

A hand wearing a blue nitrile glove holds a clear petri dish containing several bacterial cultures. The cultures are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with some showing distinct zones of inhibition. The background is a blurred laboratory setting. A solid blue vertical bar is located in the top right corner of the image.

# Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) in the Acute Care Setting

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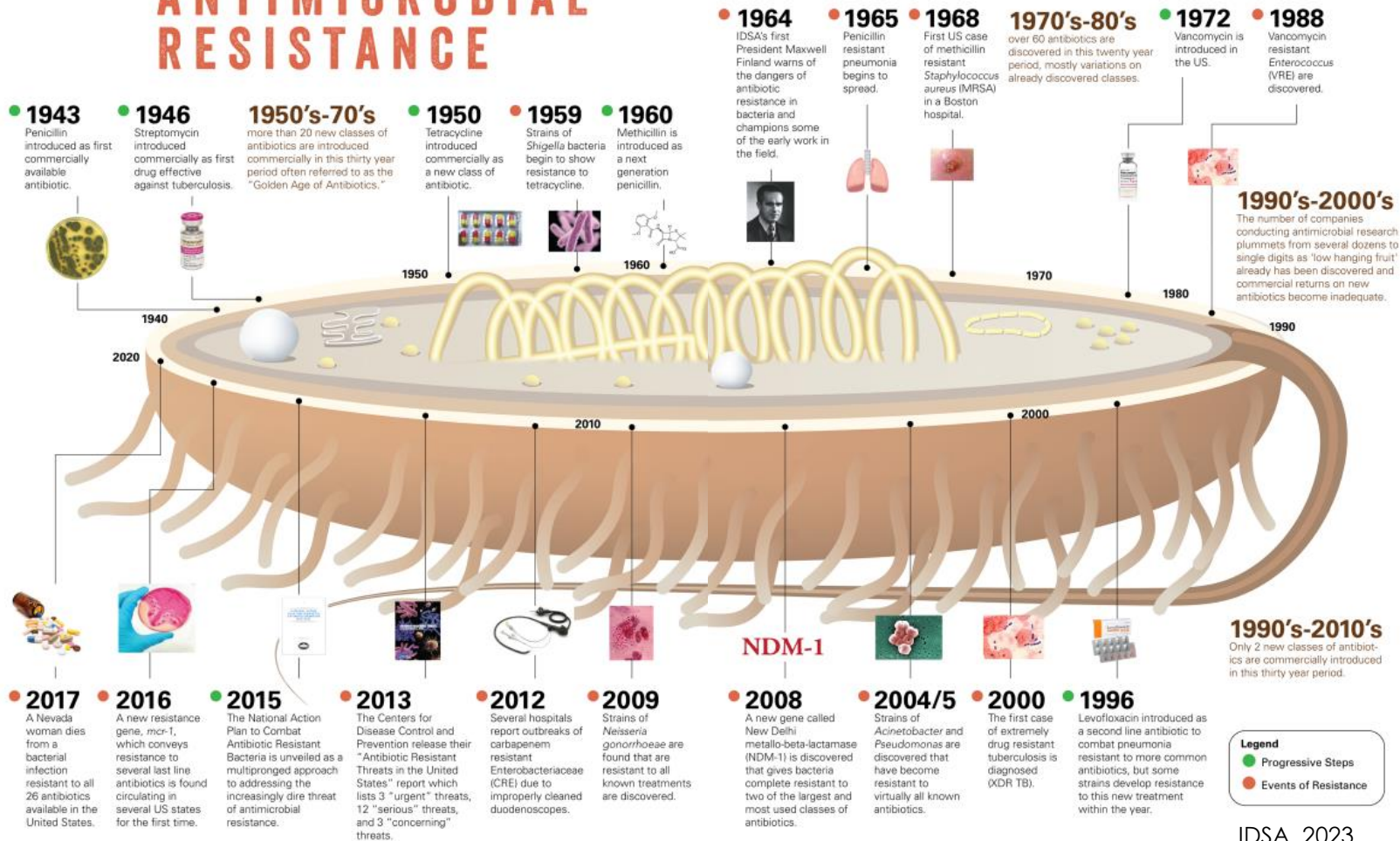
# Conflicts of interest statement

- ▶ I am not an employee of, or affiliated with, the Indiana Department of Health
- ▶ The views expressed are my own and may not reflect the view(s) of the Indiana Department of Health
- ▶ I have no additional conflicts to report

# Objectives

- ▶ List the CDC core elements for hospital stewardship
- ▶ Describe the priority actions for each core element
- ▶ Identify the four moments of antibiotic decision making
- ▶ Support the impact of antimicrobial stewardship efforts and standardization within your organization

# The Development of ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE



**Legend**  
● Progressive Steps  
● Events of Resistance





Each year in the U.S., at least **2.8 million people** become infected with an antimicrobial-resistant infection and more than **35,000 people** die.

