# 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

## 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



CDC Antibiotic
Prescribing and Use
Patient Resources
and Education

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