

Do one thing differently:

Strategies to prevent antimicrobial resistance

Use Antibiograms to Reduce Unnecessary Exposure to Antibiotics

An antibiogram is a report/tool used to assess antibiotic sensitivity and resistance applicable to a specific region in order for providers to select the appropriate antibiotic. This helps prescribers make prompt, empirically-based decisions by selecting the most appropriate therapy right from the start.

Let's Get Started

- Form a working team – led by the medical director – including the lab, pharmacist, infection preventionist and nursing leadership.
- Gather your resource materials and data - lab and dispensing pharmacy play a major role.
- Work with your lab or local health department to access a current antibiogram.
- Educate, train and distribute.

Tips for Success

- Appoint co-champions, one for the clinical lead and one for project management oversight. Avoid asking one person to fill both roles.
- Engage infectious disease specialists from your transferring hospitals. Share your plans and invite them to speak to your team.
- Consider a regional antibiogram if you do not have the minimum diagnostic sourced isolate level of 30 – check with your state health department.
- Document your ongoing efforts to develop an antibiogram within your Antibiotic Stewardship Committee.
- Work with your electronic health record (EHR) vendor to develop direct access to the antibiogram.

Share these resources with your team:



[Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Pocket Card](#)



[AHRQ Antibiotic Stewardship Toolkits](#)



[CDC Antibiotic Prescribing and Use Patient Resources and Education](#)

Did you know?



In 2020, healthcare providers prescribed 201.9 million antibiotic prescriptions, equivalent to 613 antibiotic prescriptions per 1,000 persons.

CDC Outpatient Antibiotic Prescriptions – United States, 2020