

Tier 1: Implement Global Strategies to Improve Antimicrobial Use

Convene a Workgroup to Focus on Tier 1 Strategies	Develop and Share Institutional Guidelines for Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)/Asymptomatic Bacteriuria (ASB) and Community-Acquired Pneumonia (CAP)	Integrate and Operationalize Institutional Guidelines for UTI and CAP	Reduce Duration of Antibiotic Treatment for Uncomplicated CAP to 5 Days	Reduce Testing and Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria (ASB)	De-escalate Antibiotic Treatment for UTI and Pneumonia
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TIER 1: GLOBAL STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE ANTIMICROBIAL USE

Recommendation	Background, Rationale and Suggested Implementation Strategies	Resources, References & Tools
1. Convene a Workgroup to Focus on Tier 1 Strategies	- The workgroup will likely be a new subgroup of your antimicrobial stewardship team. - For maximum impact, the workgroup should consist of a multidisciplinary team that includes (but is not limited to) key stakeholders, such as a hospitalist, infectious disease physician and/or pharmacist, emergency medicine physician, house officers, IT personnel, microbiology lab representative, and nursing. - Designate an internal lead for urinary tract infection (UTI) and pneumonia antibiotic-related quality improvement efforts. This person is responsible for ensuring implementation of interventions recommended by the workgroup, as well as identifying barriers and troubleshooting during implementation. - Meet quarterly to review data, define problem areas, identify underlying causes of problem areas and determine interventions for improvement. - Communicate work to local leadership to ensure institutional buy-in. - Engage key stakeholders in the design of interventions to encourage provider buy-in. - When implementing interventions, consider using behavioral economic principles or social psychology to provide additional cultural incentives to change. - Implement at least two new interventions per year. - Assess post-intervention data for success or failure of intervention, and make modifications as needed.	Resources & Tools: - HMS site reports (hard copy distributed at collaborative wide meetings and live reports available daily via the HMS data entry system) - CDC Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs - Video with Summary of Updates to the Core Elements: Click Here - CDC Implementation of Antibiotic Stewardship Core Elements at Small and Critical Access Hospitals CDC Antibiotic Training Course Series 1 (Webinar-Free CE's available) CDC Antibiotic Training Course Series 2 (Webinar-Free CE's available) - IDSA Guidelines for Implementing an Antibiotic Stewardship Program - Quality Improvement Organizations MITIGATE Antimicrobial Stewardship Toolkit: A practical guide for implementation in adult and pediatric emergency department and urgent care setting - Presentation by Dr. Arjun Srinivasan at the July 31, 2019 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: An Update on National Stewardship Activities 2019 References: - Schoyer, E., et al. Clostridioides difficile infection. <i>AHRQ Making Healthcare Safer III</i> 2020. - Demonstrates the importance of antimicrobial stewardship in the prevention of <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> infection, including a summary of articles published from 2008 to 2018. - Saint S et al. Importance of leadership for successful implementation of interventions to prevent hospital-acquired infections. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol</i> 2010. - Strong leaders focus on overcoming barriers, inspire their employees, and think strategically while acting locally - ANA/CDC White paper. Redefining the Antimicrobial Stewardship Team. 2017. - Demonstrates importance of nursing and multidisciplinary antibiotic stewardship teams, highlighting roles individuals can play in stewardship efforts - Heil E et al. Essential Role of Pharmacists in Antimicrobial Stewardship. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol</i> 2016. - Highlights the critical role of antimicrobial stewardship-trained pharmacists in a successful hospital stewardship program.