Learn more at [cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](https://cdc.gov/antibiotic-use).



Faces of  
**ANTIMICROBIAL  
RESISTANCE**



# CDC core elements of antibiotic stewardship



HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT



**HOSPITAL**



OUTPATIENT



NURSING HOME



RESOURCE-  
LIMITED SETTINGS

# Hospital stewardship core elements



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Hospital leadership commitment

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Accountability

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Pharmacy expertise

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Action

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Tracking

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Reporting

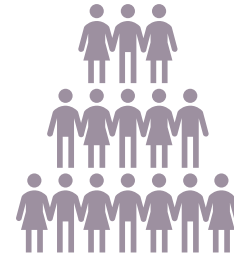
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Education

# Leadership commitment



Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources



Priority: responsibilities tied to contracts, job descriptions, or performance reviews

Staffing/dedicated resources

Senior executive leader appointed to serve as the "champion"



# Accountability

- ▶ Leader or co-leaders are appointed
- ▶ Priority: program is co-led by a physician and a pharmacist
  - ▶ Responsible for program management and outcomes



# Pharmacy expertise

10



- ▶ Pharmacist appointed to help lead stewardship efforts surrounding improved antibiotic use
  - ▶ Specialized training in infectious diseases
  - ▶ Completed a stewardship certificate program
  - ▶ Additional training in antibiotic stewardship

# Action

- ▶ Implement interventions
  - ▶ Audit and feedback
  - ▶ Preauthorization or restriction criteria
  - ▶ Pharmacy-driven protocols
    - ▶ IV to PO
    - ▶ Dose optimization/renal dosing
    - ▶ Therapeutic drug monitoring policies (vancomycin, aminoglycosides)

- ▶ Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions and outcomes
  - ▶ *C. difficile* infections and other hospital-acquired infections
  - ▶ Multidrug resistant organisms
- ▶ Data submission to NHSN Antimicrobial Use and Resistance
  - ▶ Starting in 2024, required by CMS Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) and Promoting Interoperability (PI) program

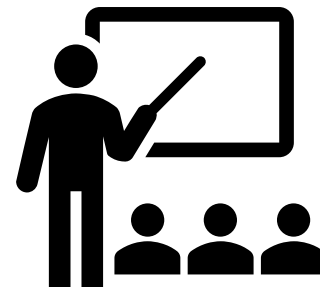
# Reporting

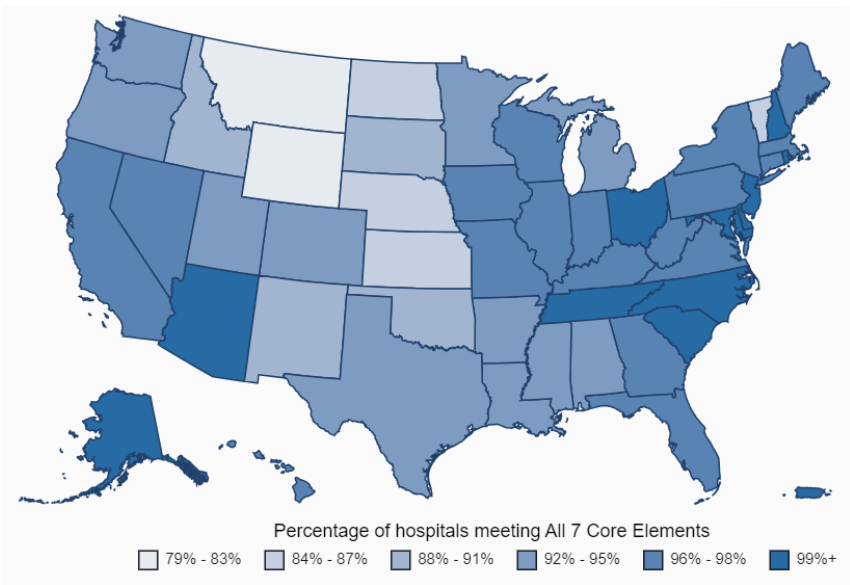
- ▶ Regular distribution of information on antibiotic use and resistance to hospital leadership, prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and staff
  - ▶ Antibiotic use reports should be provided annually, at minimum
  - ▶ Monitor adherence to facility-specific treatment recommendations for at least one common clinical condition (pneumonia, urinary tract infections, sepsis, etc.)

