

Champion Antimicrobial Stewardship as a Team

Fight The Resistance Together!

Key Steps for a Multidisciplinary Antimicrobial Stewardship Team:

- 1** Seek administrative backing and institutional support by articulating the benefits of a successful antimicrobial stewardship program.
- 2** Actively engage all the major stakeholders: infectious disease specialists, hospitalists, clinical pharmacists, lab technicians, infection control, nursing, IT and Quality Improvement.
- 3** Utilize the expertise of clinical pharmacists in antimicrobials as a valuable resource in addition to infectious disease specialists when available.
- 4** Explore educational funding opportunities through national, regional, state or local resources for members of the team.
- 5** Identify measures — baseline measures, process measures and outcome measures — to determine the effectiveness of stewardship interventions.
- 6** Collect and analyze antimicrobial usage data from your institution and observe antimicrobial resistance trends in order to identify opportunities for improvement.
- 7** Present a business plan for personnel reimbursement through highlighting potential cost savings, improved patient outcomes, core measures compliance and anticipated Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services penalties for hospitals lacking an antimicrobial stewardship program.
- 8** Implement concrete steps to implement an antibiotic time-out policy, develop practices for reviewing antibiotic choices upon patient transfer, revise all Intensive Care Unit antibiotic prescriptions and review broad-spectrum antibiotic selection.
- 9** Organize educational activities for hospital clinicians on antimicrobial stewardship.

References:

<http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/healthcare/pdfs/core-elements.pdf>.

Clinical infectious diseases: An Official Publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Jan 15 2007;44(2):159-177.

Griffith M, Postelnick M, Scheetz M. Antimicrobial stewardship programs: Methods of operation and suggested outcomes.

Expert Review of Anti-infective Therapy. Jan 2012;10(1):63-73.

For Additional References, Please Visit the Website.