



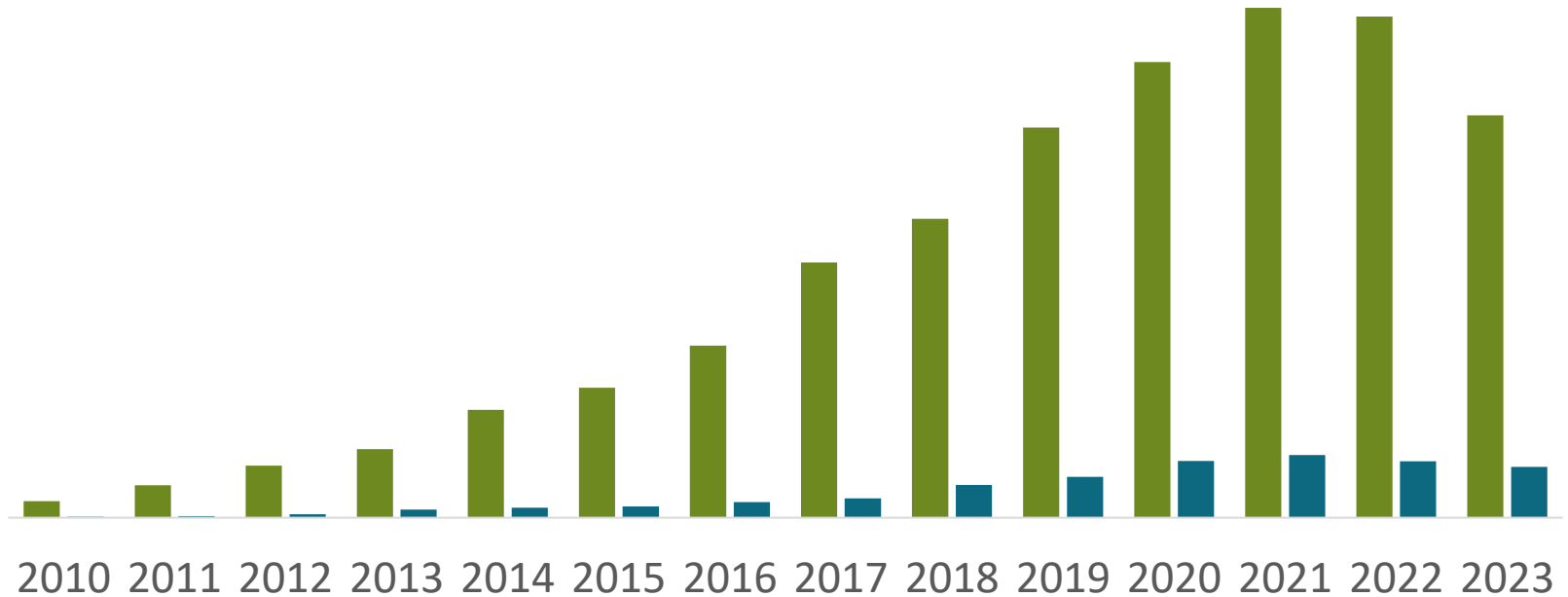
Stanford
MEDICINE

Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship

David Ha, PharmD

Publications Per Year (PubMed)

■ Inpatient Stewardship ■ Outpatient Stewardship



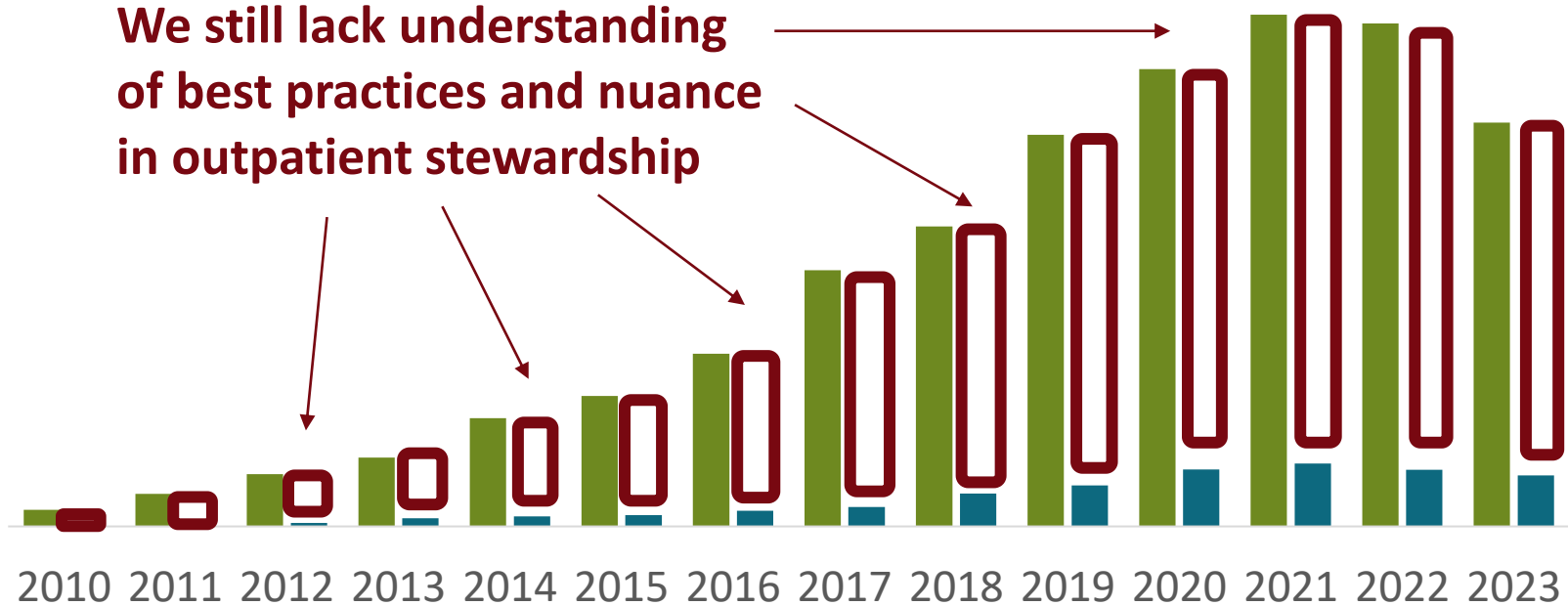
PubMed.gov (Accessed October 2023)

Publications Per Year (PubMed)

■ Inpatient Stewardship

■ Outpatient Stewardship

We still lack understanding of best practices and nuance in outpatient stewardship



Outpatient vs. Inpatient ASP

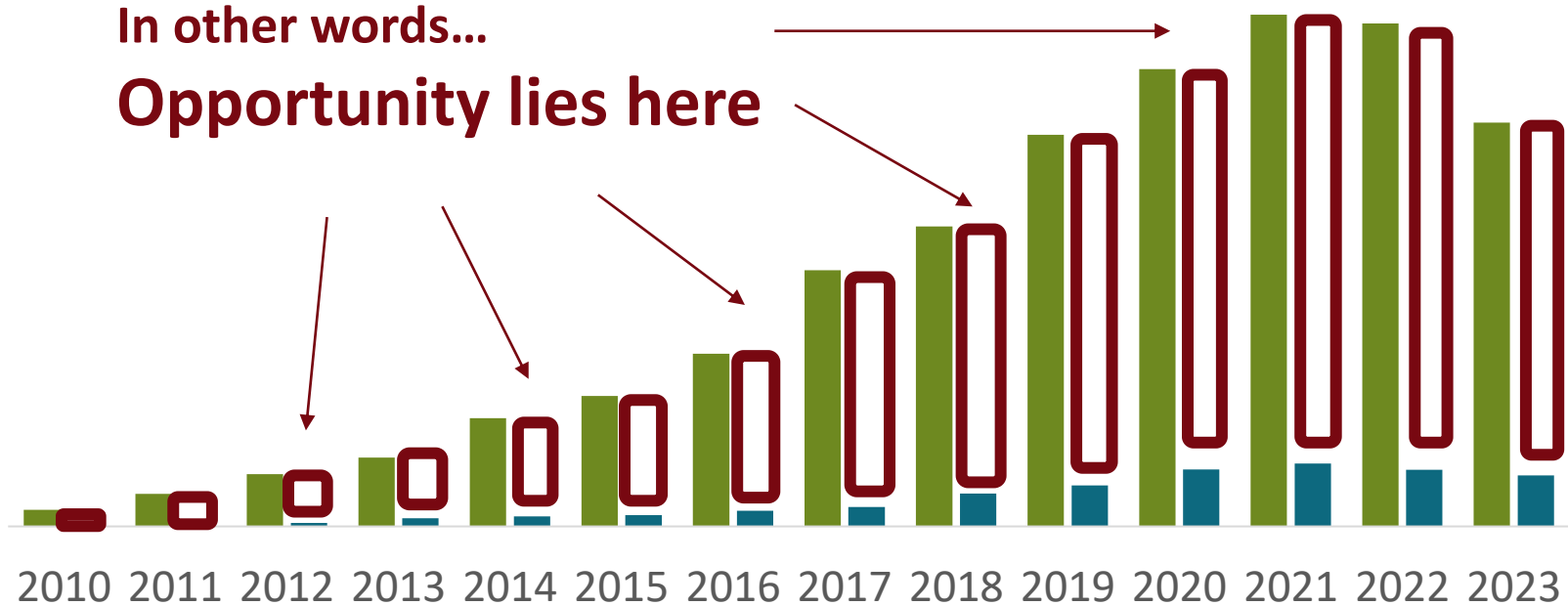


Publications Per Year (PubMed)

