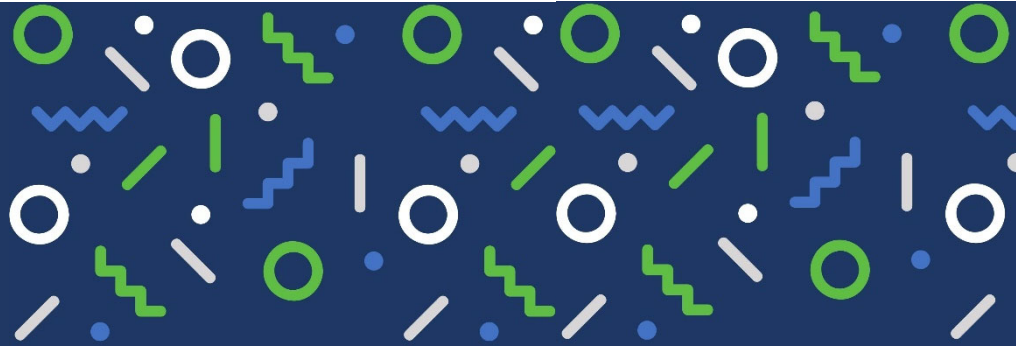


THE BASICS OF ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP



WHAT IS ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP?

- Antimicrobial stewardship protects and preserves the efficacy of antimicrobials.
- It involves the optimal selection, dosage, duration, indication, and route of antimicrobial therapy that results in the best clinical outcome for the treatment or prevention of infection.
- Appropriate antimicrobial use minimizes toxicity to patients, reduces future resistance, and optimizes patient outcomes.

WHY IS ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP IMPORTANT?



By limiting exposure to antibiotics and using them only when needed, we can lower the risk of treatment failures caused by antimicrobial resistance and the use of more toxic and/or broader antimicrobials.



Adverse effects from antimicrobials, such as hypersensitivity reactions, kidney damage, and drug interactions, are common. By optimizing their use, the risk of adverse effects are reduced.



Antibiotics can slow the growth of and kill pathogenic bacteria. They can also kill commensal bacteria that normally live in the gut. By altering the normal gut flora, other bacteria, such as *C. difficile*, can colonize and cause infection.



Multidisciplinary stewardship programs can facilitate the diagnosis of infections, increase infection cure rates, decrease healthcare costs and hospital lengths of stay, and reduce the unintended consequences of antimicrobial use.

LEARN MORE BY CLICKING LINK BELOW

