

# FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE: UNDERSTANDING ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP, REPORTING, AND RESISTANCE

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# Disclosures

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- None

# Outline

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1. Define and describe the impact of antimicrobial stewardship programs
2. Discuss the role of clinical microbiologists in antimicrobial stewardship
3. Identify emerging drug resistance and novel antibacterials

# Competing Tensions in Antimicrobial Use

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Need for timely,  
appropriate  
antimicrobial initiation  
in serious infections

Need to avoid  
unnecessary  
antimicrobial use to  
prevent resistance  
and adverse effects



# Antimicrobial Use



Up to 50% of antibiotics prescribed are  
inappropriate.

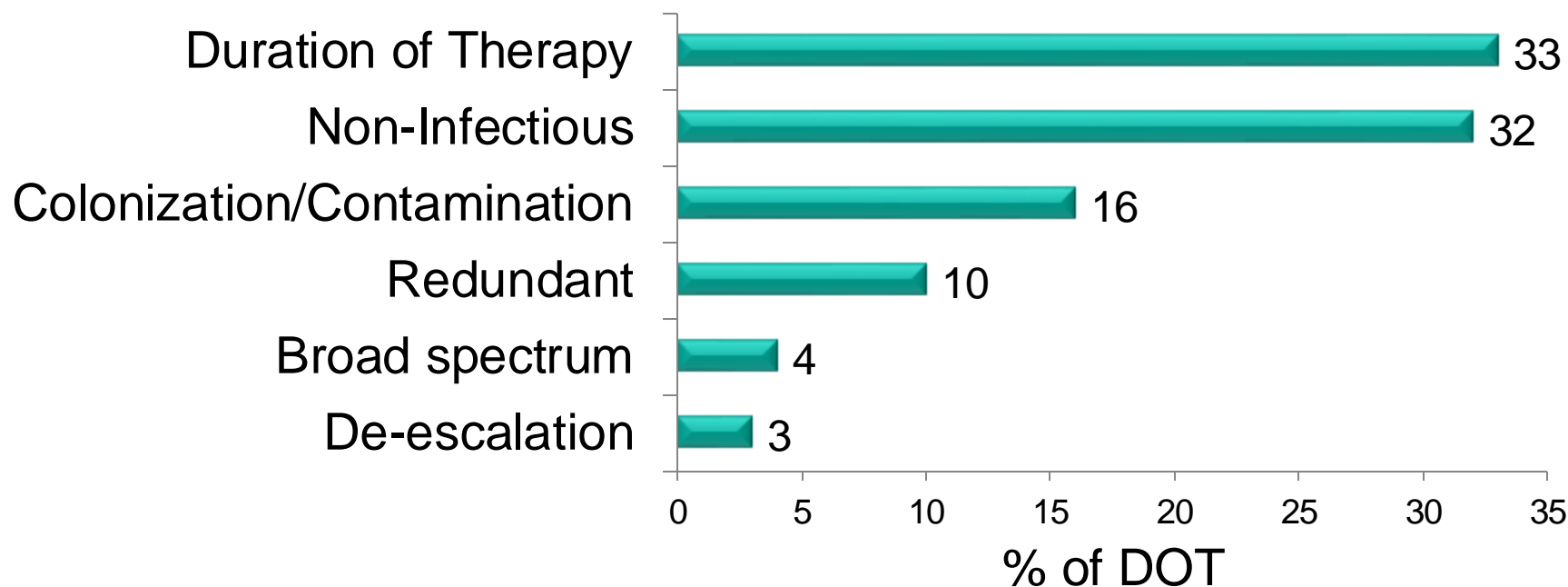
# Common Misuses of Antibiotics

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- Empiric antimicrobial treatment with broad-spectrum antibiotics without clear evidence of bacterial infection
- Treatment of a positive clinical culture in the absence of disease
- Failure to narrow antibiotic therapy when a causative organism is identified
- Prolonged prophylactic therapy
- Excessive durations of therapy