■ Inpatient Stewardship

■ Outpatient Stewardship

In other words...
Opportunity lies here



CDC Core Elements



The Core Elements of
Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship

| Commitment | Action | Tracking and Reporting | Education and Expertise |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commitment Posters/Letters• Identify single leader• Include AMS-related duties in job description or evaluation• Clinic staff set patient expectations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence based diagnosis and treatment (guidelines)• Delayed prescribing or Watchful waiting• Communications training• Written justification for antibiotic prescribing• Provide clinical decision support• Triage and prevent unnecessary visits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor and evaluate prescribing practices• Feedback to clinicians• Share quality measures from health care plans and payors (i.e., HEDIS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinician education (i.e., academic detailing, CE)• Patient education• Access to consultants |

Commitment

The Journey Starts...Or Ends Here

CDC Core Elements



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How Long Has Your Outpatient Stewardship Program Been In Place?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-2 years
- 3-5 years
- >5 years

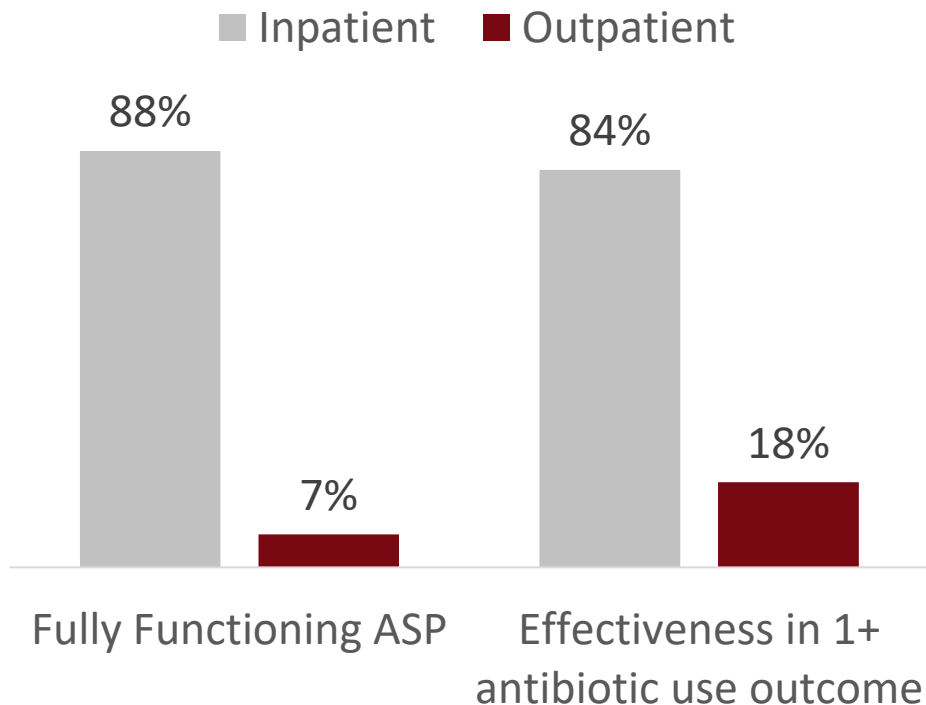


How are we doing?

Characteristics of Effective Outpatient ASPs:

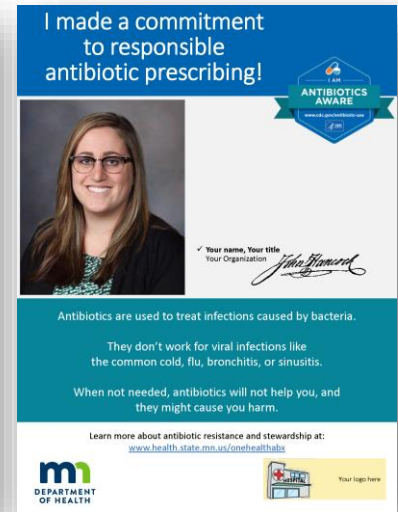
- Institutional Guidelines
- Rapid Diagnostics
- Outpatient AntibioGrams
- **Dedicated Pharmacist Support**

2019 survey of 129 Vizient member hospitals



Commitment Posters

- Randomized trial
- 5 primary care clinics
- Intervention (12 weeks):
 - Poster-sized commitment letter in exam room
 - Commitment to avoid inappropriate antibiotic use for URIs
 - Clinician photos and signatures



Inappropriate Abx:

Control: 43.5% → 52.7%

Poster: 42.8% → 33.7%

19.7% Absolute Reduction

(p=0.02)

Tracking and Reporting

Your Starting Line
IMO... The Most Important Piece

CDC Core Elements



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Ambulatory (vs. Inpatient) Antibiotic Data

The Good

- “Indexed” to an encounter
 - Regimen frequently assessable as a single antibiotic order
- Diagnosis codes may clarify intended indication
 - Especially in urgent care/ED
- Naturally Individualized
 - Assess by clinic/prescriber

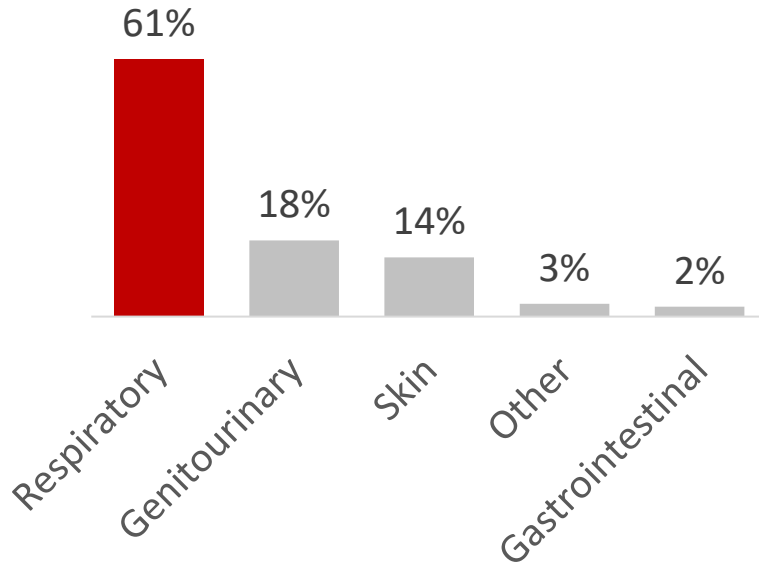
The Bad

- More volume...
 - ...and handling this volume
- Access to data (IT barriers)
- Diagnosis codes may not clarify intended indication
 - Primary Care – Multiple diagnoses
 - Non-billable encounters
 - Code shifting

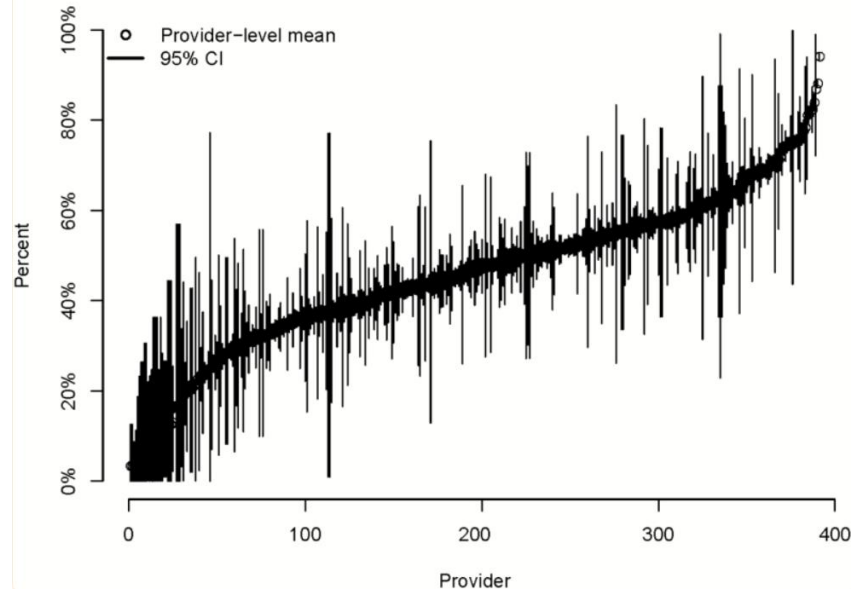


Where to Start?

