Figure 2. Specific CDI therapy



Conclusion. Clinical decision support increased prescribing of guideline-concordant CDI therapy in the outpatient setting. A targeted BPA is an effective stewardship intervention and may be especially useful in settings with limited antimicrobial stewardship resources.

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99. Presence of Chronic Diseases and Compliance with Québec Provincial Guidelines for Outpatient Antibiotic Prescription, Québec, Canada, 2010-2017 Elise Fortin, Ph.D.¹; Geneviève Deceuninck, M.Sc.²; Caroline Sirois, Ph.D.³; Caroline Quach, M.D. M.Sc.⁴; Marc Simard, Ph.D.(c)²; Sonia Jean, Ph.D.²; Alejandra Irace-Cima, M.D. M.Sc.²; Nadine Magali-Ufitinema, M.Sc.⁵; ¹Institut national de santé public du Quebec, Quebec, Quebec, Canada; ²Institut national de santé publique du Québec, Quebec, Quebec, Canada; ³Université Laval, Quebec, Quebec, Canada; ⁴Montreal University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; ⁵Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Session: P-06. Antimicrobial Stewardship: Non-Inpatient Settings

Background. In Québec primary care, antimicrobial use is higher in patients with chronic diseases, but it is unclear whether this utilization may be reduced. We aimed to measure the proportion of compliant antimicrobial prescriptions according to the provincial guidelines for the treatment of common respiratory and urinary infections and measure variations in this proportion with certain chronic diseases.

Methods. Antimicrobial dispensing covered by the public drug insurance plan between April 2010 and March 2017, delivered within 2 days of an outpatient consultation for an infection was included. Infections targeted by provincial guidelines were studied: otitis media, pharyngitis, pneumonia, sinusitis, bronchitis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease exacerbations, cystitis, and acute pyelonephritis. The proportion of prescriptions compliant with guidelines (right antimicrobial for children, and right antimicrobial and dosage for adults) was computed by age group (children or adults) and per category of chronic disease (respiratory, cardiovascular, diabetes, mental disorder, none of previous). For each infection and age group, multivariate robust Poisson regression was used to measure the impact of categories of chronic diseases on proportions of prescriptions compliant with guidelines.

Results. Between 14 677 and 312 786 prescriptions were included, for each infection. Compliance to guidelines was above 87% in children and was significantly lower $(\leq 3\%$ bellow) in children with asthma. In adults, the choice of agent was compliant for at least 73% of prescriptions, except for cases of pharyngitis (between 53% and 61%). Accounting for dosage led to lower proportions of compliance, which varied between 19% (cystitis with diabetes) and 77% (pyelonephritis with none of the studied chronic disease categories). Compliant prescriptions were 2,4% to 20,4% less frequent in the presence of chronic diseases (statistically significant).

Conclusion. Non-compliant prescriptions could still be appropriate, but their high frequency suggests there is room for improvement. Dosage seems particularly problematic. Additional support could be offered to clinicians for the prescription of antimicrobials to patients with chronic diseases

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100. Assessment of Emergency Department Prescribing Practices for Outpatient Treatment of Urinary Tract Infection, Community-Acquired Pneumonia, and Skin and Soft Tissue Infections

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Session: P-06. Antimicrobial Stewardship: Non-Inpatient Settings

Background. Studies have found a need for improved antimicrobial stewardship in the outpatient setting. The literature is limited by the populations and disease states studied as many focus on viral infections. This study focuses on the adult emergency departments (EDs) in a large healthcare system and quantifies the proportion of antibiotic prescriptions deemed inappropriate for common outpatient infections.

Methods. A retrospective study was conducted in patients with selected common infections treated as an outpatient from the ED. Patients were reviewed for eligibility based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria in Table 1. Appropriateness was analyzed based on: need for antimicrobial therapy; agent choice, dose, duration, and directions in concordance with national guidelines and local resistance patterns; and no clinically relevant drug interactions, unnecessary dual coverage, or a better or safer alternative available. The entire prescription was marked inappropriate if any factor was deemed inappropriate.

Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

	Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria					
•	Age ≥18 years and <90 years	 Time in ED ≥24 hours 					
•	ICD-10 codes for urinary tract infections, community acquired pneumonia, or skin/soft tissue infection (N39, J13-22, L08) Treated at one of five included emergency departments between October 1, 2018 and February 29, 2020, inclusive	 Inpatient admission ID consultation Outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy Concomitant bacterial infection 					
•							
							• Pregnant
							COPD exacerbation in past 30 days

Based on the Epic report generated, a random sample of patients were selected for manual review. Only patients who met the following criteria were eligible for inclusion in the final analysis.

Results. Of the 318 patients reviewed, 274 were included. Treatment was deemed inappropriate 64% (174/274) of the time, significantly above the estimated 30% (p < 0.001). The agent selection, duration, and dose were the most the frequent factors deeming a prescription inappropriate. The most inappropriately used agents were fluoroquinolones and azithromycin. A positive culture required modification of therapy 31% (22/70) of the time and more so when the drug was guideline recommended. For example, when empiric antibiotic selection was per urinary tract infection guidelines, 31% (14/53) required modification compared to 19% (3/16) when the agent was not. This was most apparent when cephalexin was used.

Conclusion. The use of antibiotics at the studied EDs was not in concordance with guidelines in the study period. However, the cultures were sensitive less often to agents deemed appropriate per guidelines for empiric therapy. It is possible that the ideal treatments of bacterial infections in this community are not representative of national resistance patterns. Using ED-specific antibiograms to create order panels for common infections, as well as prospective pharmacist review at ED discharge, could increase appropriate utilization of preferred agents.

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101. Impact of an Integrated Tele-Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at a Rural Community Hospital

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Session: P-07. Antimicrobial Stewardship: Program Development and Implementation

Background. Small hospitals in the US may lack access to infectious diseases (ID) expertise despite similar rates of antimicrobial use and drug-resistant bacteria as larger hospitals. A tele-antimicrobial stewardship program (TASP) is a force multiplier, expanding access to specialty care, training, and guidance on appropriate resource utilization. Data on the impact of TASPs in community or rural inpatient settings is limited.

Methods. We established a TASP at a 160-bed hospital in Armstrong County, PA (population < 5000) in September 2020. Tele-ID consult services were already being used (Figure 1). A non-local ID pharmacist or ID physician performed prospective audits and provided feedback with 1 local pharmacist on a 30-minute video confer-ence call daily. At TASP implementation, all patients receiving intravenous (IV) fluoroquinolones, metronidazole, and azithromycin were reviewed. Figure 1 shows the additional support following TASP implementation, including addition of ceftriaxone, carbapenems, IV vancomycin, and tocilizumab to daily reviews. A patient monitoring form was developed to track interventions and the local pharmacists were trained in documentation. Table 1 lists other TASP features implemented.

Figure 1. TASP Timeline



Table 1. TASP Accomplishments

Patient Care	Guidelines	Microbiology Lab	Policies	Education	
Prospective audit	Empiric	Updated local	MDRO and	Introduction	
with feedback M-F	Antimicrobials	antibiogram	Isolation	to	
	for Common			Stewardship	
	Infections			webinar	
Patient monitoring	COVID-19	Revised cascade	Surgical	COVID-19	
form		reporting rules	prophylaxis	monthly	
				updates and	
				webinars	
Stewardship	CAP	Updated AST panels and	Aminoglycoside	Tocilizumab	
intervention form		reporting rules to align dosing		webinar	
		with current			
		breakpoints			
Available for	HAP/VAP	Added clinician	Renal dosing	Monthly	
patient-related		comments to culture		stewardship	
questions via email		and laboratory test		pearl	
outside of daily		results		newsletter	
stewardship call					
Coaching on	Procalcitonin	Revised antibiotic	Indications for Use		
conducting		reporting rules for	on electronic		
thorough beta-		Enterococcus spp.	antibiotic orders		
lactam allergy		isolated in urine			
history		cultures			
	IV to PO	Enhanced culture	Vancomycin dosing		
	conversion	results display to	in dialysis		
		providers in electronic			
		health record for			
		improved readability			