# Antibiotic Misuse

Reasons for unnecessary DOT in non-ICU patients over 2 weeks



**~30% of all antibiotic days of therapy were unnecessary**

# What are the consequences of antibiotic misuse?

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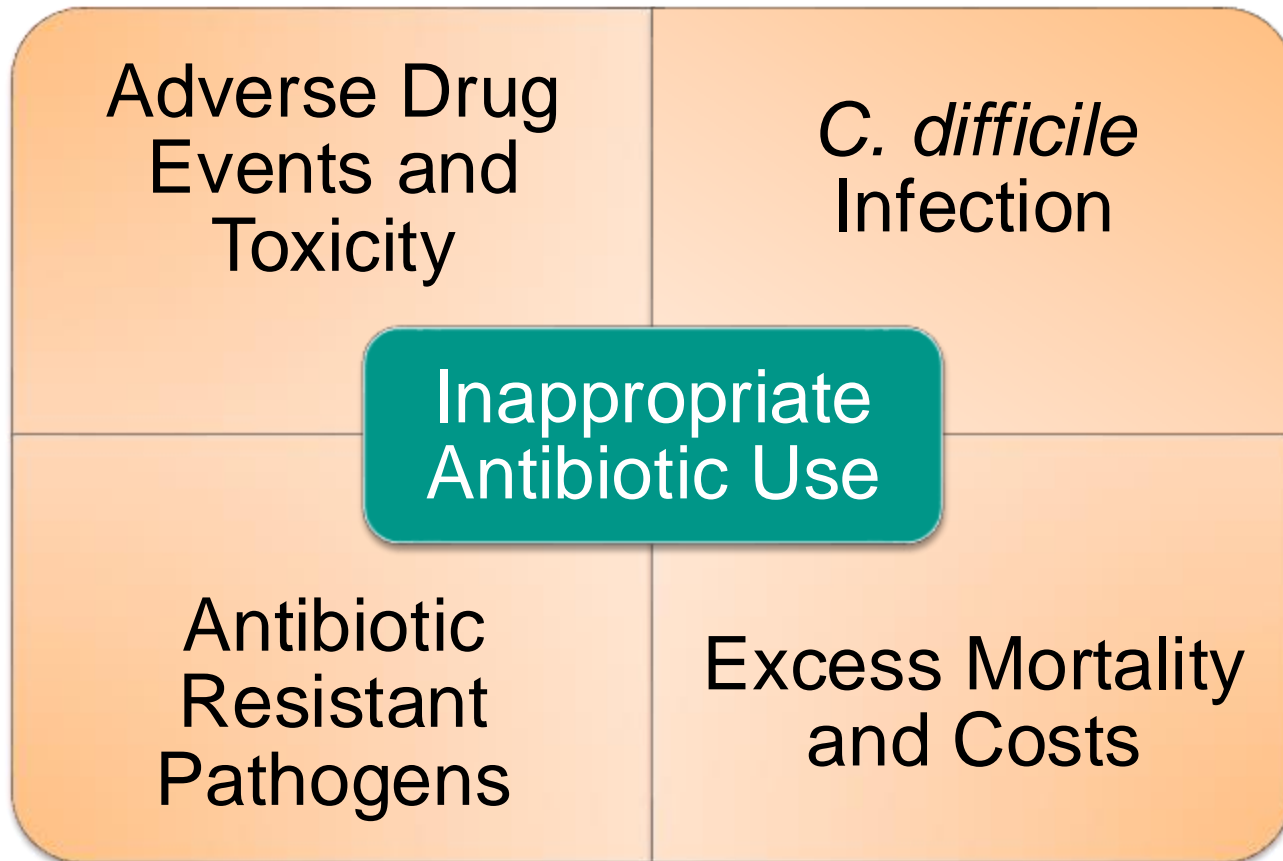
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# Consequences of Antibiotic Misuse

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







# *Clostridioides difficile* Infection (CDI)



- Antibiotic exposure is the single **most important risk factor** for the development of CDI
- Patients who receive **broad-spectrum antibiotics** during hospitalization are at **3 times greater risk** to develop CDI

# COVID-19 Impact on Antimicrobial Resistance

	Threat	Change in Rates or Number of Infections***			
		2020 vs. 2019	2021 vs. 2020	2022 vs. 2021	2022 vs. 2019
URGENT*	Hospital-onset CRE	 Increase	 Increase	 Stable	 Increase
	Hospital-onset Carbapenem-resistant <i>Acinetobacter</i>	 Stable	 Stable	 Stable	 Increase**
	Clinical Cases of <i>C. auris</i>	 Increase	 Increase	 Increase	 Increase
SERIOUS*	Hospital-onset MRSA	 Increase	 Stable	 Decrease	 Stable
	Hospital-onset VRE	 Increase	 Increase	 Stable	 Increase
	Hospital-onset ESBL-producing Enterobacterales	 Increase	 Stable	 Stable	 Increase
	Hospital-onset MDR <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	 Increase	 Increase	 Stable	 Increase

\* Threat level for each pathogen, as categorized in CDC's *Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States, 2019*.

\*\* There was no statistically significant difference in rate of hospital-onset carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter* in 2020, 2021, and 2022 when compared to the previous year. However, there was a statistically significant increase in rate of hospital-onset carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter* in 2022 when compared to 2019.

\*\*\* Hospital-onset rates were described using multivariable models for all threats except *C. auris*. Please note that in above table, stable indicates there was no statistically significant increase or decrease, decrease indicates a statistically significant decrease where  $p < 0.05$ , and increase indicates a statistically significant increase where  $p < 0.05$ , for all threats except for *C. auris*. Increases or decreases in *C. auris* were indicated by changes in the number of clinical cases reported nationally without hypothesis testing.

CRE=carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales; MRSA=methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; VRE=vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus; ESBL=extended spectrum beta-lactamase; MDR=multidrug-resistant

CDC. Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States, 2021-2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/antimicrobial-resistance/media/pdfs/antimicrobial-resistance-threats-update-2022-508.pdf>.

