Antibiotic Prescribing Resources

Resources for clinicians and office staff on antibiotic prescribing and effective patient communication.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH PATIENTS

Management of the Difficult Patient (Leonard J. Haas, Jennifer P. Leise, Michael K. Magill, Osman N. Sanyer)
https://www.aafp.org/afp/2005/1115/p2063.html
Patient, physician, and health care system factors contribute to patient satisfaction. This article touches on the physician responsibility in management of difficult patients. Suggested phrases included (not antibiotic-specific).

The Fine Art of Refusal (Frances Spickerman)
https://www.aafp.org/fpm/2004/0200/p80.html
Refusing to prescribe inappropriate antibiotics may require meticulous communication. Suggested phrases included.

Communicating with patients (Laura J. Martin)
https://medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000456.htm
Careful assessment of existing patient education leads to better reception of new patient education.

Predictors of patient satisfaction (Jeffrey L. Jackson, Judith Chamberlin, Kurt Kroenke)
https://doi.org/10.1016/S0277-9536(00)00164-7
Research manuscript: patient-doctor communication about symptoms cause and likely duration of symptoms was associated with greater immediate post-visit satisfaction.

COST OF ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANCE

Antibiotic-Resistant Infection Treatment Costs Have Doubled Since 2002, Now Exceeding $2 Billion Annually (Kenneth E. Thorpe, Peter Joski, and Kenton J. Johnston)
https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2017.1153
Using data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, authors found that antibiotic resistance added $1,383 to the cost of treating a patient with a bacterial infection, adding up to a national cost of $2.2 billion annually.

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OUTPATIENT ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING

Changes in Outpatient Use of Antibiotics by Adults in the United States, 2006–2015 (Mallika L. Mundkur, Jessica Franklin, Krista F. Huybrechts, Michael A. Fischer, Aaron S. Kesselheim, Jeffrey A. Linder, Joan Landon, Elisabetta Patorno)
https://doi.org/10.1007/s40264-018-0697-4

From 2006-2015, antibiotic use in adults under 65 has decreased by 12% and decreased by 5% in adults 65 years of age and older. These trends may reflect effectiveness of changes in access to care or perceived antibiotic safety.

Appropriateness of outpatient antibiotic prescribing among privately insured US patients: ICD-10-CM based cross sectional study (Kao-Ping Chua, Michael A Fischer, Jeffrey A Linder)
https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.k5092

Authors used an ICD-10 code classification scheme to determine appropriateness of antibiotic prescriptions. Among 19 million prescriptions in 2016 for privately insured US children and non-elderly adults, 23% were inappropriate. 36% potentially inappropriate, and 29% were not associated with a recent diagnosis code.

OTHER PUBLISHED ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP TOOLKITS

Be Antibiotics Aware Partner Toolkit (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/week/toolkit.html

A CDC educational effort that strives to provide up-to-date information to help improve antibiotic use in the US.

Nursing Home Antimicrobial Stewardship Guide (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)
https://www.ahrq.gov/nhguide/toolkits.html

A variety of toolkits to implement and monitor antimicrobial stewardship programs, to determine appropriate use of antibiotics, and to educate and engage residents and family members.

Antibiotics Stewardship Toolkit for Primary Care Providers (Illinois Precious Drugs & Scary Bugs Campaign)
http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/publications/publicationsopps2018pdsb-toolkit_0.pdf

This toolkit is intended to promote the judicious use of antibiotics in the outpatient setting and includes provider and patient resources.

NSHA Antimicrobial Stewardship (Nova Scotia Health Authority)
http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/nsha-antimicrobial-stewardship

International efforts for reducing inappropriate antibiotic use that includes appropriate selection, dosing, route, and duration of antimicrobial therapy.

Reducing antibiotic resistance (National Prescribing Service (NPS) MedicineWise)
https://www.nps.org.au/professionals/reducing-antibiotic-resistance

Teaching tools and case studies combating antibiotic resistance for practitioners, pharmacists, and nurses.

TARGET Antibiotic Toolkit (Royal College of General Practitioners)
https://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/resources/toolkits/target-antibiotic-toolkit.aspx

The Treat Antibiotics Responsibly, Guidance, Education, Tools (TARGET) helps influence prescribers' and patients' attitudes, social norms, and perceived barriers to more appropriate antibiotic use.