership

**Education:** Recommend case-based education to providers on antibiotic prescribing and resistance

**Antibiotic Stewardship Resources:**

Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA): [https://www.idsociety.org/](https://www.idsociety.org/)
- Practice guidelines
- Antibiotic stewardship recommendations and news
- Continuing education courses

CDC Antibiotic Resistance Data: [https://arbsp.cdc.gov/explorer](https://arbsp.cdc.gov/explorer)

Ohio Emerging Pathogen Coalition: [https://www.ohiohospitals.org/Patient-Safety-Quality/Innovation-Leadership/Ohio-Emerging-Pathogen-Coalition](https://www.ohiohospitals.org/Patient-Safety-Quality/Innovation-Leadership/Ohio-Emerging-Pathogen-Coalition)
- Continuing education courses

- Links to internal and external resources and tools

National Healthcare Safety Network Antimicrobial Use Option