# How do we improve antimicrobial use and minimize resistance?

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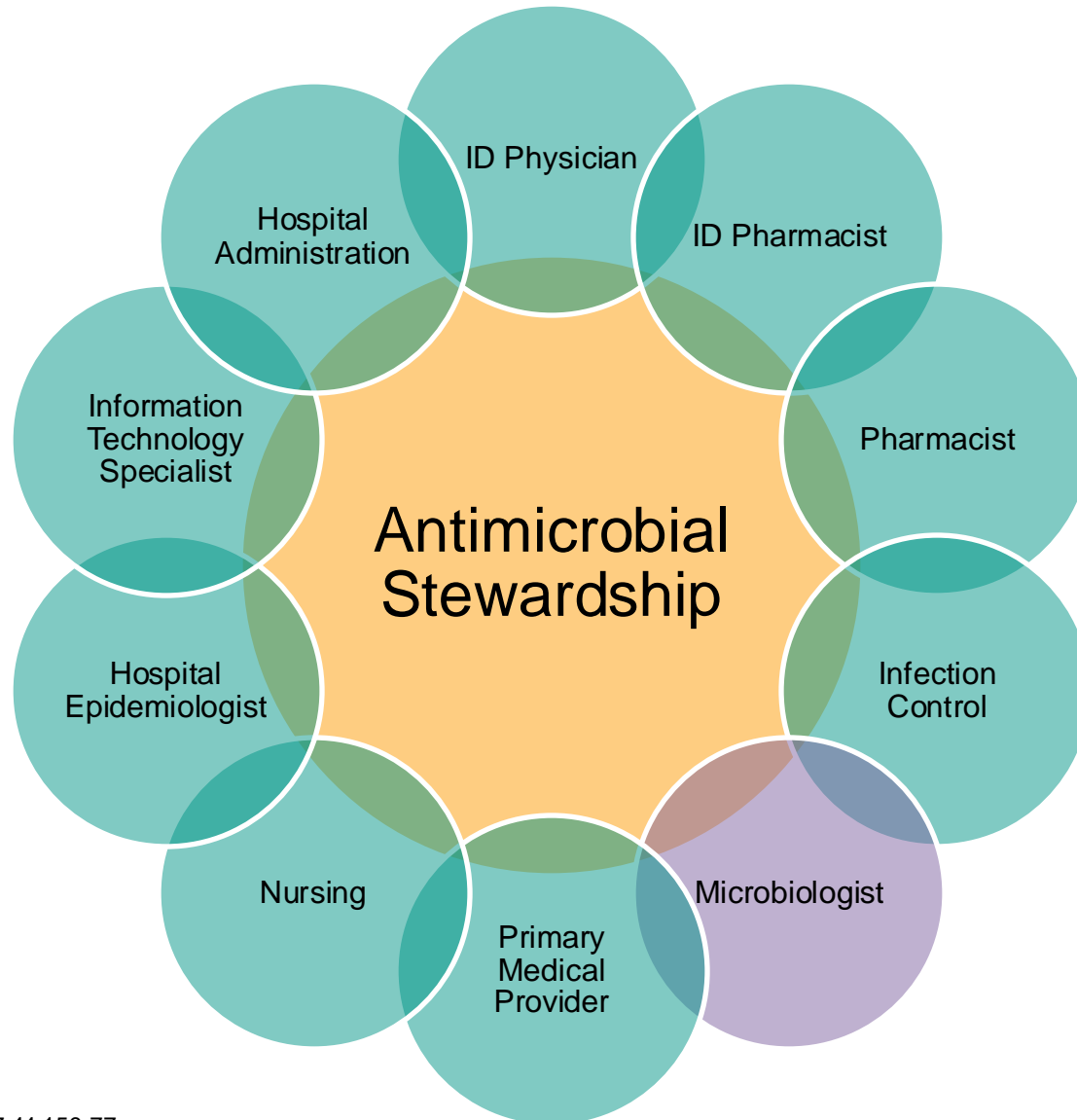
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# Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS)

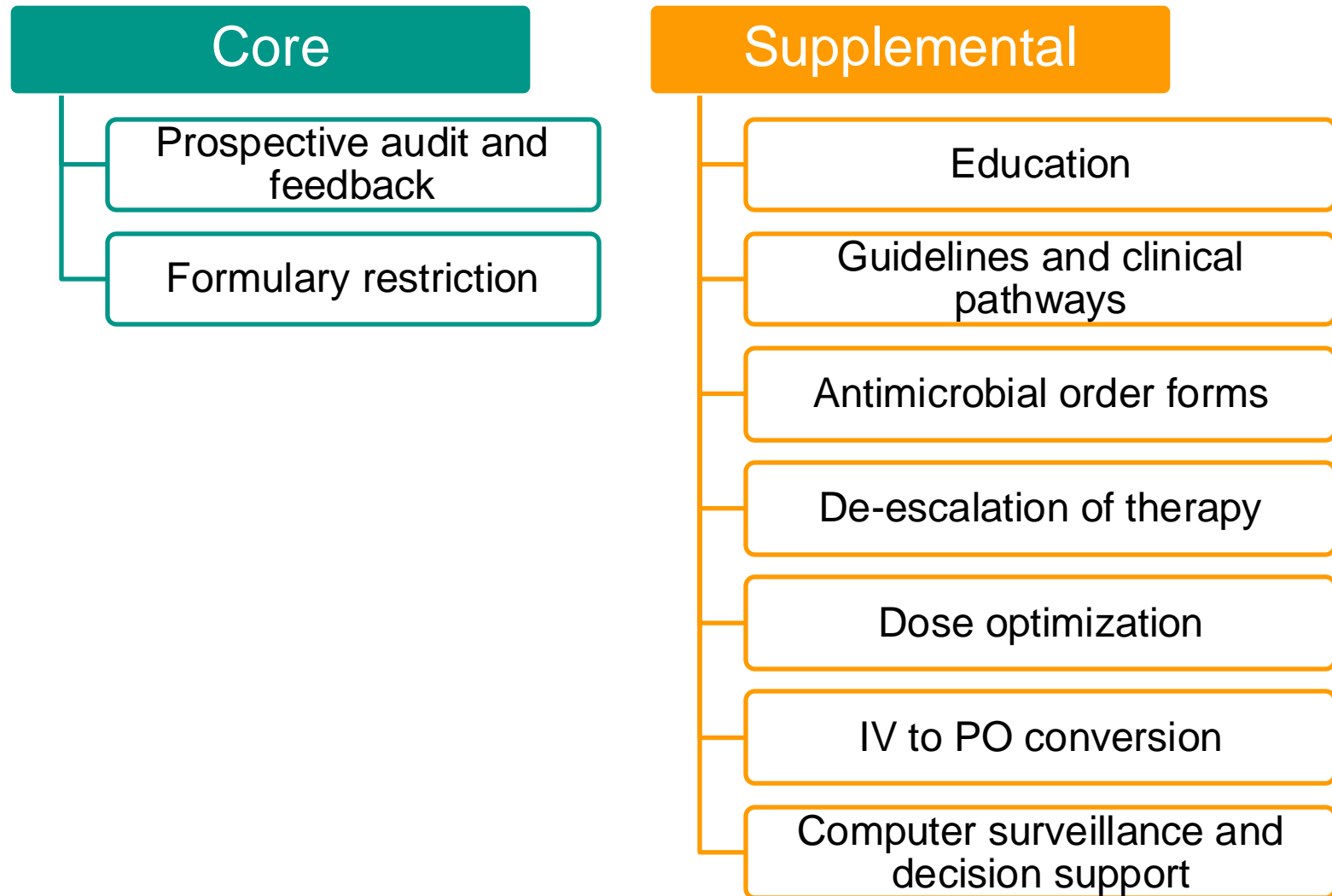
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- Multidisciplinary approach to optimizing antimicrobials to maximize patient outcomes and decrease antimicrobial resistance
- Ensuring patients are:
  - ✓ On the right antibiotic
  - ✓ At the right dose, route, and duration
  - ✓ For the right indication

