

Effective Antimicrobial Stewardship

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Appropriate antimicrobials are essential to high-quality patient care

- Timely diagnosis and clear reason for use (indication)
- Clearly defined duration of therapy

2

Inappropriate antimicrobial use is common and harmful

- Increases antimicrobial resistance at your facility
- Exposes patients to unnecessary medications
- Focus of state survey agencies

3

Antimicrobial stewardship starts with **YOU!**

- Everyone should be involved in decreasing inappropriate use
- Focus on unclear/missing diagnosis and on open-ended orders
- Antimicrobial prophylaxis is rarely helpful and should be avoided
- Instead focus on infection prevention activities and measures



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Collaboration is **ESSENTIAL!**

- Encourage open communication about antimicrobials
- Work with staff, nursing, providers and pharmacists for best outcomes
- Local, state and federal resources are available

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Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/staff/index.html>

<https://www.in.gov/health/erc/files/CoverPageAntibioticStewardshipToolkit.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/core-elements/nursing-homes.html>

<https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/practice-guidelines>



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