Proportion of Antibiotics Prescribed



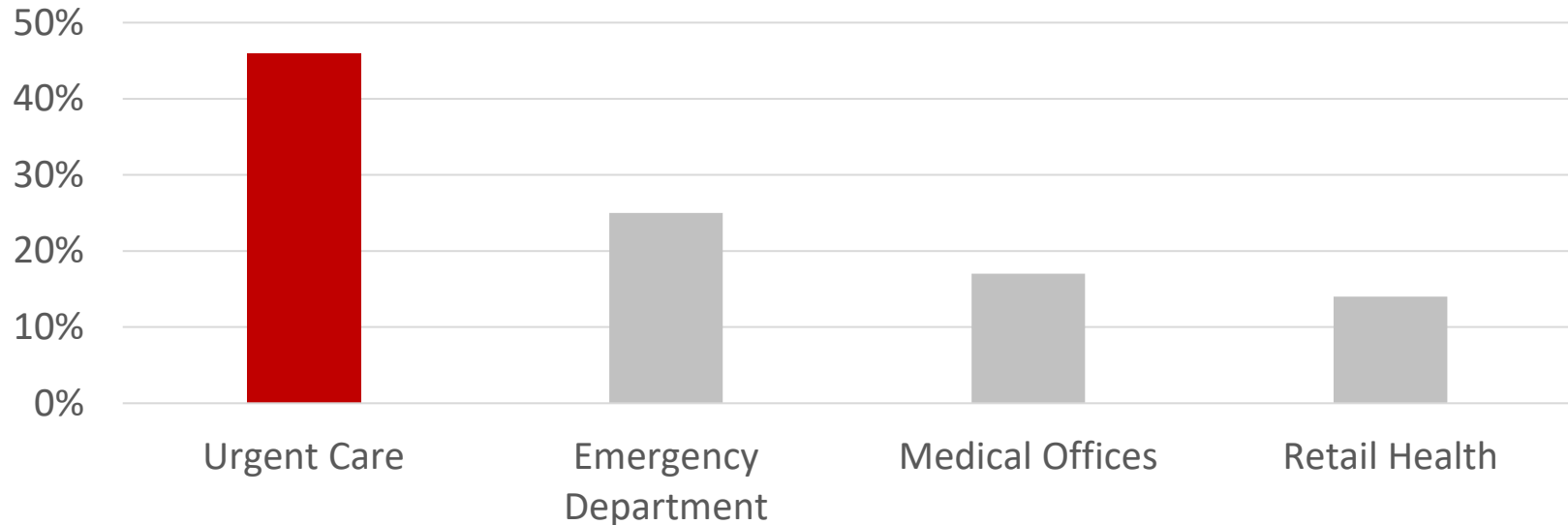
Prescribing Variability (Respiratory)



Stenehjem et al. CID 2020

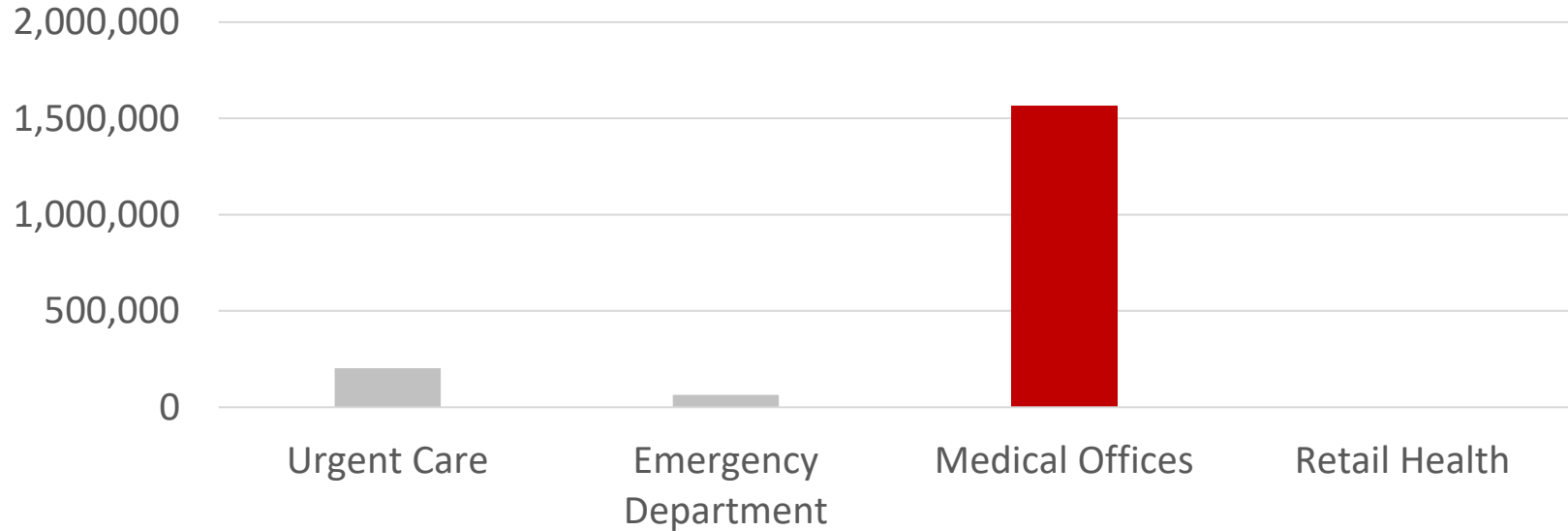
Where to Start?

Proportion of Visits for Respiratory Complaints Not Requiring Antibiotics Leading to Antibiotic Prescription, US, 2014



Where to Start?

Volume of Inappropriate Antibiotic Prescriptions for Respiratory Complaints Not Requiring Antibiotics, US, 2014



Outpatient Antibiotic Data Structure

- Encounter Data
 - Encounter-associated antibiotic regimen
 - Drug, Dose, Route, Duration, Refills
 - Encounter-associated diagnosis(es)
 - Encounter-associated prescriber, prescriber type (MD/DO vs. APP), clinic
 - Encounter type
 - In-office vs. Telemedicine vs. Phone Call/Message vs. Nurse Visit vs. Other
- Patient Data
 - Age (peds vs. adult), Gender, Race/Ethnicity/Zip Code, Insurance/Medical Group

ICD-What?

- Diagnosis codes are important for estimating antibiotic prescribing appropriateness in select scenarios
- There are >70,000 ICD-10 codes
- Dictionaries are key!
 - Example: Scan QR Code
 - Click “Supplementary Materials”
 - Click last document (“...Supplementary_Appendix...”)



ICD-10 Dictionary – IHS Example

- Click “Supplementary Materials”
- Click last document (“...Supplementary _Appendix...”)



- Step 1: Identify Priority ICD-10
 - Lowest tier ICD-10 takes priority (if multiple)
- Step 2: Assign Tier, Category, Subcategory
 - Based on Priority ICD-10
- Example:
 - J20.9 Bronchitis
 - Tier = 3, Category = Respiratory, Subcategory = Bronchitis
 - Antibiotic Rx: Azithromycin 500 mg PO daily x 3 days
 - Assessment = **Inappropriate**

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Tier 1 | Antibiotics <u>Almost Always</u> Indicated |
| Tier 2 | Antibiotics <u>Sometimes</u> Indicated |
| Tier 3 | Antibiotics <u>Almost Never</u> Indicated |
| Category | i.e., Respiratory, GU, GI, Skin, Other |
| Subcategory | i.e., Sinusitis, URI, UTI, Cellulitis, Diverticulitis |

Possible Metrics

| Metric | How to Calculate | Example |
|---|---|--|
| Antibiotic Prescribing Rate (APR) | $\frac{\text{Encounters with antibiotic prescribed}}{\text{All encounters}}$ | APR for Tier 3 Respiratory Encounters |
| Proportion of Prolonged Antibiotic Course Prescribed | $\frac{\text{Encounters with antibiotic duration} > X \text{ days}}{\text{All encounters}}$ | Proportion of Tier 1 Respiratory Encounters with Duration >5 days |
| Proportion of Inappropriate Antibiotic Selection | $\frac{\text{Encounters with inappropriate antibiotic}}{\text{All encounters}}$ | Proportion of Tier 1 Respiratory Encounters (excluding aeCOPD) with Azithromycin Monotherapy |
| Specific Antibiotic Prescribing Index | $\frac{\text{Encounter with } X \text{ antibiotic prescribed}}{\text{Encounters with any antibiotic prescribed}}$ | Proportion of amoxicillin among all antibiotics (e.g., “Amoxicillin Index”) |

HEDIS – Bronchitis (AAB)

- Comparative quality measures for healthcare payors
- “Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis (AAB)”
 - % of visits with coded diagnosis of URI without antibiotic prescription (3 months and older)
 - Added in 2021

| AAB Year | Commercial HMO | Commercial PPO | Medicaid HMO |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2021 | 47.6% | 47.2% | 55.7% |
| 2020 | 44.3% | 43.9% | 55.3% |
| 2019 | 41.2% | 40.2% | 52.3% |
| 2018 | 35.1% | 32.5% | 36.4% |

De-Prescribing Not the Only Target

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Sinusitis | 5 days | |
| CAP | 5 days | May consider 3 days |
| aeCOPD | 3-5 days | |
| Cellulitis | 5 days | May consider extension if lack of improvement |
| Skin Abscess | 5 days from I&D | |
| Uncomplicated Cystitis | 5 days (nitrofurantoin) 3 days (TMP/SMX) 1 dose (fosfomycin) | 3-7 days for oral beta lactams |
| Pyelonephritis or Complicated Cystitis | 7 days (FQs) | 7-14 days TMP/SMX 10-14 days oral beta lactams |

Durations listed are for infections in adults

Target Duration!

| | |
|---|--|
| Sinusitis | 5 days |
| CAP | 5 days |
| aeCOPD | 3-5 days |
| Cellulitis | 5 days |
| Skin Abscess | 5 days from I&D |
| Uncomplicated Cystitis | 5 days (nitrofurantoin) 3 days (TMP/SMX) 1 dose (fosfomycin) |
| Pyelonephritis or Complicated Cystitis | 7 days (FQs) |

In assessing for inappropriate durations...