		- Sikkens JJ et al. Behavioral Approach to Appropriate Antimicrobial Prescribing in Hospitals: The Dutch Unique Method for Antimicrobial Stewardship (DUMAS) Participatory Intervention Study. <i>JAMA Intern Med</i> 2017. - Shared the problems of inappropriate prescribing, and allowed providers free choice to develop an intervention. - Inappropriate antimicrobial prescribing decreased
2. Develop and Share Institutional Guidelines for UTI/ASB and CAP	- Develop institutional guidelines, locally-adapted from national and HMS guidelines, for treatment of community-acquired pneumonia (CAP) and urinary tract infection (UTI)/asymptomatic bacteriuria (ASB). If institution specific guidelines already exist, they should comply with the following: CAP <i>Institutional guidelines should:</i> - Recommend 5-day antibiotic treatment duration for uncomplicated CAP - Review the IDSA/ATS CAP guidelines, taking into account pneumonia severity and risk factors for MRSA and antibiotic resistant gram-negative pathogens, which may warrant broader antibiotic therapy - Provide recommendations for transition to oral therapy - De-emphasize fluoroquinolones UTI/ASB <i>Institutional guidelines should:</i> - Recommend against sending urine cultures in the absence of urinary symptoms - Recommend against treating a positive urine culture in the absence of urinary symptoms - De-emphasize fluoroquinolones - Provide recommendations for transition to oral therapy - Share the CAP and UTI/ASB guidelines with members of the work group and frontline providers to get feedback and to ensure buy-in. - Publish guidelines in multiple formats, including booklet, hospital intranet, or an application for smartphones.	Resources & Tools: <i>Examples of Guidelines that could be locally-adapted to your institution:</i> - National Guidelines: Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)/American Thoracic Society Consensus Guidelines on the Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia in Adults. CID 2019. IDSA Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Adults. CID 2019. IDSA and European Society for Microbiology and Infectious Disease Guidelines for Treatment of Acute Uncomplicated Cystitis and Pyelonephritis in Women. CID 2010. IDSA Guidelines for Diagnosis, Prevention, and Treatment of Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CA-UTI) in Adults. CID 2010. - HMS Guideline: CAP UTI - Institutional Guideline Examples: CAP Guideline Example #1 (Michigan Medicine) CAP Guideline Example #2 (St. Joseph Mercy - Ann Arbor) UTI Guideline Example #1 (Michigan Medicine) UTI Guideline Example #2 (St. Joseph Mercy - Ann Arbor) - Pocket Cards: CAP UTI

	Share HMS data and local opportunities for improvement institution-wide.	
3. Integrate and Operationalize Institutional Guidelines for UTI and CAP	- Educate providers, including hospitalists, internal medicine, family medicine, emergency medicine physicians, residents, advanced practice professionals (APPs), and nursing staff about antibiotic resistance and appropriate antimicrobial prescribing. - Educate patients and families about antibiotic resistance and appropriate antimicrobial prescribing. - During educational sessions, highlight HMS data, showing opportunities for improvement. - Communicate and promote institution-specific guidelines with frontline providers, including physicians, APPs, nursing, and pharmacy to ensure use of recommendations (morning report, grand rounds, medical staff meetings, division meetings). - Integrate recommendations into key processes within the healthcare system such as into order sets, individual orders, discharge planning/processes, required yearly education for staff, etc. - Build systems that can help modify provider behavior. Examples include (but are not limited to): clinical decision support tools and pharmacist review of antibiotic prescribing. - After 3 months of guideline use, obtain provider feedback from multiple groups (including hospitalists, internal medicine, emergency department, etc.), and modify accordingly. - Consider social factors in marketing guidelines to frontline providers. Highlight their participation in creation of the guidelines, and try to overcome viewpoints of loss of provider autonomy. Instead, emphasize improvement in quality and outcomes. - Involve hospitalist champions in the education and dissemination process.	Resources & Tools: - Review HMS institution specific data to identify areas for local improvement UTI Order Set Example (Michigan Medicine) - Patient Education Handout Example: What You Need to Know When You are Prescribed an Antibiotic - Presentations (For HMS Members): - Henry Ford Antimicrobial Stewardship Team at the March 21, 2018 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: Implementation of a Short Course Antibiotic Initiative - Dr. Sara Cosgrove (Director of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, Johns Hopkins Hospital) at the July 12, 2018 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: Optimizing Antimicrobial Use in the Inpatient Setting - Dmitriy Martirosov (Infectious Disease Pharmacist, Beaumont Health System) at the March 8, 2019 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: Curtailling Diagnosis and Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria (ASB) - Dr. Larissa May (Director of Emergency Department Antibiotic Stewardship, University of California-Davis) at the November 12, 2019 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: Doing What's Best for Our Patients: Antibiotic Stewardship in the ED Setting References: - Ciarkowski CE et al. A Pathway for Community-Acquired Pneumonia with Rapid Conversion to Oral Therapy Improves Health Care Value. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2020. - This study noted a shorter length of IV antibiotic therapy when a clinical decision support-driven CAP pathway was implemented, along with active antimicrobial stewardship review. - Meeker D et al. Nudging guideline-concordant antibiotic prescribing: a randomized clinical trial. <i>JAMA Intern Med</i> 2014. - Displayed poster-sized commitment letters to avoid inappropriate antibiotic prescribing for Acute Respiratory

