

CDC's Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs (ASPs)

*General Fact Sheet: What You Need to Know**

I. A successful ASP should include all of the following:

- **Leadership Commitment** to the success of the ASP
 - Supplying the necessary **resources** (i.e. human, financial and information technology), statements of support, job duties/performance reviews, training and education
- **Accountability**
 - Single **program leader** who is responsible for ASP outcomes
 - Formal training in ID/AS is advantageous
 - P&T is not usually considered the stewardship team, in its normal function
- **Drug Expertise**
 - Single **pharmacist program co-leader**
 - Formal training in ID/AS is advantageous
 - Support/collaborate with essential departments/disciplines
- **Action**
 - Develop **policies and interventions** to improve antibiotic use
 - Document dose, duration and indication
 - Employ facility specific treatment recommendations
 - **Broad:** antibiotic time outs, prior authorizations, etc.
 - **Pharmacy-Driven:** IV to PO automatic changes, dose adjustments and optimizations, stop orders, etc.
 - **Infection and syndrome specific:** MRSA, UTI, CDI, etc.
- **Tracking**
 - **Monitoring prescribing, use and resistance patterns**
 - Process measures
 - Use measures: days of therapy (DOT) or defined daily dose (DDD) or
 - Ex.: National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Antibiotic Use (AU) Option
 - Outcomes measures: clinical (i.e. CDI rates), resistance, financial, etc.
- **Reporting**
 - Regularly reporting information on antibiotic use and resistance to hospital staff
- **Education**
 - Educating clinicians about resistance and optimal prescribing
 - Didactic presentations, messaging through posters/flyers/newsletters or electronic communication, reviewing cases and web-based educational resources

II. Additional considerations

- **Developments in ASPs**
 - Rapid diagnosis tests
 - Research on best interventions
 - CDC's NHSN Antimicrobial Resistance (AR) Option (standardized approach)
- **Strategies and practical guidance**
 - [National Quality Partners Playbook: Antibiotic Stewardship in Acute Care](#)
 - [Checklist for Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs](#)

***This document serves as a guide and should not be considered all inclusive**

Adapted from CDC. Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2014. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/healthcare/implementation/core-elements.html>.

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