>5 days gets to most of these

>7 days gets to all* (including peds)

***some exception for adult cUTI/pyelo**

Durations listed are for infections in adults

Action

Where the Rubber Meets the Road
(Ideally once you have data)

CDC Core Elements



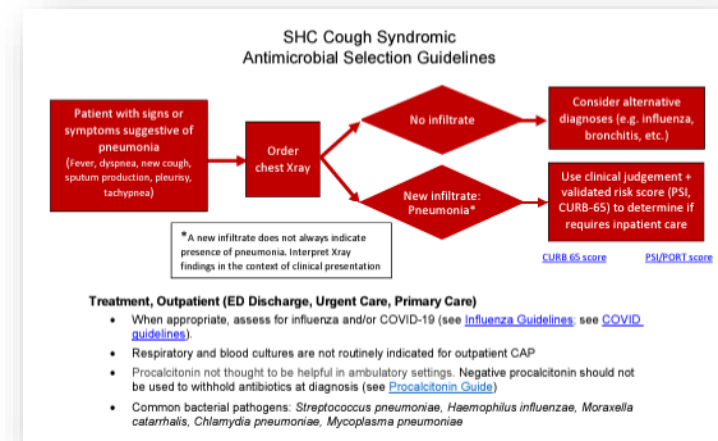
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Guidelines

- Resources for clinicians
- “True north” to define appropriateness
 - Ideal when developing metrics
- Involve front line clinicians – leverage the IKEA® effect
- Patient education tool
- TJC element of performance for ambulatory ASP
 - “EP3: The organization uses evidence-based practice guidelines related to its annual antimicrobial stewardship goal(s)”
- No need to reinvent the wheel...

TJC. 2020 (<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/r3-report/r3-report-issue-23-antimicrobial-stewardship-in-ambulatory-health-care/>)



Guidelines

Stanford Bugs and Drugs



<https://med.stanford.edu/bugsanddrugs>



Stanford Antimicrobial Safety & Sustainability Program

Outpatient Antibiotic Resources

Clinical Pathways

Cough Management

Influenza Treatment Guide

Sinusitis Treatment Guide

Skin and Soft Tissue Infection Treatment Guide

Urinary Tract Infection Treatment Guide

SHC Cough Syndromic Antimicrobial Selection Guidelines



Treatment, Outpatient (ED Discharge, Urgent Care, Primary Care)

- When appropriate, assess for influenza and/or COVID-19 (see [Influenza Guidelines](#), see [COVID guidelines](#))
- Respiratory and blood cultures are not routinely indicated for outpatient CAP
- Procalcitonin not thought to be helpful in ambulatory settings. Negative procalcitonin should not be used to withhold antibiotics at diagnosis (see [Procalcitonin Guide](#))
- Common bacterial pathogens: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*

Table 1. Outpatient Rx: Community Acquired Pneumonia Treatment

| Risk Factor | Preferred Antibiotic Regimen | Alternative Antibiotic Regimen | Duration |
|--|---|--|----------|
| No comorbidities (below) | Amoxicillin 1000 mg PO BID | Cefpodoxime 200 mg PO BID ¹ | 5 days |
| No risk factors for MRSA or <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ² | Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 875/125 mg PO BID | Levofloxacin 750 mg PO daily ³ | |
| | | Cefpodoxime 200 mg PO BID ¹ | |
| Presence of comorbidities, including: Chronic heart, lung, liver, or renal disease, Diabetes, Alcoholism, Malignancy, Asplenia | AND | Azithromycin 500 mg PO x 1 on first day followed by 250 mg PO daily on days 2-5 ⁴ | 5 days |
| | | OR | |
| | | Levofloxacin 750 mg PO daily ³ | |

¹ No history of hospitalization AND receipt of IV antibiotics in last 90 days and no prior respiratory isolation of MRSA or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

² Cefpodoxime may be substituted with Cefuroxime 500 mg PO BID or cefdinir 300 mg PO BID

³ Levofloxacin may be substituted with Moxifloxacin 400 mg PO daily

⁴ Azithromycin dose can also be 500 mg PO daily x 3 doses or may be substituted with Doxycycline 100 mg PO BID

SHC ABX Guidelines: Acute Rhinosinusitis in Adults

Considerations:

- Most (90-98%) sinusitis in the ambulatory setting is due to a viral infection that will self-resolve.
- Guidelines recommend against antibiotics in the first week of symptoms for patients with mild-moderate sinusitis. (IDSA guidelines, Choosing Wisely)
- In a Cochrane review of this issue¹, studies that compared antibiotics with placebo for maxillary sinusitis showed that, in most cases, symptoms improved within two weeks, regardless of whether the participant received an antibiotic or not.

Table 1. Treatment, Outpatient (ED Discharge, Urgent Care, Primary Care)

| Antibiotics are only indicated in the following presentations | | |
|---|---|---|
| ACUTE SYMPTOMS | Does not meet criteria for the presentations below | No antibiotics. Watchful waiting |
| SEVERE | Temp $\geq 39^{\circ}\text{C}$ (102°F) AND Facial pain/pressure AND Purulent discharge for > 3 consecutive days | Antibiotics indicated (see Table 2) |
| PERSISTENT | Purulent discharge AND Facial pain/pressure or nasal obstruction without improvement for > 10 days | Watchful waiting and no antibiotic prescription (with return precautions) |
| WORSENING | New or worsening sinusitis signs or symptoms AFTER Initial improvement OR following a URI has lasted > 7 days | OR Delayed prescription (see Table 2) Contact clinic or fill prescription in 2-3 days if worsening or 5-7 days if not improving |

Table 2. Options when antibiotics are indicated

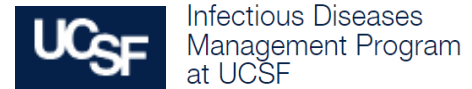
| Preferred Regimen | Alternative Regimen for penicillin allergy | Duration |
|---|--|----------|
| Amoxicillin/Clavulanate 875/125 mg PO BID | Levofloxacin 750 mg PO daily | 5-7 days |
| OR | | |
| Cefpodoxime 200 mg PO BID | | |
| OR | | |
| Cefuroxime 500 mg PO BID | | |

AVOID:

- Doxycycline or Azithromycin – high rates of *S. pneumoniae* resistance at SHC
- Fluoroquinolones in absence of allergy or contraindication to preferred regimens

Selected Resources

- **CDC Adult/Pediatric Outpatient Treatment Recommendations**
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/clinicians/>
- **Stanford Children's Health**
 - <https://www.stanfordchildrens.org/en/for-health-professionals/antimicrobial-stewardship-program>
- **Intermountain Health Care**
 - <https://intermountainhealthcare.org/health-information/health-library/antibiotic-stewardship/>
- **UCSF Infectious Diseases Management Program**
 - <https://idmp.ucsf.edu/>
- **UC Davis**
 - <https://health.ucdavis.edu/antibiotic-stewardship/outpatient-stewardship.html>
- **University of Michigan**
 - <https://www.med.umich.edu/asp/outpatient.html>
- *...and many more...*



Peer Comparison

- Stepped wedge cluster randomized trial
- 30 primary care clinics in UPenn Health System, >185,000 visits
- Interventions:
 - Education (RTI prescribing + Communication skills)
 - Provider Feedback (monthly performance emails relative to peers)

↓ Overall APR
(35.2% → 23%)

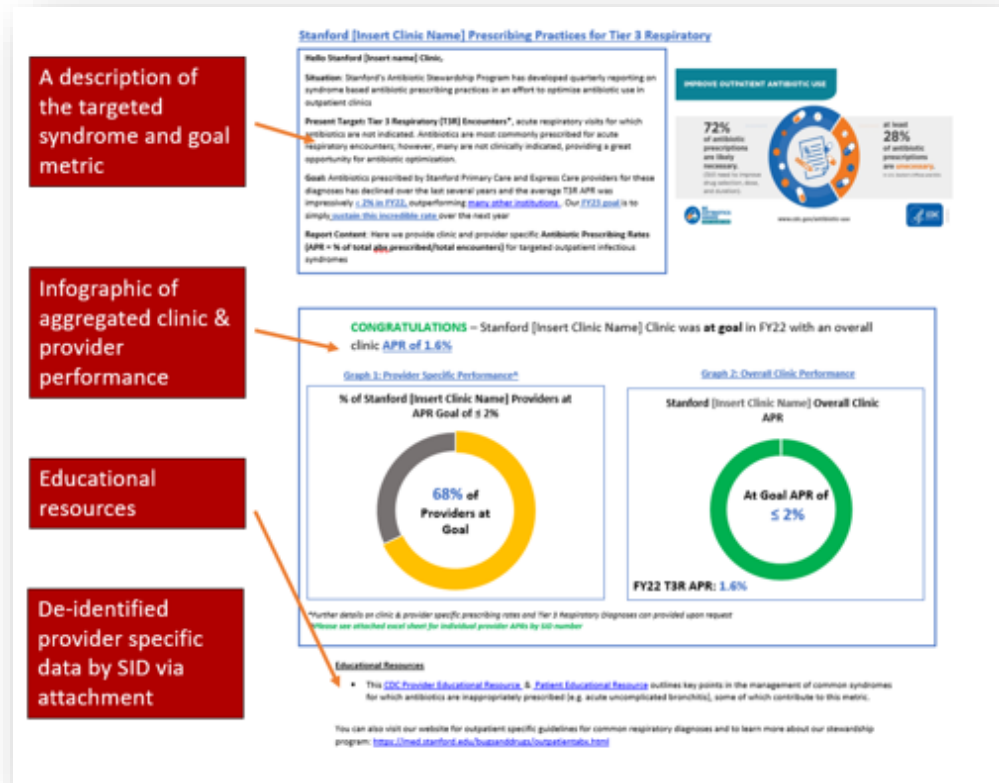
↓ Abx Rx for Tier 2 and 3

↓ Bronchitis APR
(75.3% → 49.6%)