		Infections (ARIs) in exam rooms, providing patient/family education and behavioral “nudge” - Hartley S et al. Evaluating a Hospitalist-Based Intervention to Decrease Unnecessary Antimicrobial Use in Patients With Asymptomatic Bacteriuria. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol</i> 2016. - Reduced treatment of ASB with educational sessions and pocket cards for hospitalists at all sites, and a pharmacist-led review of positive urine cultures at one site - Haas MK et al. Effects of a Syndrome-Specific Antibiotic Stewardship Intervention for Inpatient Community-Acquired Pneumonia. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2016. - Reduced duration of CAP treatment by development of institutional guidelines and integration into CPOE for treatment of non-ICU CAP using key stakeholders and hospitalist physician champions. - For education/dissemination: utilized emails, posters in work rooms, presentations in Grand Rounds and division meetings - Scymczak J et al. Pediatrician Perceptions of an Outpatient Antimicrobial Stewardship Intervention. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol</i> 2014. - Qualitative study interviewing pediatricians after a stewardship intervention - Found skepticism of accuracy of audit and feedback reports.
4. Reduce Duration of Antibiotic Treatment for Uncomplicated CAP to 5 Days	- Educate providers about elimination of HCAP and new broader CAP definition per 2019 ATS/IDSA CAP guidelines - Educate providers on the justification for 5 days of therapy for uncomplicated CAP - Review CAP cases identified by HMS to implement high-yield interventions for recurrent problems - Evaluate and understand differences in provider groups (e.g., hospitalists, emergency medicine providers). Target interventions to specific provider groups as necessary. - Evaluate existing order sets to ensure antibiotic preferred options, doses, and durations are consistent with institutional pneumonia guidelines. - Require documentation of dose and indication and total duration of antibiotics prescribed in the antibiotic order. - Encourage documentation of dose, indication, and duration of antibiotics in the progress note.	Resources & Tools: - HMS Document: Treatment duration for uncomplicated community-acquired pneumonia: the evidence in support of 5 days. - Review HMS site reports (hard copy distributed at collaborative wide meetings and live reports available daily via the HMS data entry system) for the following: - Uncomplicated CAP treated with 5 days of antibiotics Types of Reports Available via HMS Registry: Hospital Specific, Provider Group Specific (i.e. hospitalist v. emergency room physician), or Provider Specific - HMS Guideline: CAP CAP Pocket Card - Consider modifying to poster size for posting in workrooms Factsheet Emphasizing Focus on Discharge Prescriptions 72-hour Antibiotic Time Out Checklist Tiered Antibiotic Use at Discharge Resource Antibiotic Use at Discharge Pocket Card (Michigan Medicine)