# Multidisciplinary Approach



# Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) Strategies



# Impact of Antimicrobial Stewardship

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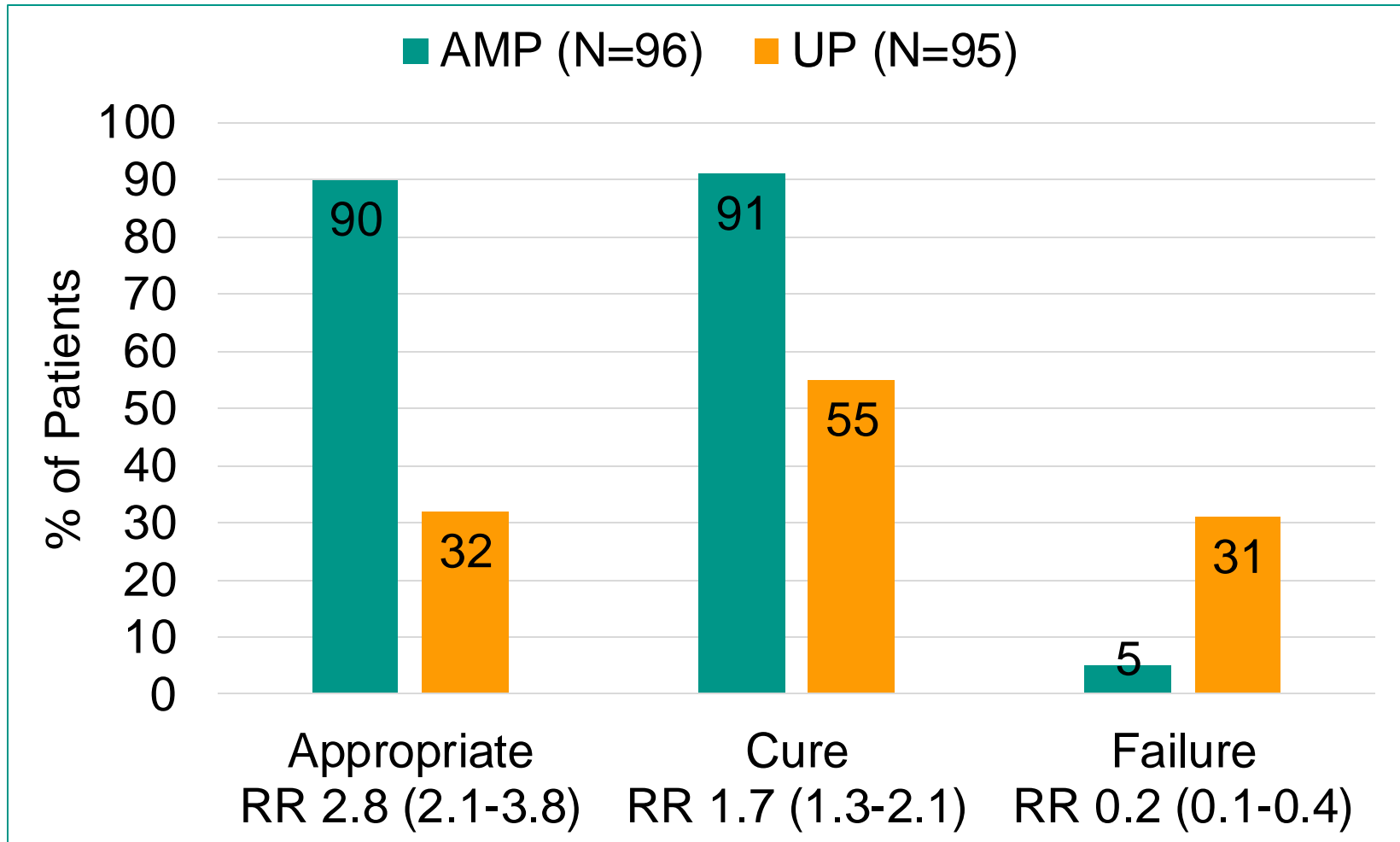
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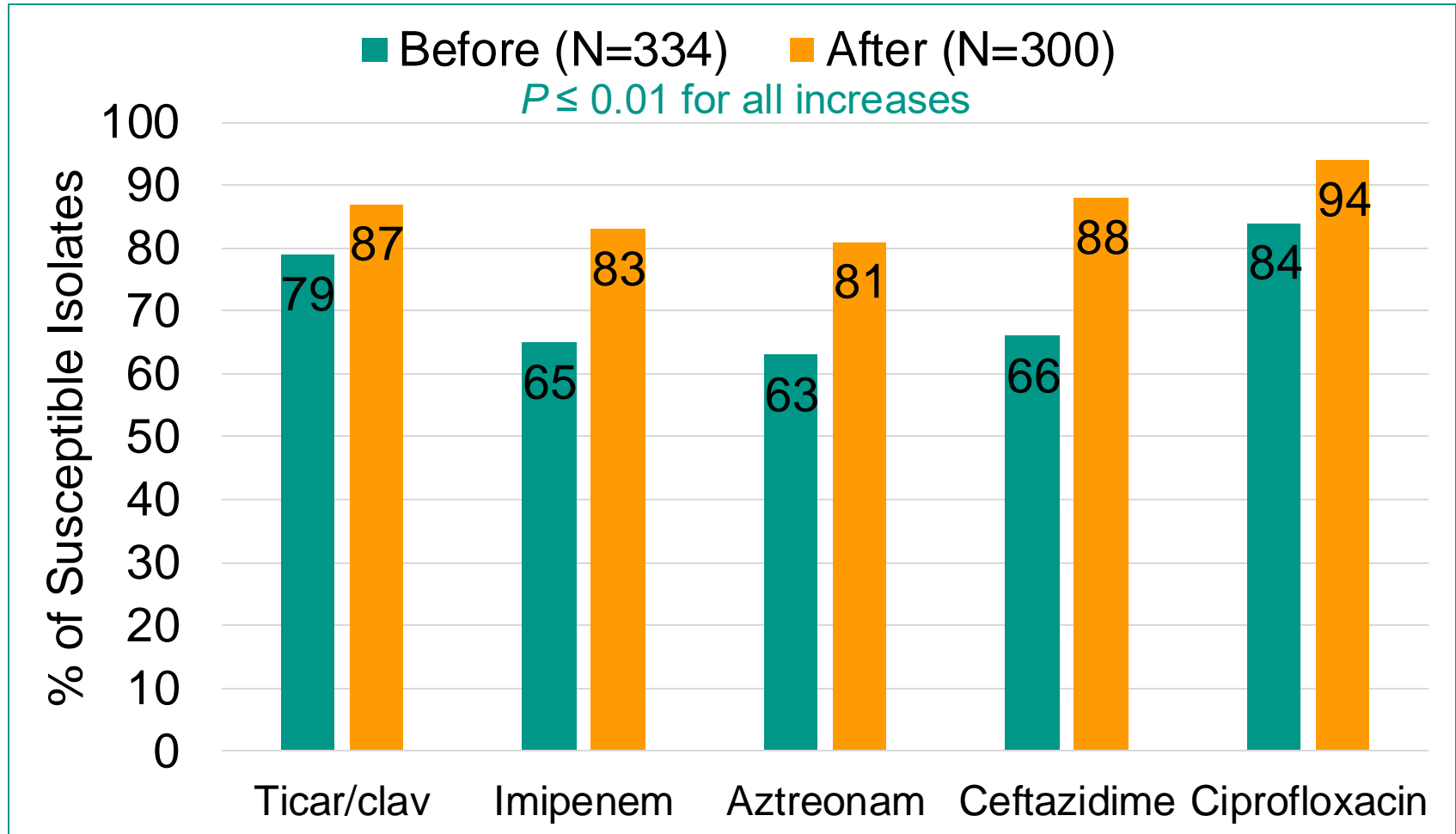
# Improving Antibiotic Use Improves Infection Cure Rates

