Understanding the importance of antimicrobial stewardship (AMS)

Your role in reducing antimicrobial resistance





What is AMS?

AMS is a set of coordinated strategies to improve the use of antimicrobial medications with the following goals^{1,2}:

- Improve clinical and patient outcomes
- Reduce antibiotic resistance
- Reduce adverse effects
- Minimize the selection of pathogenic organisms such as Clostridium difficile
- Decrease unnecessary costs

To be effective, AMS needs a multidisciplinary team to manage the program and to educate and encourage the participation and support of all hospital personnel^{1,2}





Why do we need AMS?

Antibiotics are often misused and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is directly related to antibiotic prescribing patterns³⁻⁵

When pathogens become resistant to medication, there are fewer effective treatment options, which can lead to increases in mortality rates, length of hospital stays and healthcare costs⁶

Up to **50%**

of antibiotics are prescribed inappropriately in the hospital^{7,8}

30% of hospital pharmaceutical budgets are used for antimicrobials⁹

Up to **58%** of antimicrobial costs can be saved by AMS programs^{8,10}

According to the World Health Organization: "Antimicrobial resistance threatens the very core of modern medicine and the sustainability of an effective, global public health response to the enduring threat from infectious diseases"⁶

> Without effective AMS intervention, by 2050, deaths due to **resistant** microbes in the Asia-Pacific region are expected to exceed



Do's and don'ts for antibiotic use



DO: 'MIND ME'¹²

- Microbiology guides therapy wherever possible
- Indications should be evidence based
- Narrowest spectrum required
- Dosage appropriate to the site and type of infection
- Minimize duration of therapy
- **E**nsure monotherapy in most cases

DON'T^{1,2,12}

- Use antibiotics to treat syndromes not caused by bacteria
- Treat if culture results reflect colonization or contamination, not infection
- Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics where narrow-spectrum antibiotics would be equally effective
- Use a longer-than-necessary duration of antibiotic therapy



What pathogens are problematic in Asia?

ESKAPE pathogens in South, East and Southeast Asian countries:

Enterococcus faecium

Resistant to aminopenicillins¹³

72 – 95%

Staphylococcus aureus

Resistant to oxacillin (MRSA)¹³

6 - 73%

Klebsiella pneumoniae

Resistant to ¹³		
3rd-gen cephalosporins 6 – 91%	Carbapenems 1 – 65%	

Acinetobacter baumannii

Resistant to ¹³		
Carbapenems 1 – 82 %	Fluoroquinolones 23 – 82 %	Aminoglycosides 24 - 76%

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Resistant to ¹³			
Carbapenems 18 – 36 %	Fluoroquinolones	Aminoglycosides 7 – 37 %	

Enterobacter aerogenes/cloacae

Resistant to ¹³			
Carbapenems 7 – 46 %	Fluoroquinolones	Aminoglycosides 14 – 52%	

Based on countries with available data; not all data are available for every country listed in the reference above

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