	• Require a 72-hour Antibiotic Time Out, during which total duration should be discussed. • Focus efforts on discharge prescribing, as HMS data shows that discharge prescriptions account for 80% of inappropriate antibiotic treatment for uncomplicated CAP. • Require documentation of the total duration of antibiotics in the discharge summary, potentially incorporating an area for antibiotic duration to be filled out in an automated discharge process. • Incorporate nursing and pharmacy into review of the discharge antibiotic. • Provide audit and feedback directly to providers regarding the duration of antibiotics they use for patients with uncomplicated CAP. • Consider incorporating compliance with treatment duration for uncomplicated CAP as part of hospitalists' performance targets (for compensation).	• "Strive for Five" Newsletter Example (Beaumont) • Example of email feedback on provider performance for duration of CAP treatment #1 - Top Performer (St. Joseph Mercy - Ann Arbor) • Example of email feedback on provider performance for duration of CAP treatment #2 - Prolonged Duration of Antibiotics (St. Joseph Mercy - Ann Arbor) • Case Studies: Adult Case - Community Acquired Pneumonia (Presentation for SHEA ASP Training Course, 2021 by Dr. Valerie Vaughn) References: • Ciarkowski CE et al. A Pathway for Community-Acquired Pneumonia with Rapid Conversion to Oral Therapy Improves Health Care Value. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2020. ▪ This study noted a shorter length of IV antibiotic therapy when a clinical decision support-driven CAP pathway was implemented, along with active antimicrobial stewardship review. • Avdic E et al. Impact of an Antimicrobial Stewardship Intervention on Shortening the Duration of Therapy for Community-acquired Pneumonia. <i>Clin Infect Dis</i> 2012. ▪ Reduced treatment duration of CAP with educational lectures based on survey results, and post-prescription pharmacy review with verbal feedback • Yogo N et al. Intervention to Reduce Broad-Spectrum Antibiotics and Treatment Durations Prescribed at the Time of Hospital Discharge: A Novel Stewardship Approach. <i>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol</i> 2014 ▪ Reduced antibiotic duration prescribed at discharge by developing a guideline for antibiotic selection and treatment duration and performing pharmacy audit and feedback of discharge prescriptions • Foolad F et al. A multicenter stewardship initiative to decrease excessive duration of antibiotic therapy for the treatment of community acquired pneumonia. <i>J Antimicrob Chemother</i> 2018 ▪ Treatment duration for CAP was reduced by updating institutional CAP guidelines, providing educational sessions, and performing daily audit and feedback on appropriate treatment duration for CAP patients
5. Reduce Testing and Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria (ASB)	• Educate providers, including hospitalists, internal medicine, family medicine, emergency medicine physicians, residents, advanced practice professionals (APPs), and nursing staff regarding the diagnosis of ASB vs UTI.	Resources & Tools: • Review HMS site reports (hard copy distributed at collaborative wide meetings and live reports available daily via the HMS data entry system) for the following: ▪ Testing of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

	• Educate patients and family members regarding the diagnosis of ASB vs UTI. • Review ASB cases identified by HMS to direct high-yield intervention for recurrent problems. • Evaluate and understand differences in provider groups (e.g., hospitalists, emergency department physicians). Target interventions to specific provider groups as necessary. • Identify a hospitalist and ED champion • Evaluate existing order sets to ensure preferred antibiotic options, doses, and durations are consistent with institutional UTI guidelines (including pre-operative order sets, ED admission sets, “commonly ordered test” lists). • Utilize clinical decision support tools to discourage inappropriate urine culture testing, by requiring documentation of symptom(s) as indication for the test. • Utilize checklists to discourage ordering of urine cultures by frontline clinical care team. • Require documentation of dose and indication of antibiotics prescribed in the antibiotic order. Consider adding documentation of urinary symptom(s) necessitating treatment. • Encourage documentation of dose, indication, and duration of antibiotics in the progress note. • Encourage documentation of the total duration of antibiotics in discharge summary, potentially incorporating an area for antibiotic duration to be filled out in an automated discharge process. • Provide audit and feedback directly to individual providers regarding their rates of testing and treatment for ASB. • Consider performing urine cultures only when indicated, (example: reflex culture only with positive urinalysis). • Consider suppressing urine culture results by requiring providers to call the microbiology lab to request results (for non-catheterized patients). • Create a protocol assessing for UTI in patients whose primary symptom is altered mental status (AMS).	▪ Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria with Antibiotics ▪ <u>Types of Reports Available via HMS Registry</u>: Hospital Specific, Provider Group Specific (i.e. hospitalist v. emergency room physician), or Provider Specific • HMS Guideline: ▪ UTI • UTI Pocket Card ▪ Consider modifying to poster size for posting in workrooms • Educational Videos: ▪ Nurse Education Video: ASB vs UTI (Presentation by Dr. Lindsay Petty) ▪ Patient Education Video: Antibiotic Awareness - UTI, Cystitis, or Bladder Infection (Washington State Dept. of Health) ▪ Provider Education Video: The Dangers of Overtreating Asymptomatic Bacteriuria ▪ Provider Education Video: Appropriate Treatment for Asymptomatic Bacteriuria • Checklist for Appropriate Urine Culture Ordering • Tools for assessing a Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) in patients with Altered Mental Status (AMS) ▪ Inpatient Algorithm Assessing for UTI in Elderly Patients with AMS ▪ Mody, L. et al. Urinary Tract Infections in Older Women: A Clinical Review. JAMA 2014 • Example 1 of hospital newsletter incorporating HMS data (Beaumont) • Patient Education Materials: ○ ASB Patient Flyer: Suspect a Urinary Tract Infection? How taking antibiotics when you don't need them can cause more harm than good. ○ ASB Patient Flyer: Management of Urinary Tract Infections (Beaumont) • Provider Education Materials ○ ASB Provider Flyer: Symptom-Free Pee - Let it Be (Mercy Health St. Mary's) ○ ASB Provider Flyer: When it Comes to Urine Testing, Hold it. (Beaumont) ○ ASB Provider Flyer: Asymptomatic Bacteriuria (AHRQ) • Presentations (For HMS Members) ○ Lisa Dumkow (Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Mercy Health St. Mary's) at the November 12, 2019 HMS
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- Consider implementing a diagnostic stewardship intervention. Examples include: removal of urine cultures from a) preoperative, b) emergency department (ED), c) admission, or d) other order sets; addition or removal of reflex testing; hiding urine culture results in some settings; requiring physician order to run urine cultures in ED; two-step urine culture initiative to reduce urine cultures in ED; framing urine culture results in test reporting; AND/OR rejection of some urine culture samples (e.g., based on squamous cells).