Clinical outcomes with and without antimicrobial stewardship

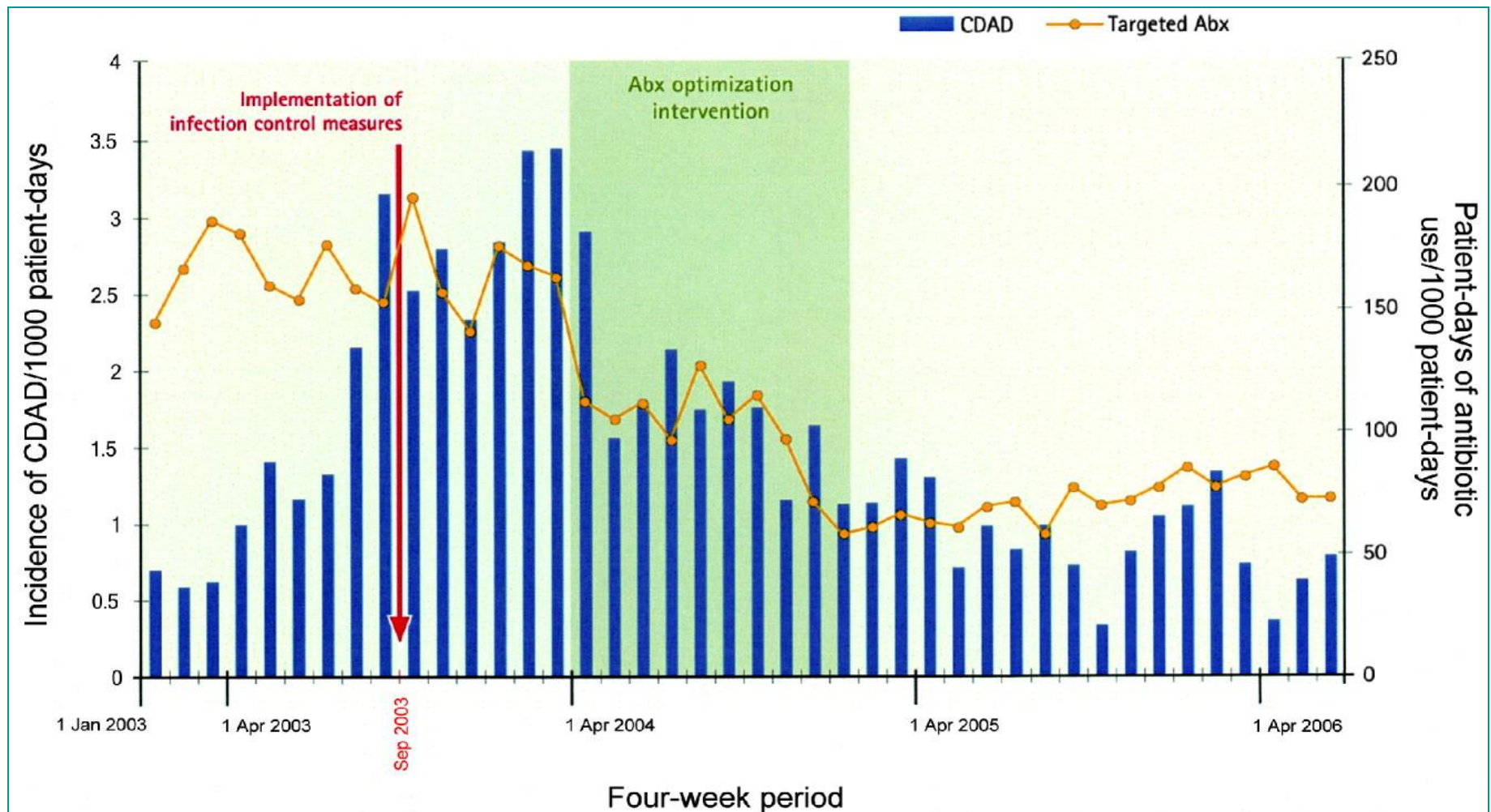


# Improving Antibiotic Use Reduces Resistance

*P. aeruginosa* susceptibilities before and after implementation of antibiotic restrictions

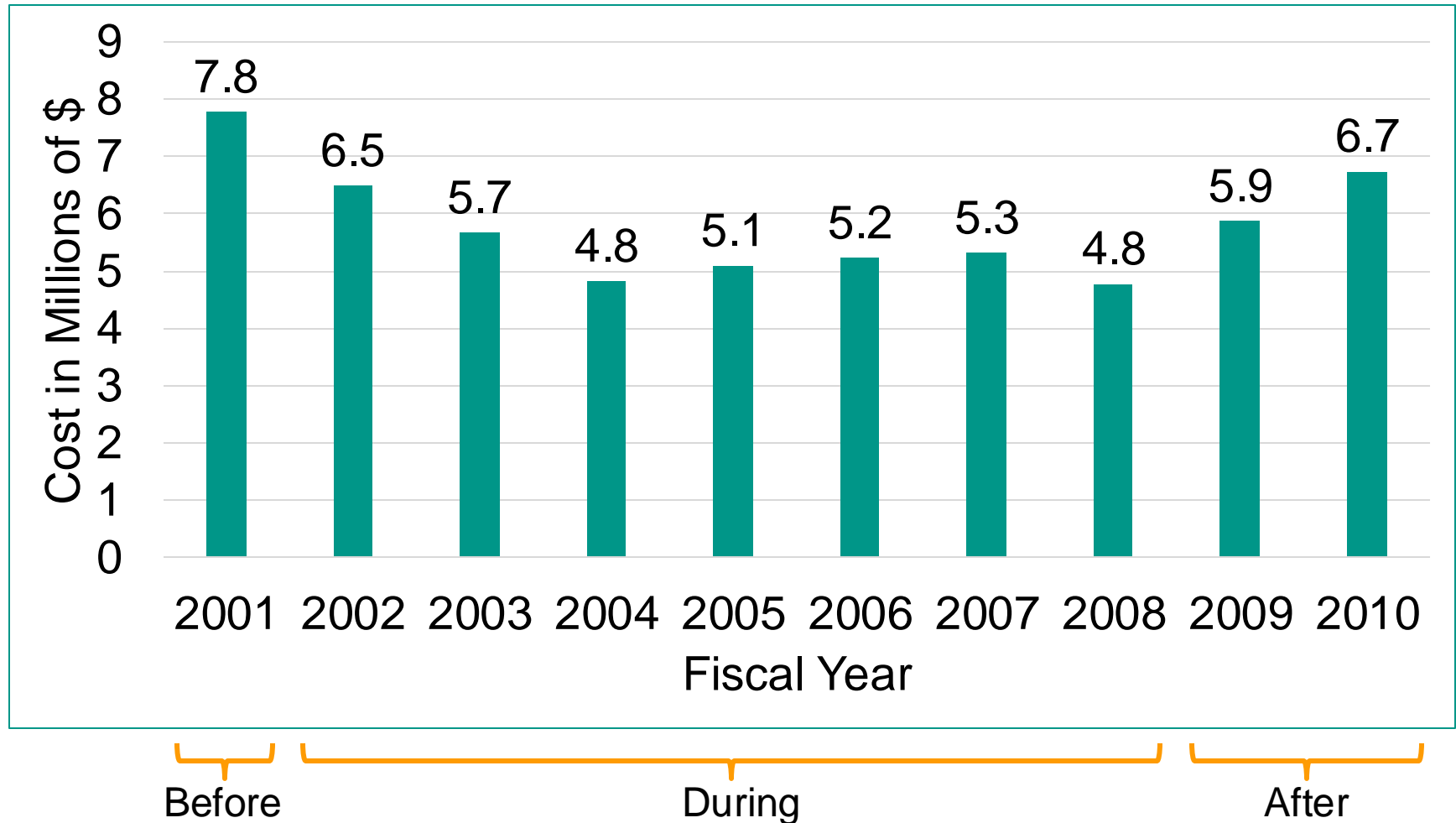


# Improving Antibiotic Use Decreases *C. difficile* Rates



# Improving Antibiotic Use Decreases Health Care Costs

Cost of antimicrobials before, during, and after ASP



# Clinical Microbiologists and Antimicrobial Stewardship

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# AMS Activities by Microbiologists