↔ Abx Rx for Tier 1

Feedback and Peer Comparison at Stanford

- Quarterly reports to clinic medical directors
- Targets: Non-bacterial (tier 3) respiratory, Sinusitis, Skin Infections, etc.
- Overall clinic performance
- % of providers at goal

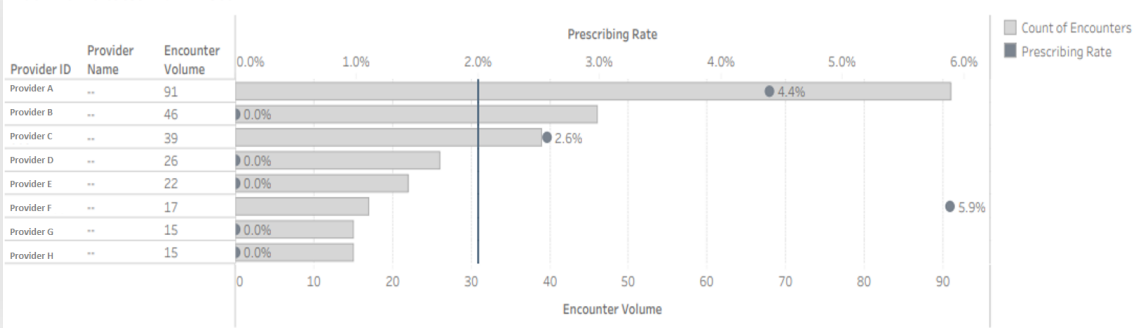


Feedback and Peer Comparison at Stanford

- Blinded prescriber feedback relative to peers
- Reference document with detailed methodology on public website
- Mechanism for clarifying data with ASP team

Prescribing Rates by Provider

Blue Line Indicates 2% APR Goal



FAQs for Metrics

Tier 3 Respiratory Diagnosis

| | |
|--------|--|
| J20.8 | Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms |
| J20.9 | Acute bronchitis, unspecified |
| J21 | Acute bronchiolitis |
| J21.0 | Acute bronchiolitis due to respiratory syncytial virus |
| J21.1 | Acute bronchiolitis due to human metapneumovirus |
| J21.8 | Acute bronchiolitis due to other specified organisms |
| J21.9 | Acute bronchiolitis, unspecified |
| J30.0 | Vasomotor rhinitis |
| J30.1 | Allergic rhinitis due to pollen |
| J30.2 | Other seasonal allergic rhinitis |
| J30.89 | Other allergic rhinitis |
| J30.9 | Allergic rhinitis, unspecified |
| J31.0 | Chronic rhinitis |
| J31.1 | Chronic nasopharyngitis |

Tier 3 Respiratory Encounters Methodology Tip Sheet

Background: The CSC reports most antibiotic prescribing occurs in the outpatient setting (8-10% of antibiotic expenditures) where up to 20% of prescriptions are inappropriate. Evidence supports the use of billing data to identify stewardship targets in primary care, and as antibiotics are most commonly prescribed for acute respiratory encounters, it provides a great opportunity for stewardship antibiotic use optimization.

Target: Tier 3 Respiratory Encounters (T3RE), which are outpatient acute respiratory visits for which antibiotics are not needed, such as rhinitis, bronchitis, non-streptococcal pharyngitis, unspecified URI, and asthma.

Definition

Antibiotic Prescribing Rate: Number of encounters where an antibiotic was prescribed divided by the total number of encounters. An antibiotic is defined as an oral intramuscular intravenous drug of interest based on a data dictionary maintained and reviewed routinely by the Antimicrobial Stewardship Team. Examples of drugs on this list include Azithromycin, Moxifloxacin, Amoxicillin/Cloxacillin, Cephalosporins, Sulbactam/Clavulanic Acid, Levofloxacin, Amoxicillin, Doxycycline, Ciprofloxacin, Mefenoxazole, Clindamycin, and others.

Encounter Volume: Total number of office visit or telemedicine (including both telemedicine and telemedicine-adjacent encounters. Other types of encounters like Orders Only, Refill, Phone, or Patient Message are excluded.

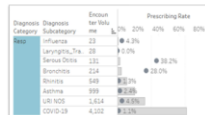
Diagnosis Tier: A custom tier defined by the Antimicrobial Stewardship Team to rate each priority diagnosis based on the likelihood an antibiotic is appropriate treatment for a given diagnosis. Tier 1 is defined as a diagnosis usually requiring antibiotic therapy. Tier 2 is defined as a diagnosis that does or may not require antibiotic therapy. Tier 3 is defined as a diagnosis that usually does not require antibiotic therapy.

Priority Diagnosis: The associated encounter ICD-10 diagnosis code that most likely relates to antibiotic prescribing and defines the encounter Diagnosis Category and Subcategory. The Priority Diagnosis for each encounter is determined by the following algorithm: For each individual encounter, all associated ICD-10 codes are assigned a Diagnosis Tier Category and Subcategory based on a validated ICD-10 dictionary maintained by the Antimicrobial Stewardship Team. If a single Tier 1 code is present it is assigned as the priority diagnosis. If multiple Tier 1 codes are present, the first code listed that is within a named category (specifically GI, GU, Respiratory, or Skin) is assigned as the priority diagnosis. If no named categories exist, then the first Other category diagnosis is assigned as the priority diagnosis. If no Tier 1 codes are present, then the same logic is applied to any Tier 2 codes. If no Tier 2 codes are present, then the same logic is applied to any Tier 3 codes. If no Tier 1-3 codes are present, the encounter is not categorized and will not appear on the dashboard, but remains in the system. It should be noted that the priority diagnosis is not determined by the "primary" diagnosis indicated by the provider during the encounter since this may or may not relate directly to antibiotic prescribing.

Tier 3 Respiratory Diagnosis: Group of respiratory diagnoses that usually do not require antibiotic therapy.

Tier 3 Respiratory Diagnosis Subcategory

Rhinitis



Clinical Decision Support

- Suggested Alternatives
- Accountable Justification



Suggested Alternatives

AMB SECH RX SINUSITIS ACUTE ✓ Accept

Acute Rhinosinusitis

- Most (90-98%) sinusitis in the ambulatory setting is due to a viral infection that will self-resolve
- Guidelines recommend against antibiotics in the first week of symptoms for patients with mild-moderate sinusitis.

- Watchful waiting or delayed antibiotic prescriptions are both reasonable options in these presentations:
PERSISTENT: Purulent discharge and Facial pain/pressure or nasal obstruction without improvement for > 10 days
WORSENING: New or worsening sinusitis signs or symptoms **AFTER** initial improvement **OR** following a URI has lasted > 7 days

- Immediate antibiotics only indicated if meeting criteria for severe disease:
SEVERE: Temp > 102.2 and Facial pain/pressure and Purulent discharge for > 3 consecutive days

Updated: 8/30/2021
UpToDate: Diagnosis of acute sinusitis in adults
UpToDate: Treatment of acute sinusitis in adults
CDC: Adult outpatient treatment recommendations for acute rhinosinusitis
IDSA Guidelines: Acute bacterial rhinosinusitis in children and adults

Symptomatic Management - for viral or bacterial sinusitis

Nasal Corticosteroids

Updated: 8/30/2021. Cost details: Listed prices are from GoodRx, accessed 8/2021. They reflect cash price and may not represent the price your patient will pay through insurance.

fluticasone propionate (Flonase) 50 mcg/actuation SpSn spray
2 puffs each nostril once daily, Disp-16 g, R-0, E-Prescribe

Mometasone (Nasonex) 50 mcg/puff - 2 puff each nostril once daily - #17g(1 bottle)/RF0 - \$32
Disp-17 g, R-0, E-Prescribe

sod chlor-bicarb-squeeze bottle (Neilmed Sinus Rinse Complete) pkdv
Use as directed to irrigate sinuses, Disp-30 Packet, R-0, OTC

Over-the-Counter Analgesics

Symptomatic Treatment of Acute Cough

DELAYED Antibiotics (PERSISTENT/WORSENING)

Antibiotics (SEVERE)

Next Required ✓ Accept

Instructions from Stewardship:
When are ABX appropriate?

Links to relevant webpages

Symptomatic therapies:

- Nasal sprays defaulted
- Additional order panels for analgesics, cough

Antibiotic Orders

- Labeled for specific scenarios
- Delayed ABX orders

Accountable Justification

Alert!

