

Putting Prevention First: Antimicrobial Stewardship

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ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

WHAT CAN HEALTH WORKERS DO?



Antibiotic Resistance happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause.



- ✓ Are your hands, instruments & environment clean?
- ✓ Do you only prescribe & dispense antibiotics when they are needed, according to current guidelines?
- ✓ Do you report drug-resistant infections to surveillance teams?
- ✓ Do you talk to patients about how to take antibiotics correctly, antibiotic resistance & the dangers of misuse?
- ✓ Do you talk to patients about preventing infections (e.g. vaccination, hand washing, safer sex, covering nose & mouth when sneezing)?

AntibioticResistance

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AMS Stakeholders

- Traditional model
 - Core membership = pharmacy, infectious diseases, clinical microbiology, physicians and surgeons
- ? Role of nurses – infection prevention, perioperative nurses, nurse prescribers, ward nurses ...

CLINICAL PRACTICE: Ellie J. C. Goldstein, Section Editor

The Critical Role of the Staff Nurse in Antimicrobial Stewardship—Unrecognized, but Already There

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An essential participant in antimicrobial stewardship who has been unrecognized and underutilized is the “staff nurse.” Although the role of staff nurses has not formally been recognized in guidelines for implementing and operating antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) or defined in the medical literature, they have always performed numerous functions that are integral to successful antimicrobial stewardship. Nurses are antibiotic first responders, central communicators, coordinators of care, as well as 24-hour monitors of patient status, safety, and response to antibiotic therapy. An operational analysis of inpatient admissions evaluates these nursing stewardship activities and analyzes the potential benefits of nurses’ formal education about, and inclusion into, ASPs.

Keywords. antimicrobial stewardship; antimicrobial stewardship program; antibiotic resistance; nursing; turnaround time.

.....” the goal of nursing stewardship education is not to turn nurses into prescribers. Rather it is to recognize and utilize established nursing functions to synergize with optimal ASP goals and outcomes.”

Role of Nurses in AMS

- Triage
- Timely antibiotic ordering and administration
- “Time Out” in the surgical safety checklist
 - Has surgical antimicrobial prophylaxis been given?
- Monitor for antimicrobial adverse events and healthcare-associated infections
- Primary source of information to patients, friends, family and whanau

Role of Nurses in AMS

- IV to oral switch
- Involvement in infection prevention and control interventions
 - CAUTI
 - CLABSI
- References
 - Monsees E et al Staff nurses as antimicrobial stewards: an integrative literature AJIC 2017; 45: 917-22
 - Olans R et al The critical role of the staff nurse in antimicrobial stewardship-unrecognised, but already there CID 2016; 62 (1): 84-9
 - Sumner S, et al Antimicrobial stewardship: the role of clinical nurses and nurse educators. Nurse Education Today 2018; 60: 157-60

Useful Resources:

- Local DHB Antimicrobial Stewardship Team
- ACSQHC – Antimicrobial Stewardship in Australian Health Care, 2018
- CDC The core elements of Hospital Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs, 2017