## Essential

- Perform timely, reliable, reproducible ID/AST
- Promptly report unusual patterns of resistance
- Create annual antibiograms
- Implement cascade and/or selective reporting
- Collaborate with ID physicians and pharmacists to update methods for AST

## Achievable

- Provide specific comments to guide therapy on microbiology reports
- Use RDT for targeted critical specimen types

## Aspirational

- Evaluate feasibility and perform AST to new drugs
- Broaden use of RDT

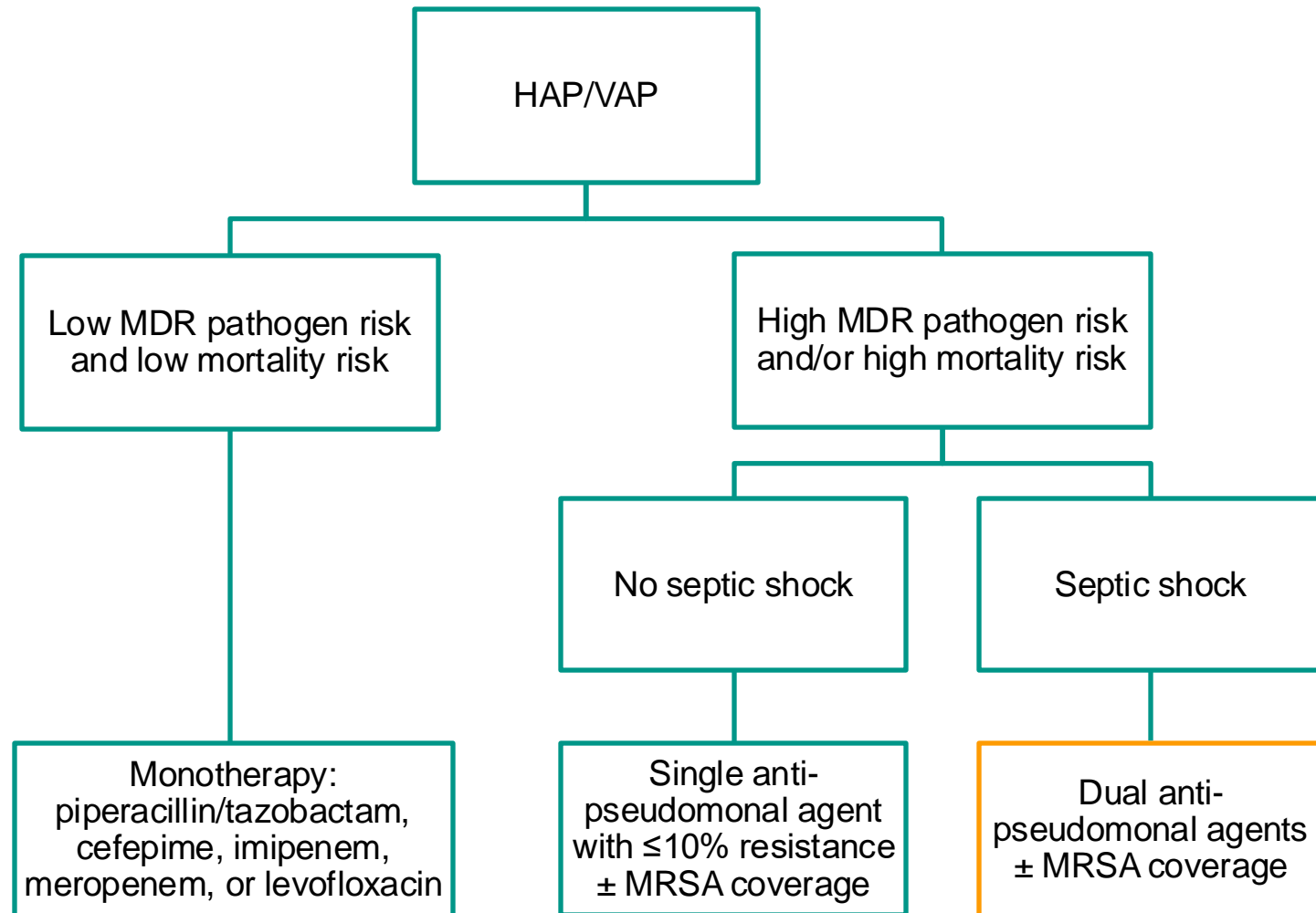
# Antibiograms

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## Enhanced antibiograms for institutional needs:

- Patient location (e.g., ICU, outpatient)
- Syndromic: select specimen types (e.g., blood, urine)
- Patient population (e.g., surgical, pediatric)
- Rolling
- Aggregated
- Antimicrobial agent combinations
- Antimicrobial resistance markers

# Empiric Combination Therapy for Pneumonia





# Combination Antibiogram to Evaluate Cross-Resistance

Combination antibiogram for *P. aeruginosa* isolates (% susceptible)

Antibiotic	Monotherapy	In Combination With			
		Gentamicin	Amikacin	Ciprofloxacin	Levofloxacin
Ceftazidime	84	94	99	95	94
Imipenem	84	94	99	94	92
Cefepime	90	96	99	95	94
Meropenem	89	96	99	95	94
Piperacillin-tazobactam	83	95	99	95	93