The antibiotic ordered does not appear indicated for the infection: **Bronchitis (J20.9)**

- Discontinue antibiotic
- Continue to prescribe, Please document rationale below:

Rationale

Clinical Decision Support

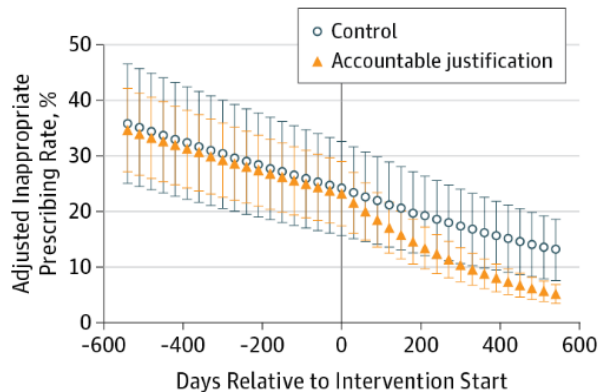
- Cluster randomized trial
- 47 primary care practices, Boston and LA (248 clinicians), 2011-2014

Suggested Alternatives: -5.0%
(95% CI=-7.8% to 0.1%)

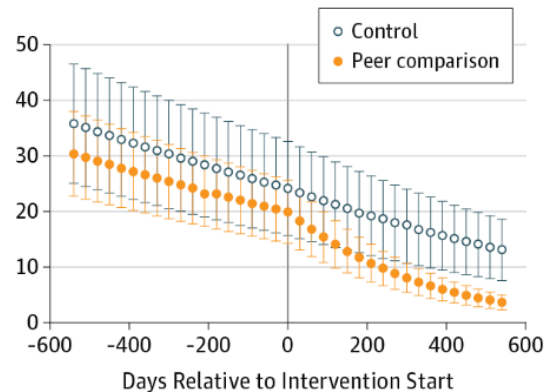
Accountable Justification: -7.0%
(95% CI = -9.1% to -2.9%)

Peer Comparison: -5.2%
(95% CI = -6.9% to -1.6%)

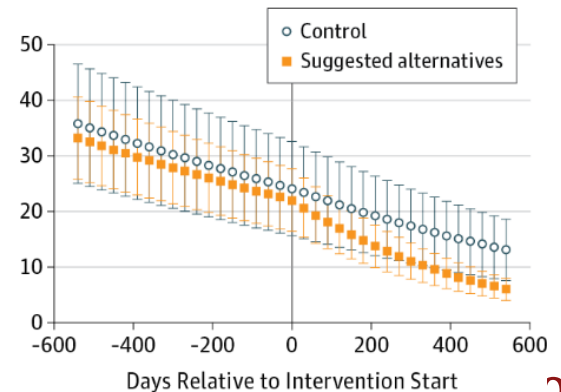
A Accountable justification



B Peer comparison



C Suggested alternatives



Clinical Decision Support

- Make it **hard** to do the **wrong** thing
- Make it **easy** to do the **right** thing

↳ Brad Spellberg Retweeted



Andrew Morris
@ASPphysician

My point: telling MDs to not prescribe ABx for viral infections is useless. Totally useless. We need to focus on making it easier for them to do the right thing.

 **Andrew Morris** @ASPphysician · Nov 19

Is there a single family physician anywhere in the world who DOESN'T know you shouldn't treat viral infections with #antibiotics. Asking for a friend.

5:57 AM · Nov 20, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

Delayed Antibiotic Prescribing

WAIT. DO NOT FILL YOUR PRESCRIPTION JUST YET.

Your healthcare professional believes your illness may resolve on its own.

First, follow your healthcare professional's recommendations to help you feel better without antibiotics. Continue to monitor your own symptoms over the next few days.

- Rest.

- Drink extra water and fluids.

- Use a cool mist vaporizer or saline nasal spray to relieve congestion.

- For sore throats in adults and older children, try ice chips, sore throat spray, or lozenges.

- Use honey to relieve cough. Do not give honey to an infant younger than 1.

If you **do not feel better** in ____ days/hours or **feel worse**, go ahead and fill your prescription.

If you **feel better**, you do not need the antibiotic, and do not have to risk the side effects.

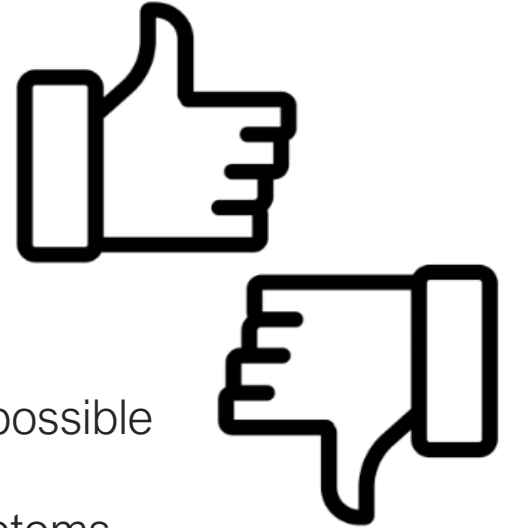
Delayed Antibiotic Prescribing

- Open label RCT (n=405)
- 23 primary care centers in Spain
- Acute, uncomplicated URI
- Interventions (randomized to 1 of the following 4):
 - Immediate Rx
 - Delayed Rx patient fill on own
 - Delayed Rx clinic fill
 - No Antibiotic Rx

| Intervention | % Used Antibiotic | Symptom Duration |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Immediate | 91% | 3.6 days (SD 3.3) |
| Delayed Patient Fill | 33% | 3 days (IQR 3-6) |
| Delayed Clinic Fill | 23% | 3 days (IQR 1-4) |
| No Antibiotic | 12% | 4.7 days (SD 3.6) |

Delayed Antibiotic Prescribing

- Pros
 - Decreases antibiotic use
 - Preserves patient satisfaction
 - May be more acceptable to clinicians
 - Largely similar outcomes
- Cons
 - May not decrease antibiotic use to fullest extent possible
 - Some inappropriate use may still occur
 - Limited, variable signal of longer duration of symptoms
- Studied in:
 - Acute otitis media (Peds), URI, Acute Cough, Sinusitis



Education

Knowledge... and Skills

CDC Core Elements



The Core Elements of
Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship

| Commitment | Action | Tracking and Reporting | Education and Expertise |
|--|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment Posters/Letters • Identify single leader • Include AMS-related duties in job description or evaluation • Clinic staff set patient expectations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence based diagnosis and treatment (guidelines) • Delayed prescribing or Watchful waiting • Communications training • Written justification for antibiotic prescribing • Provide clinical decision support • Triage and prevent unnecessary visits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and evaluate prescribing practices • Feedback to clinicians • Share quality measures from health care plans and payors (i.e., HEDIS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinician education (i.e., academic detailing, CE) • Patient education • Access to consultants |

Prelude to Education...

Knowledge vs. Perception

What is the Appropriate Antibiotic Therapy for a Viral Upper Respiratory Infection?

- Amoxicillin
- Amoxicillin/Clavulanate
- Levofloxacin
- No Antibiotics Are Indicated

What is the Appropriate Antibiotic Therapy for a Viral Upper Respiratory Infection?

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What is the Appropriate Antibiotic Therapy for a Viral Upper Respiratory Infection?

- Amoxicillin
- Amoxicillin/Clavulanate
- Levofloxacin
- **No Antibiotics Are Indicated**

What proportion of primary care clinicians would get this question wrong on a test?

Knowledge Deficit or Something Else?

- Qualitative study of 36 PCPs (physicians and APPs)
- Interviews explored:
 - Antibiotic drug selection for common infections
 - Antibiotic resistance
- Domains assessed:
 - Knowledge
 - Attitudes
 - Self-reported Practices

PCPs familiar with guideline recommendations but did not always follow them

Concern for patient satisfaction

Fear of infectious complications

Belief that non-recommended agents were superior

Widespread concern for AMR but did not factor into decision-making

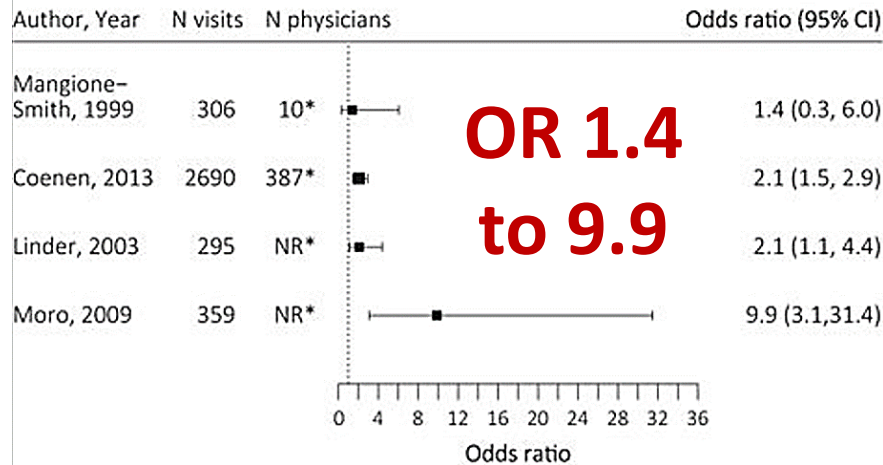
Patient and Parent Perceptions of Antibiotics

- ...would try antibiotics “if I think there’s **even a chance that I’ll get better quicker**”
- “When I take them, **I don’t imagine that there are any, like real risks**. I’m sure that there are, but I don’t think that there are”
- When you don’t feel good, you’re looking for **anything to help**... anything that will provide you some sort of **relief**
- **If kids need [antibiotics], they need it**. I had a cousin who was along those lines and was just doing drops in her baby’s ears when the baby clearly had an ear infection, and the boy ended up having all these hearing problems. So, I guess I caution on the side of if they need it, they need it, and we have to keep them safe.