# Education

- ▶ Prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and patients
  - ▶ Adverse effects from antibiotics
  - ▶ Antibiotic resistance
  - ▶ Optimal prescribing
    - ▶ Right diagnosis
    - ▶ Right drug
    - ▶ Right dose
    - ▶ Right de-escalation
    - ▶ Right duration

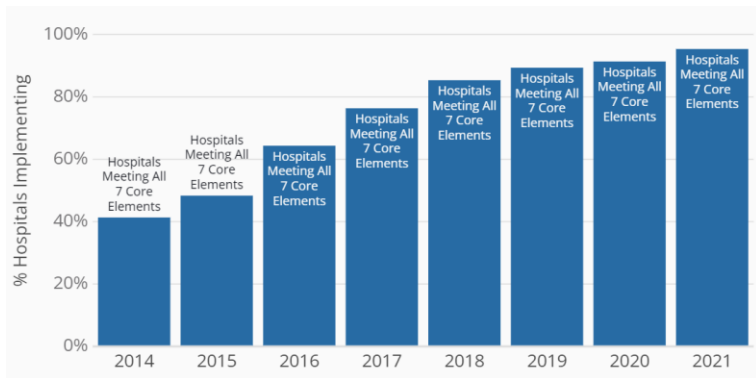
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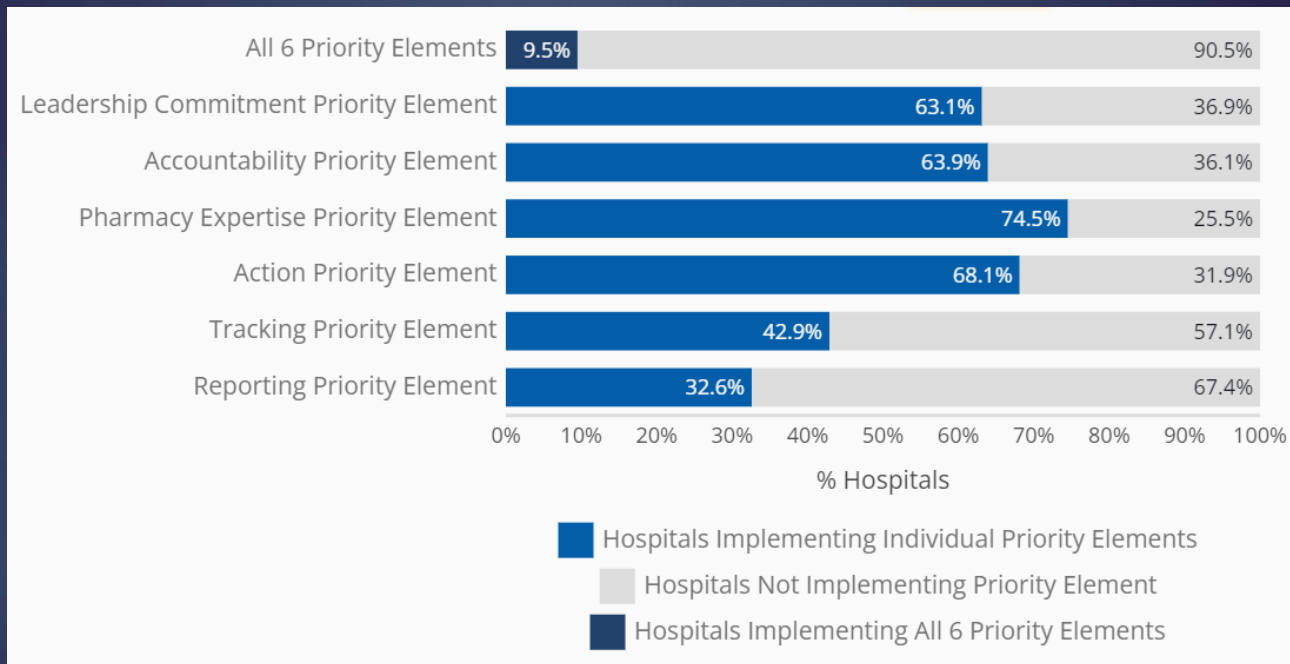


# Core measure implementation

Many stewardship programs meet the minimal requirements outlined by the CDC core elements.



