

Acute Care Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

The Alberta Health Services Mission is:

To provide a patient-focused, quality health system that is accessible and sustainable for all Albertans.

To support this Mission with respect to safe and effective use of antibiotics, AHS has established an Antimicrobial Stewardship program as outlined below.

Vision

Using antibiotics wisely while preserving their value

Mission

To optimize antibiotic use through targeted, evidence informed and measurable initiatives

Goals

- 1. Ensure infections are managed effectively, with preservation of the value of antimicrobials*
- 2. Optimize clinical outcomes in Albertans receiving antimicrobials to decrease infection-related morbidity and mortality*
- 3. Minimize antimicrobial-related adverse effects, toxicities and promote patient safety*
- 4. Minimize unintended consequences of antimicrobial use, such as selection of antibiotic resistant strains and Clostridium difficile infection*
- 5. Use standardized tools to measure antimicrobial utilization within acute care institutions across Alberta*
- 6. Identify and address gaps to create a sustainable antimicrobial stewardship program*
- 7. Ensure antimicrobial stewardship activities within AHS are evidence based and have measurable processes and outcomes*
- 8. Provide education to healthcare providers and other relevant staff on improving antimicrobial prescribing*
- 9. Initiate, participate in, and promote research related to the utilization of antimicrobials*

Objectives

The Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee (ASC) of the Drugs & Therapeutics Committee (DTC) will focus on the following provincial strategic objectives:

1. *Maintain a responsive and well structured provincial antimicrobial hospital formulary*
2. *Maintain evidence based guidelines, restrictions and therapeutic interchanges for antimicrobials*
3. *Develop methods to evaluate the effectiveness of guidelines, restrictions and therapeutic interchanges for antimicrobials*
4. *Support and promote Bugs & Drugs as the main antimicrobial reference used in antimicrobial stewardship*
5. *Establish and implement antimicrobial stewardship programs within health zones across Alberta*
6. *Provide guidance on appropriate resources to support site and zone based stewardship programs*
7. *Develop internal reports on antimicrobial utilization at regular intervals*
8. *Develop external reports on antimicrobial stewardship program initiatives from across Alberta and an annual summary report of initiatives*
9. *Review internal and external reports on infection control indicators, such as targeted antimicrobial resistant organisms and C. difficile infections, in collaboration with the Surveillance Program of Infection Prevention & Control at regular intervals*
10. *Facilitate collaboration and exchange of education and design materials from initiatives among zones*
11. *Provide guidance and/or collaborate with other groups to create/review order sets/pathways that include antimicrobials*
12. *Use standardized measurement tools for antimicrobial utilization within acute care institutions across Alberta*

References

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<<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/healthcare-associated-infection/antimicrobial-stewardship/>>

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<http://accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2014-en.pdf>

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