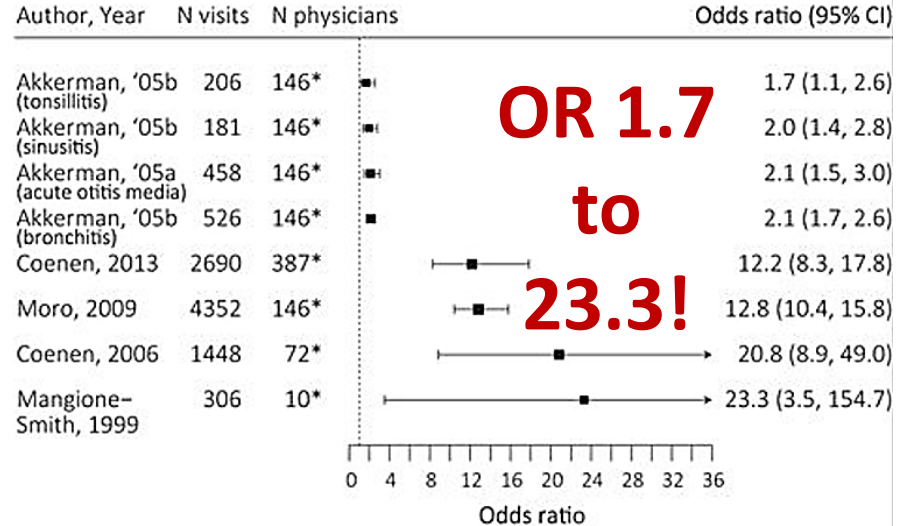
Expectation... and Expectation of Expectation

Clinicians tend to over-estimate patient expectations of antibiotics and prescribe more antibiotics when they anticipate the expectation

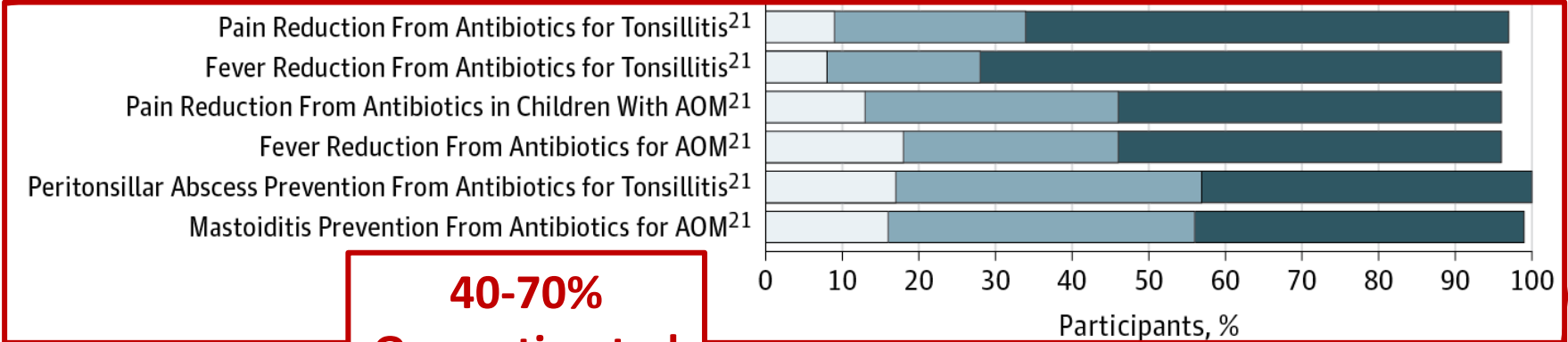
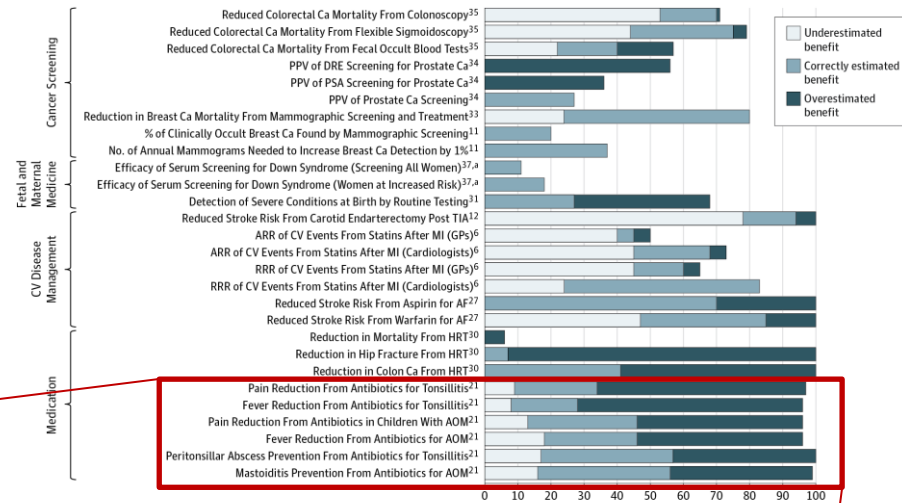
(g) Odds of antibiotic when patient expecting antibiotics



(h) Odds of antibiotic when clinician perceives patient expectation



Perceptions... Not Just Patients



**40-70%
Overestimated
Benefit**

Communication Skills Training



- Cross-sectional study
- 10 pediatric practices in Seattle
- Post-RTI visit surveys of both providers and parents

Positive Recs (symptom reduction)

aRR 0.48 (95% CI 0.24-0.95)

Positive (symptom reduction) + Negative
(Ruling out need for antibiotics) Recs

aRR 0.15 (95% CI 0.06-0.40)



- Open label, stepped wedge, cluster randomized trial
- 359 adult general practices in Belgium
- Training focused on RTIs + use of CRP
 - Web-based with video content
 - In-depth (INTRO) + brief (TRACE)

↓APR 7% (TRACE)

Effect most pronounced 1 month post training, faded over months 2-6

Dialogue Around Respiratory Illness Treatment (DART)

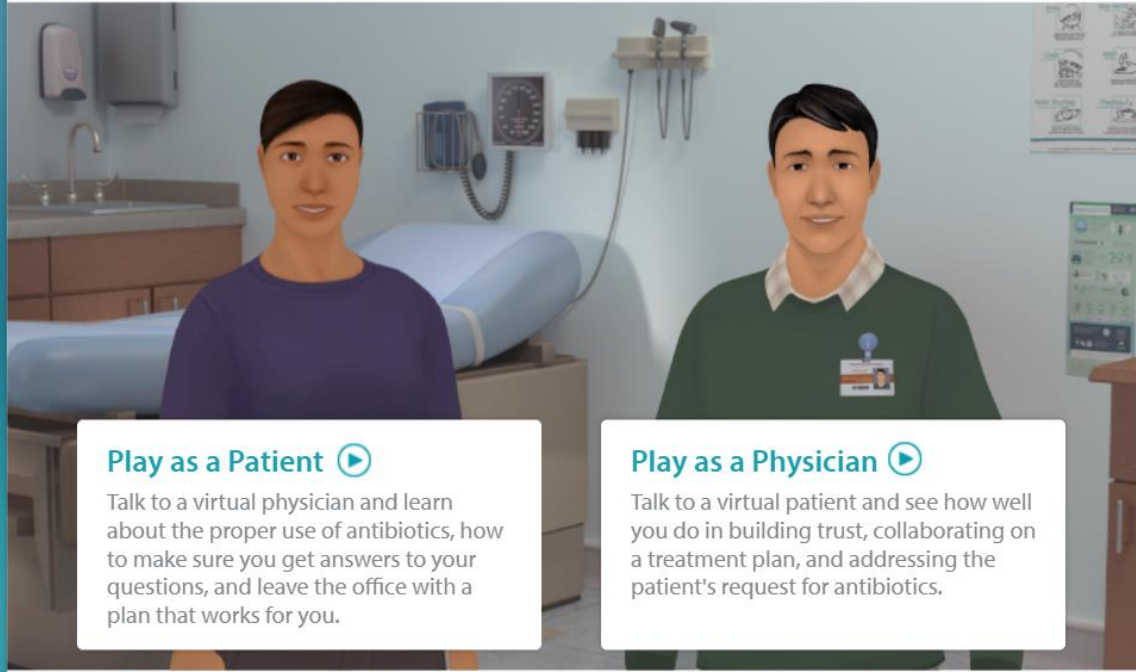
| | |
|--|---|
| Review Physical Exam Findings | <i>“Her ears look good and lungs sound great, no sign of pneumonia. Nose is fairly congested though and throat is red but nothing concerning for Strep throat.”</i> |
| Deliver Clear Diagnosis | <i>“What we have here is a cold”</i> |
| Negative Treatment Recommendation | <i>“This is a cold, caused by a virus, nothing an antibiotic can help with”</i> |
| Positive Treatment Recommendation | <i>“But raising the head of the bed will help with the drainage so she won’t cough as much”</i> |
| Provide Contingency Plan | <i>“I want you to call me right away if she develops high fevers or has a hard time catching her breath. I don’t expect this, but that is what you should watch for.”</i> |



Dialogue Around Respiratory Illness Treatment

University of Washington. <https://www.uwimtr.org/dart/>

The Primary Care Office Visit: Antibiotics



Play as a Patient ▶

Talk to a virtual physician and learn about the proper use of antibiotics, how to make sure you get answers to your questions, and leave the office with a plan that works for you.

