

Checklist for CDC's Core Elements of Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship

Outpatient clinicians and healthcare facilities can take steps to implement antibiotic stewardship activities. Use this checklist as a baseline assessment of policies and practices which are in place. Then use the checklist to review progress in expanding stewardship activities on a regular basis (e.g., annually).

Outpatient Setting(s):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Federally-Qualified Health Center (FQHC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient Pharmacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy-based Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Health Clinic | |

Name of Facility/Clinic: _____

Date: _____

One or more interventions under each of the four core elements will meet Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship.

Commitment:

Can your facility demonstrate dedication to and accountability for optimizing antibiotic prescribing and patient safety related to antibiotics? Yes No

If yes, indicate which of the following are in place (select all that apply):

- Write and display public commitments in support of antibiotic stewardship
- Identify a single leader to direct antibiotic stewardship activities within a facility
- Include antibiotic stewardship-related duties in position descriptions or job evaluation criteria
- Communicate with all clinic staff to set patient expectations

Action:

Has your facility implemented at least one policy or practice to improve antibiotic prescribing? Yes No

If yes, indicate which interventions are in place (select all that apply):

- Use evidence-based diagnostic criteria and treatment recommendations
- Use delayed prescribing practices or watchful waiting, when appropriate
- Provide communications skills training for clinicians
- Require explicit written justification in the medical record for non-recommended antibiotic prescribing
- Provide support for clinical decisions
- Use call centers, nurse hotlines, or pharmacist consultations as triage systems to prevent unnecessary visits

Tracking and Reporting:

Does your facility monitor at least one aspect of antibiotic prescribing? Yes No

If yes, indicate which of the following are being tracked (select all that apply) (continues on page 2):

- Self-evaluate antibiotic prescribing practices (this intervention only applies to solo practitioners or practices with fewer than five (5) clinicians, as long as all clinicians participate)
- Participate in continuing medical education and quality improvement activities to track and improve antibiotic prescribing (this intervention only applies if all clinicians in the practice participate in the activity)

- Track and report antibiotic prescribing for one or more high priority conditions
- Track and report the percentage of all visits leading to antibiotic prescriptions
- (If already tracking and reporting one of the above) Track and report, at the level of a healthcare system, complications of antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance trends among common outpatient bacterial pathogens
- Assess and share performance on quality measures and established reduction goals addressing appropriate antibiotic prescribing from healthcare plans and payers

Education and Expertise:

Does your facility provide resources to clinicians and patients on evidence-based antibiotic prescribing? Yes No

If yes, indicate how your facility provides antibiotic stewardship education to patients (select all that apply):

- Use effective communications strategies to educate patients about when antibiotics are and are not needed
- Educate about the potential harms of antibiotic treatment
- Provide patient education material

If yes, indicate how your facility provides antibiotic stewardship education to clinicians (select all that apply):

- Provide face-to-face educational training (academic detailing)
- Provide continuing education activities for clinicians
- Ensure timely access to persons with expertise

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