Collaborative Wide Meeting: [Assessing the “Culture of Culturing” in patients with asymptomatic bacteriuria](#)

- Dr. Anu Malani (Medical Director for Infection Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship, St. Joseph Mercy Health System) at the November 14, 2017 HMS Collaborative Wide Meeting: [Successful Interventions for Asymptomatic Bacteriuria and Urinary Tract Infections](#)

References:

- Leis JA et al. [Reducing Antimicrobial Therapy for Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Among noncatheterized inpatients: a proof of concept study.](#) *Clin Infect Dis* 2014.
 - Intervention at the stage of lab reporting that withheld urine culture results of non-catheterized inpatients unless requested by a physician
- Jones CW et al. [Reflect urine culture cancellation in the emergency department.](#) *J Emerg Med* 2014.
 - In the ED, authors estimate a 40% reduction in urine cultures if a culture was cancelled when urinalysis did not meet criteria (one of the following: white blood cell >10, + leukocyte esterase, + nitrites, + bacteria)
- Stagg A et al. [Impact of two-step urine culture ordering in the emergency department: a time series analysis.](#) *BMJ Qual Saf* 2017.
 - In the ED, urine samples collected by nurses, then saved for 48 hours, and not processed without additional physician order
 - Resulted in a decrease of urine cultures processed, decreased need for patient callbacks for positive cultures, and decrease in antibiotics prescribed for a urinary indication for those admitted
- Munigala et al. [Impact of order set design on urine culturing practices at an academic medical center emergency department.](#) *BMJ Qual Saf* 2017.
 - Removing all urine culture orders except “urinalysis with reflex to microscopy” from frequently ordered list of tests for the ED resulting in decreasing daily urine culture rate by about half
- Trautner B et al. [Effectiveness of an Antimicrobial Stewardship Approach for Urinary Catheter–Associated Asymptomatic Bacteriuria.](#) *JAMA* 2015.
 - A multifaceted educational implementation strategy in the VA to reduce urine culture ordering and inappropriate antibiotic prescribing in catheterized patients
 - See Supplement- *CAUTI Diagnostic Algorithm and Audit and Feedback Script*
- Daniel M et al. [An Implementation Guide to Reducing Overtreatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria.](#) *JAMA Intern Med* 2017.