Play as a Physician ▶

Talk to a virtual patient and see how well you do in building trust, collaborating on a treatment plan, and addressing the patient's request for antibiotics.

Created by **Kognito** with the generous support of the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. <https://www.conversationsforhealth.com/antibiotics/>

Communication Training: A Key to Improving Outpatient Antibiotic Prescribing and Use

Begin Course

Office of Antibiotic Stewardship
Prevention and Response Branch
Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

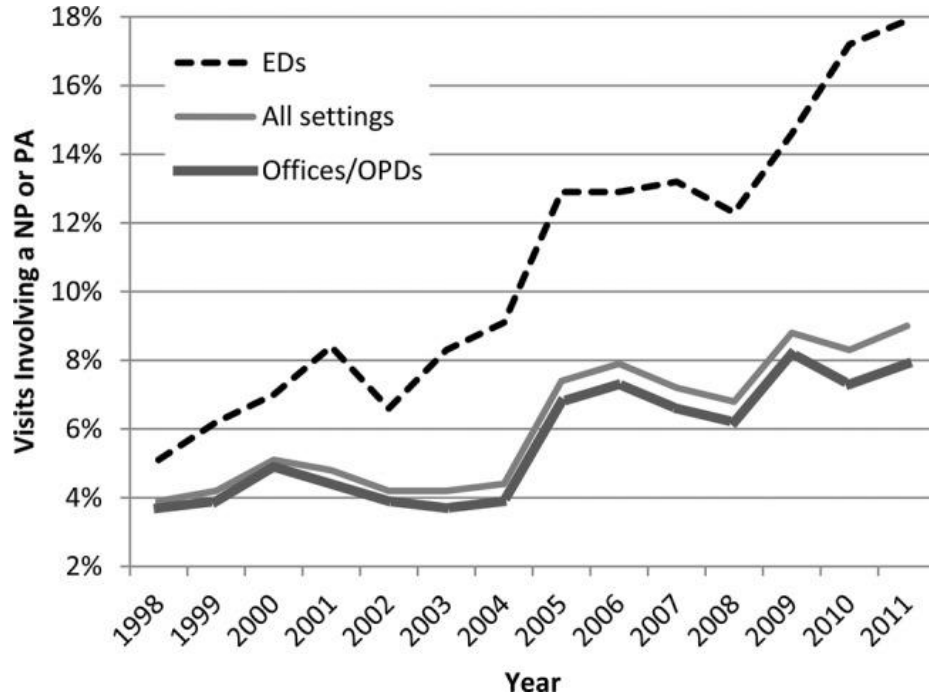


CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/continuing-education.html>



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Your Audience Should Include APPs



**APPs prescribed
14% of all antibiotic
prescriptions in
2011
...and...
>30% in 2020**

Academic Detailing (Retrospective Audit & Feedback)

- Cluster randomized trial
- 140 general practices in Switzerland
- Interventions:



– Guidelines for Respiratory and Urinary Infections



– Individualized Feedback on Antibiotic Prescribing for 2 Years

↔ **APR for sinusitis, URI**

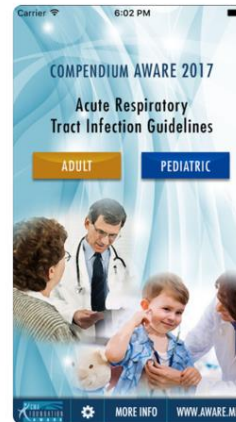
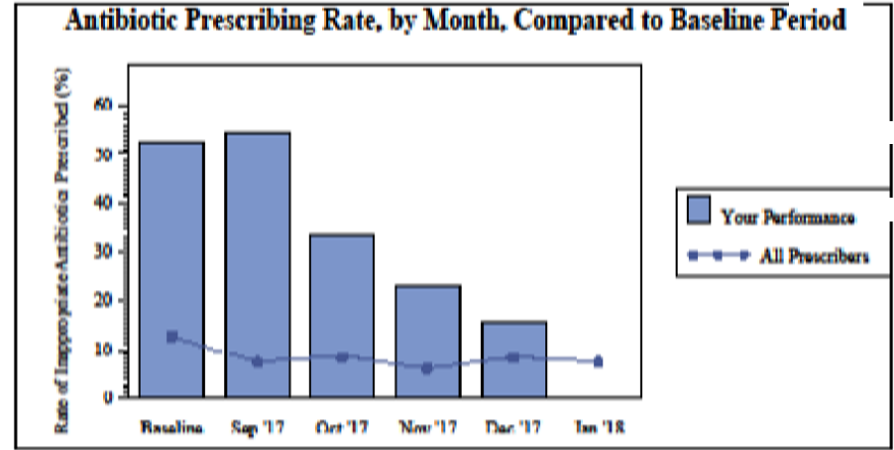
↔ **FQs for eCOPD**

↑ **PCNs for RTIs**
(57% vs. 49%)

↑ **TMP/SMX for uUTI**
(35% vs. 19%) – guideline adherent

Putting It All Together

- LA County DPH
- Targeting Appropriate Prescribing in Outpatient Settings (TAP OUT)
 - Respiratory Conditions
 - i.e., bronchitis, URI, rhinitis, cough, nasopharyngitis, influenza
- Interventions:
 - Peer Comparison
 - Self Comparison
 - Communication Training
 - Commitment Posters
 - App-Based Guidelines



Antibiotics only fight infections caused by bacteria and will not relieve symptoms caused by a viral infection, such as a cold or flu. Unneeded antibiotics can cause diarrhea, rashes or yeast infections and make future infections more difficult to treat.

As your healthcare provider, we are dedicated to practicing safe and effective antibiotic use. Ask us about alternative treatment plans.

Content courtesy of James McKinnell, MD

TAP OUT Outcomes

7,446 Encounters

APR 15.3% → 7.3%

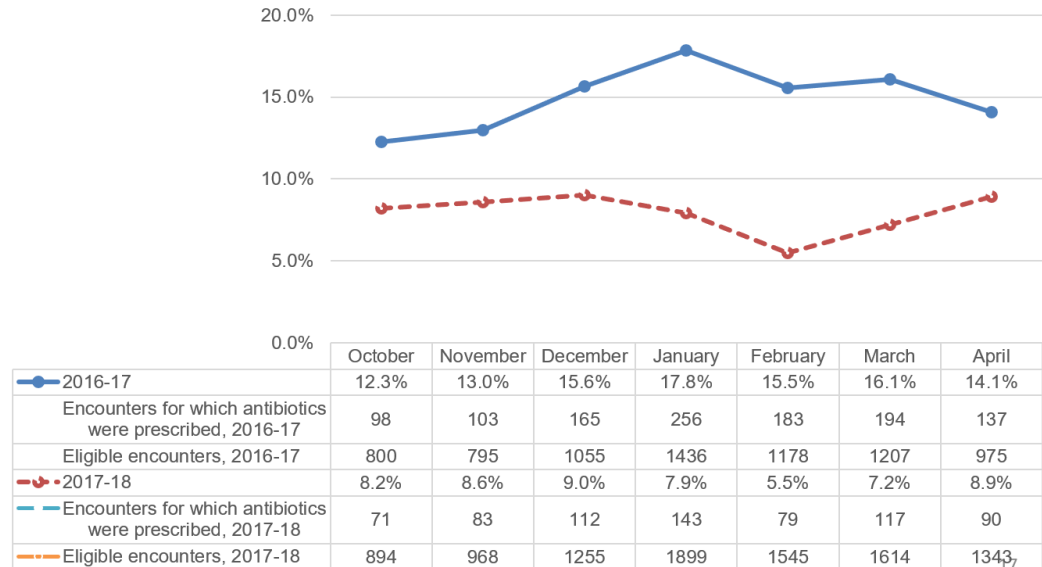
Relative Reduction = 52%
($p < 0.0001$)

Urgent Care ↓55%

Internal Medicine ↓45%

Content courtesy of James McKinnell, MD

Antibiotic prescribing rate for acute upper respiratory infections, by respiratory season



TAP OUT Resources

- Resources available at:
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/TAPOUT.htm>



Behavioral insights to curtail antibiotic overuse

Jason N. Doctor, PhD

Content courtesy of James McKinnell, MD

Appropriate Treatment of Common Infections in Primary Care

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Consulting Specialist, Acute Communicable Disease Control at the LA County Department of Public Health

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases



Antibiotic Stewardship in the Outpatient Setting

Katherine Fleming-Dutra, MD



Office of Antibiotic Stewardship
Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Publications Per Year (PubMed)

■ Inpatient Stewardship ■ Outpatient Stewardship

Share Your
Experience!



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