Results. From 09/01/2020 to 04/30/2021, 304 stewardship opportunities were identified and 77% of interventions were accepted. Recommending a duration of therapy was accepted most frequently (93.5%) and de-escalation of therapy least frequently (69.6%) (Table 2). Recommending an ID consultation or diagnostic testing was always accepted but only comprised 6.2% of all interventions. Daily calls involved an average of 5 patient reviews. Monthly antimicrobial use declined on average from 673 DOT (days of therapy)/1000 PD (patient days) to 638 DOT/1000 PD (Figure 2). Daily calls were cancelled on 31/166 weekdays (18.7%) due to staffing shortages.

Table 2. TASP Interventions (9/2020 - 4/2021)

	9/2020	10/2020	11/2020	12/2020	1/2021	2/2021	3/2021	4/2021	Total
Discontinue	3/4	2/4	6/13	6/6	8/11	10/15	13/16	8/11	56/80
									(70%)
De-escalate	3/4	3/3	6/6	10/15	8/11	6/11	12/18	7/11	55/79
									(69.6%)
IV to PO	10/14	10/11	4/6	2/4	1/1	0/0	6/8	5/6	38/50
									(76%)
Duration	2/2	4/4	5/5	5/5	3/5	2/2	11/11	11/12	43/46
									(93.5%)
Dosing	2/4	0/0	1/1	0/0	3/3	0/0	4/4	4/4	14/16
									(87.5%)
ID Consult	1/1	0/0	1/1	2/2	0/0	0/0	8/8	0/0	12/12
									(100%)
Escalate	0/0	1/1	1/2	1/1	0/0	0/0	1/3	2/2	6/9
									(66.7%)
Diagnostics	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	0/0	2/2	3/3	7/7
									(100%)
Other	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	1/1	3/5
									(60%)

Figure 2. Monthly Antimicrobial Use in Days of Therapy (DOT) per 1000 Patient Days (4/2019 - 5/2021)



Conclusion. Implementation of TASP in a community hospital resulted in a high percentage of accepted stewardship interventions and lower antimicrobial usage. Success is dependent on robust educational efforts, establishing strong relationships with local providers, and involvement of key stakeholders. Lack of dedicated stewardship time for local pharmacists is a very significant barrier.

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102. Evaluation of the Association between the Antibiotic Spectrum Index and Antibiotic Days of Therapy: A Retrospective Study across 124 Acute-care Hospitals

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Session: P-07. Antimicrobial Stewardship: Program Development and Implementation

Background. Antibiotic stewardship programs often measure antibiotic days of therapy (DOT), but this metric does not reflect the antibiotic spectrum. In this study, we used the previously published Antibiotic Spectrum Index (ASI), which attaches a score (1-13) to the spectrum of each antibiotic, to evaluate the content of antibiotic use across all Veterans Health Administration (VHA) hospitals. We also assessed how benchmarking hospital performance changed when ASI was used instead of DOT.

Methods. We conducted a retrospective cohort study of patients admitted to 124 acute-care VHA hospitals during 2018. We obtained data on administered antibiotics, the days of antibiotic use (DOT), and days-present (DP) from the VHA Corporate Data Warehouse and then aggregated data to the hospital-level using the National Healthcare Safety Network's methodology. We modified the original ASI by changing 3.8% of the bug-drug scores to ensure consistency across all scores and adding 27 new antibiotics agents. For each hospital, we calculated ASI/DOT, ASI/1,000 DP, and DOT/1,000 DP and ranked hospitals on their performance. We performed a