# Priority Elements Implementation





# So, let's get to work!

...But insufficient resources or  
competing demands preclude  
optimal operations

17

**ANTIBIOTICS  
DON'T  
WORK  
ON COVID-19**

[www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance](http://www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance)



U.S. Department  
Health and Hun  
Centers for Disea  
Control and Prev

# CDC sounds the alarm

Antimicrobial  
resistance  
(AR) = public  
threat

**2017**

COVID-19  
pandemic

**2022**



**2013**

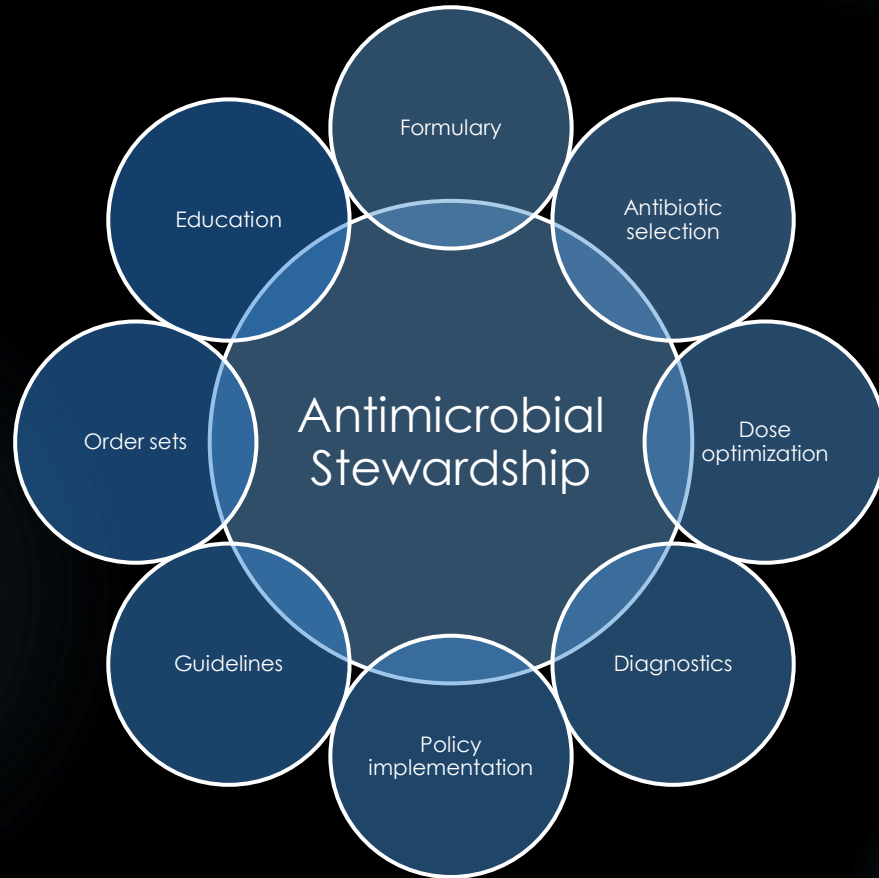
Decreased  
deaths from AR  
(overall 18%;  
hospital 30%)

**2019**

Increase in AR;  
HAIs, and  
deaths  
increase by  
15%

# Antimicrobial stewardship matrix

19



# Initial work for downstream wins

- ▶ Interdisciplinary approach
- ▶ Microbiology – cascade reporting, suppression rules, panel selection, nudge comments, reflex rules, antibiogram
- ▶ Set quantitative and qualitative thresholds for culture results
- ▶ Rapid diagnostics response
- ▶ Antimicrobial indications with expected duration
- ▶ Quality review – who, when, what -> standardize the process

# Who has the time?



## Dedicated personnel



## Priority review

Tiered approach

Scoring systems

Predictive modeling

## Prioritize your efforts

- ▶ Impactful
- ▶ Feasible
- ▶ Actionable
- ▶ Measurable

Tier	Priority	Actionability	Impact
A	Must do	Majority	High
B	Should do	Frequently	Moderate to high
C	Nice to do	Sometimes	Low to high
D	Delegate	Routinely	Low to high
E	Eliminate	Infrequently	Low

