

Your role in antimicrobial stewardship (AMS)

Everyone can be involved in AMS and help reduce antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

Physicians¹



- Order appropriate and mandatory laboratory tests before prescribing antibiotics²
- Review prescribed antibiotics at 48 hours³
 - Will the infection respond to treatment?
 - Is the patient receiving the correct antibiotic, dose and route of administration?
 - How long should treatment last?
 - Are there available data to guide continuation of empirical therapy or targeted antimicrobial agents?
 - Can a more targeted drug be used?
- Create prescribing guidelines and clinical pathways⁴
- Train other staff about AMS⁴



Clinical microbiologists¹



- Provide precise and timely reports of culture, serological and rapid testing results
- Prepare and support publication of antimicrobial susceptibility reports⁴
- Create local antibiogram to guide empiric therapy⁴
- Provide surveillance data on resistant organisms⁴



Infection prevention control officer¹



- Monitor and prevent healthcare-associated infections³
- Advocate infection control concepts and procedures, including AMS, to all healthcare workers



Pharmacists¹



- Preauthorize certain antibiotics^{4,5}
- Audit, review and feedback⁴
- Identify opportunities for optimized dosing, de-escalation and IV-to-oral conversion^{4,5}
- Ensure only drugs with a prescription are dispensed
- Train other staff about AMS^{4,5}



Hospital administrators

- Provide resources and policy support⁴



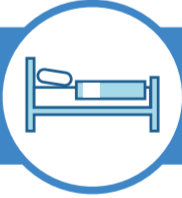
Nurses



- Encourage responsible use of antimicrobials^{6,7}
- Monitor adverse events⁶⁻⁸
- Infection prevention and control measures^{6,8}
- Educate new ward staff and patients about AMR and the importance of hygiene^{6,7}



Patients



- Be educated about AMR and how to take antibiotics correctly⁹
- Adhere to proper hand washing and other hygiene measures⁹



References

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