		▪ Review of different approaches used in prior studies to decrease treatment of ASB, with recommendations on steps to take to improve use in your own hospital • Schulz L et al. Top Ten Myths Regarding the Diagnosis and Treatment of Urinary Tract Infections. <i>J Emerg Med</i> 2016. ▪ Review of the evidence regarding commonly held misbeliefs surrounding urinary tract infections • Vaughn V et al. Revisiting the panculture. <i>BMJ Qual Saf</i> 2016 ▪ Pan culturing for fever is costly and contributes to unnecessary cultures and inappropriate antibiotic use • Salazar J.G. et al. Association of Screening and Treatment for Preoperative Asymptomatic Bacteriuria with Postoperative Outcomes Among US Veterans. <i>JAMA Surg</i> 2018. ▪ A national study of ~68,000 Veterans showing that screening patient urine cultures for ASB prior to major surgical procedures, and subsequently treating with antibiotics, did not reduce the incidence of post-op infections and, thus, should not be continued as part of routine practice • Petty LA et al. Risk Factors and Outcomes Associated with Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Hospitalized Patients. <i>JAMA IM</i> 2019. ▪ Cohort study of ~2700 ASB patients revealed that ~83% received inappropriate antibiotic treatment, which was associated with longer lengths of hospital stays without improvements in outcomes. • Petty LA et al. Assessment of Testing and Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Initiated in the Emergency Department. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2020. ▪ Cohort study of ~2400 ASB patients who received antibiotics which found that ED physicians commonly initiated urine testing and antibiotic treatment, with most antibiotics continued by inpatient providers. Antibiotic treatment in these patients was not associated with an improvement in clinical outcomes; however, it was associated with a longer length of inpatient stay and C. diff infections. • Morgan, DJ et al. Diagnostic Stewardship-Leveraging the Laboratory to Improve Antimicrobial Use. <i>JAMA</i> 2017. ▪ Suggests that implementing stewardship practices in the diagnostic testing process could positively impact the reliability of antibiotic use, reduce unintended harms, and improve the safety of care. • Vaughn VM et al. Addressing the Overuse of Cultures to Optimize Patient Care. <i>Annals of Int Med</i> 2019.
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		▪ Exploration of the mental models and social contexts that influence overuse of microbiological testing in order to help reduce overdiagnosis and overtreatment of infections.
6. De-escalate Antibiotic Treatment for UTI and Pneumonia	• Reduce unnecessarily broad empiric coverage for CAP and UTI • Utilize safer antibiotic alternatives to Fluoroquinolones for the treatment of CAP and UTI • Require documentation of dose and indication of antibiotics prescribed in the antibiotic order. • Encourage documentation of dose, indication, and duration of antibiotics in the progress note. • Utilize 72-hour antibiotic time outs after starting antibiotics, including: ▪ Assess indication(s) for antibiotics ▪ Review culture results ▪ Adjust drug selection (de-escalate) and doses ▪ Consider switching to oral route ▪ Decide and document treatment duration • Utilize pharmacists to review cultures, and if positive, ensure that the narrowest, appropriate antibiotic coverage is chosen for the diagnosis. • Utilize HMS data to provide audit and feedback directly to providers regarding: ▪ Coverage of methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (MRSA) with negative MRSA nasal swabs and/or respiratory cultures ▪ Coverage of <i>Pseudomonas</i> with negative respiratory cultures • Encourage de-escalation of vancomycin for pneumonia with negative respiratory cultures and/or nasal swabs for MRSA. • Incorporate the effective duration of therapy into de-escalation protocols (count all days of active therapy including IV). • When reporting microbiology lab results consider: ▪ Providing recommendations on likely contaminants (e.g., ≥ 3 organisms in a urine culture)	Resources & Tools: • Review HMS site reports (hard copy distributed at collaborative wide meetings and live reports available daily via the HMS data entry system) for the following ▪ Antibiotic treatment regimens for UTI and CAP/HCAP ▪ Discharge antibiotics ▪ Patients with negative culture for MRSA and on MRSA coverage ▪ Patients with negative culture for <i>Pseudomonas</i> or another resistant gram-negative pathogen and on Anti-pseudomonal coverage • Examples from Intermountain Health for Pharmacist-driven tools to aid in de-escalation ▪ De-escalation quick reference guide for pharmacists ▪ Antibiotic indications for pharmacists • 72-hour Antibiotic Time Out Checklist References: • Chotiprasitsakul D et al. The Role of Negative Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> Nasal Surveillance Swabs in Predicting the Need for Empiric Vancomycin Therapy. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2017. ▪ Among 11,441 ICU patients, a negative nasal MRSA surveillance swab had an NPV of 99.4% • Labelle AJ et al. A comparison of culture-positive and culture-negative health-care-associated pneumonia. <i>Chest</i> 2010. ▪ For ICU and non-ICU HCAP patients, those that had a negative culture had lower severity of illness, hospital mortality, and hospital length of stay compared with those with a positive culture • Buckel WR et al. Broad- versus Narrow-Spectrum Oral Antibiotic Transition and Outcomes in Health Care-associated Pneumonia. <i>Ann Am Thorac Soc</i> 2017. ▪ Retrospective review of patients admitted with HCAP and negative culture, initially treated with broad-spectrum antibiotics (anti-MRSA and/or anti-<i>Pseudomonas</i> activity) ▪ There was no increased 30-day readmission or all-cause mortality in patients transitioned to narrow spectrum compared to broad spectrum oral antibiotics.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selective reporting of antibiotic susceptibility results: (i.e. suppressing broad spectrum antibiotic susceptibility results when a narrow spectrum antibiotic is effective) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The majority of narrow spectrum antibiotics were oral beta-lactams ● Parente D et al. The Clinical Utility of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Nasal Screening to Rule Out MRSA Pneumonia: A Diagnostic Meta-analysis with Antimicrobial Stewardship Implications. <i>Clin Infect Dis</i> 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A meta-analysis including 22 studies evaluating the diagnostic value of MRSA nasal screening in MRSA pneumonia. ▪ The negative predictive value (NPV) for CAP and HCAP was 98.1%. ● Musgrove MA et al Microbiology Comment Nudge Improves Pneumonia Prescribing <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2018. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changing report result for respiratory cultures with no dominant organism growth from “commensal respiratory flora” to “commensal respiratory flora only: No S. aureus/MRSA [methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus] or P. [Pseudomonas] aeruginosa” resulted in increased de-escalation/discontinuation (39% vs 73%, P < .001) and was associated with a 5.5-fold increased odds of de-escalation. ● Vaughn VM et al. Inpatient and Discharge Fluoroquinolone Prescribing in Veterans Affairs Hospitals Between 2014 and 2017. <i>Open Forum Infect Dis</i> 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retrospective cohort study at 125 VA hospitals which showed that, over the 3 years studied, fluoroquinolone use had declined following the implementation of a mandatory antibiotic stewardship program in 2014. However, it is noted that there is still work to be done in relation to prescription of fluoroquinolones at discharge. ● Jones BE et al. Empirical Anti-MRSA vs Standard Antibiotic Therapy and Risk of 30-Day Mortality in Patients Hospitalized for Pneumonia. <i>JAMA IM</i> 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National cohort study of ~89,000 hospitalizations for pneumonia which concluded that, in the studied population, there was no benefit on mortality in the setting of empiric anti-MRSA therapy versus standard antibiotic treatment, including for those who had risk factors for MRSA. ● Magill SS et al. Assessment of the Appropriateness of Antimicrobial Use in US Hospitals. <i>JAMA Netw Open</i> 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A cross-sectional study that aimed to evaluate appropriateness of antibiotic use for inpatients treated for CAP or UTI, or with fluoroquinolones or vancomycin. The study concluded that 55.9% of patients had unsupported treatment, with common |
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		reasons for this being excessive duration and lack of documentation of signs/symptoms of infection. • The Pew Charitable Trusts. Health Experts Establish Targets to Improve Hospital Antibiotic Prescribing. <i>Pew Trusts</i> 2021. ▪ This report shows the findings from a 3-year partnership between The Pew Charitable Trusts and the CDC/other public health/medical experts to analyze hospital antibiotic usage and set national targets aimed at improving prescribing. One key finding noted that approximately 56% of antibiotic prescriptions were inappropriate (for choice, duration, or illness treated). It was concluded that an appropriate way to meet new national targets for antibiotic prescribing was the adoption of an antibiotic stewardship program.
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This toolkit is a live document and will continually be updated as new tools are developed. Please visit the HMS website for the most up-to-date toolkit. If you have tools to be added to the toolkit, please see the HMS contact information below.

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