# Prioritization – quantitative scoring

Table S1. The Antimicrobial Stewardship Initiative Prioritization Tool

Initiative	Initiative Type?			Impact				Feasibility	Actionability	Measurability	Priority	
	PAF	PRA	Other	Gap between Current Clinician Practices and Best Practices?	Impact of Suboptimal Practices on Individual Patient Care? <sup>a</sup>	How Common are the Infectious Syndromes Affected by this Initiative?	Address a Regulatory Priority (e.g. CMS, Joint Commission, local administration)?	Feasibility of Building Functional Targeted Alert(s) for the Initiative?	Likely Actionability of Targeted Alert(s)?	Measurability of Initiative Outcomes?	Risk Score <sup>b</sup>	Priority Rank
				1 = Small 2 = Moderate 3 = Large	1 = Low 2 = Moderate 3 = High	1 = Less Common (CDI, IE, Osteomyelitis)  2 = Moderately Common (BSI, IAI)  3 = Very Common (PNA, UTI, SSTI)	1 = No 2 = Yes	1 = Difficult 2 = Moderate 3 = Easy	1 = Low (≤33% of alerts)  2 = Moderate (34-66% of alerts)  3 = High (≥67% of alerts)	1 = Difficult 2 = Moderate 3 = Easy	Total	1 = Highest Rank
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									

BSI = bloodstream infection; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CDI = *Clostridioides difficile* infection; CMS = Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; IAI = intraabdominal infection; IE = infective endocarditis; PAF = prospective audit and feedback; PNA = pneumonia; PRA = preauthorization; SSTI = skin and soft tissue infection; UTI = urinary tract infection

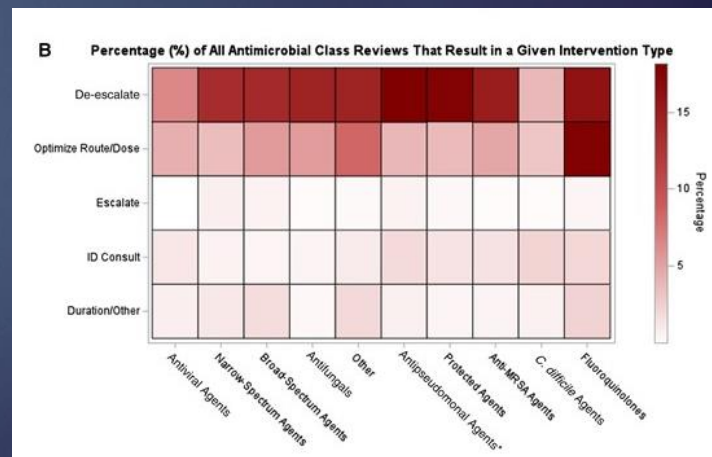
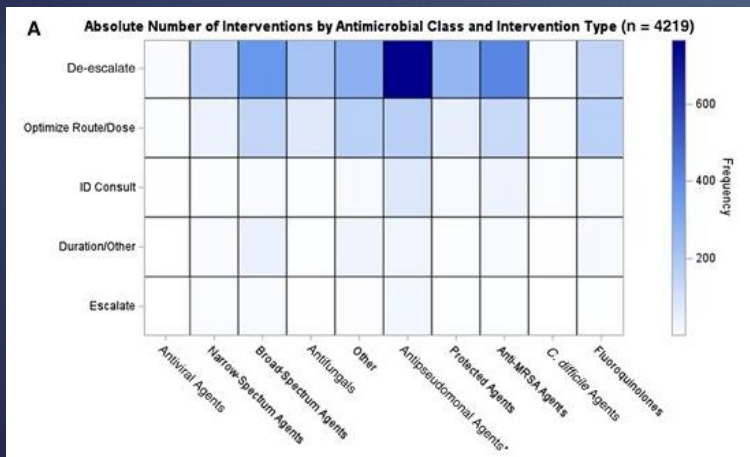
<sup>a</sup> Scale: 1 = Low (no increased length of stay, readmission, morbidity, and/or mortality), 2 = Moderate (mild-moderate increased length of stay, readmission, morbidity and/or mortality), 3 = High (markedly increased length of stay, readmission, morbidity and/or mortality)

<sup>b</sup> Risk Score Analysis: Low Priority ≤ 8, Moderate Priority 9-14, High Priority ≥ 15 points

# Prioritization – predictive modeling

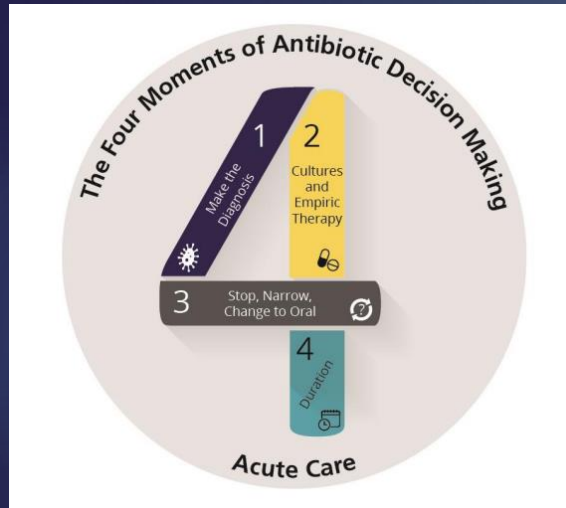
24

- ▶ AKA “machine learning”
- ▶ Can help identify areas of opportunity from ongoing prospective feedback and audits





# AHRQ Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use: Acute Care Cohort Final Report



**Moment 1** occurs at the time initiation of antibiotic therapy is considered:  
**Ask**, “Does my patient have an infection that requires antibiotics?”

**Moment 2** occurs when the decision is made to start antibiotics:  
**Ask 2 questions**, “Have I ordered appropriate cultures before starting antibiotics?  
What empiric therapy should I initiate?”

**Moment 3** occurs every day of antibiotic therapy:  
**Ask 3 questions**, “Can I stop antibiotics? Can I narrow therapy? Can I change from IV to oral therapy?”

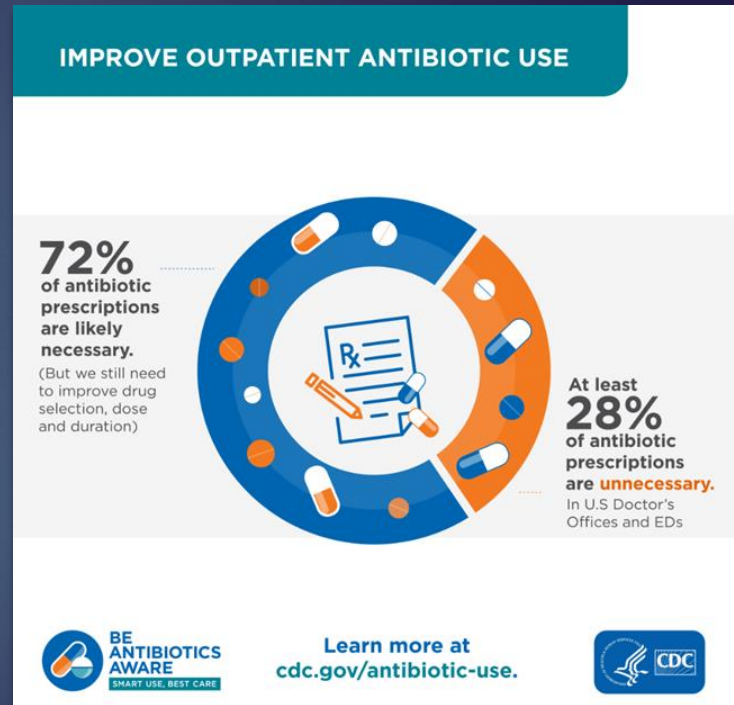
**Moment 4** occurs when the infectious process is clear and the patient responds to therapy:  
**Ask**, “What duration of antibiotic therapy is needed for my patient’s diagnosis?”

# AMS transitions of care

26

## Emergency department

- ▶ Diagnostics
  - ▶ Urinalysis to urine cx
  - ▶ Blood culture necessity
- ▶ Medication and allergy reconciliation
- ▶ Empiric antibiotic dosing
- ▶ Sepsis order sets
- ▶ Culture callback



# AMS transitions of care



## Medical floors/intensive care units

- ▶ Further determine source/source control
- ▶ Antimicrobial time-out
- ▶ Rapid diagnostic results
  - ▶ De-escalation or therapy optimization
- ▶ Dose optimization
  - ▶ Renal adjustment
  - ▶ Pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic
- ▶ Route optimization

# AMS transitions of care



Readiness for discharge



IV to PO

Dose Optimization



Monitoring



Medication  
reconciliation

Affordability/availability  
Necessity



Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy

# All Healthcare Professionals can *Be Antibiotics Aware*



**BE  
ANTIBIOTICS  
AWARE**

SMART USE, BEST CARE



For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use).



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