# Antibiogram with Resistance Markers for Therapy Optimization

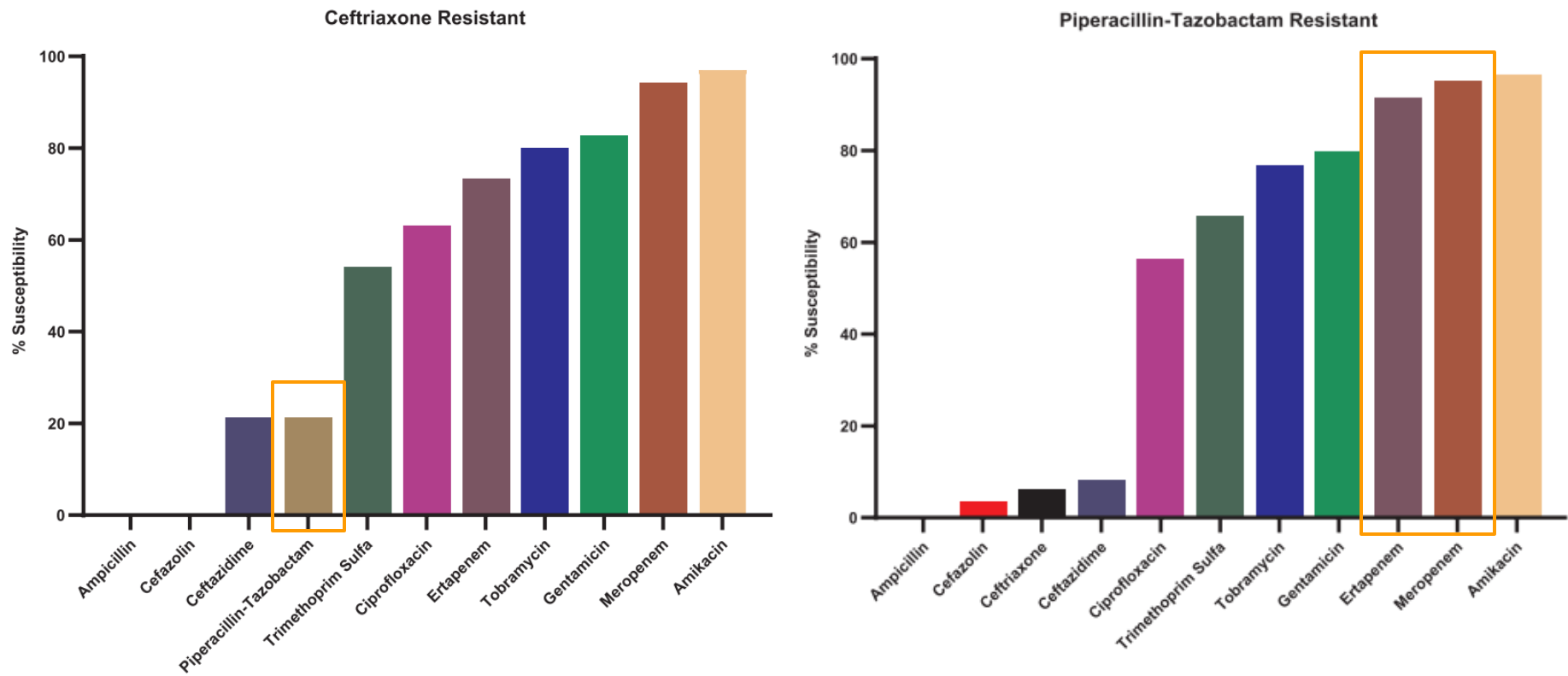
## Antibiograms as a function of resistance markers

Organism	Resistance marker	n	% susceptible isolates												
			SAM	TZP	CZO	CRO	FEP	ETP	MEM	IMI	GEN	TOB	CIP	LVX	ATM
Detroit Medical Center															
<i>E. coli</i>	CTX-M	58	5	84	0	3	22	100	100		48	26	5		10
	None	326	52	99	75	98	99	100	100		92	92	82		99
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	CTX-M	28	0	57	0	4	4	96	100		46	25	36		25
	KPC	6	0	0	0	0	33	0	0		17	0	17		17
<i>K. oxytoca</i>	None	106	83	97	84	94	99	100	100		94	95	94		93
	KPC	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		100	100	0		0
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	None	22	41	91	32	95	100	100	100		100	100	100		100
	CTX -M	4	25	100	0	0	50	100	100		25	50	0		100
<i>Enterobacter spp.</i>	None	53	79	96	11	94	100	100	100		96	96	64		100
	CTX-M	1	R	100	R	R	0	100	100		0	0	0		0
<i>Citrobacter spp.</i>	None	60	R	87	R	R	97	98	98		95	95	93		87
	OXA	10		100	R	R	100	100	100		100	100	100		100
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	None	29	86		R	R	79	R	93		29	83	76		
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	None	51		82	R	R	88	R	86		86	96	84		75
University of Maryland Medical Center															
<i>E. coli</i>	CTX-M	14	21	93	0	0	0	99	100		29			21	0
	None	91	44	88	82	98	98	100	100		83			70	100
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	CTX-M	7	0	43	0	0	14	100	100		57			43	0
	KPC	5	0	0	0	0	20	0	0		60			80	0
<i>K. oxytoca</i>	None	45	80	93	85	91	100	100	100		98			100	95
	None	9	67	100	89	100	100	100	100		100			100	100
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	None	11	82	100	82	100	100	100	100		100			64	100
<i>Enterobacter spp.</i>	CTX-M	3	R	67	R	R	33	100	100		33			67	33
	None	31	R	65	R	R	80	100	100		93			97	63
<i>Citrobacter spp.</i>	None	6		83	R	R	100	100	100		83			83	83
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	OXA	5	60		R	R	0	R		0	40		78		
	None	9	89		R	R	89	R		89	89		89		
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	None	43		65	R	R	86	R	67	56	86		58		51

SAM=ampicillin-sulbactam; TZP=piperacillin-tazobactam; CZO=cefazolin; CRO=ceftriaxone; FEP=cefepime; ETP=ertapenem; MEM=meropenem; IMI=imipenem; GEN=gentamicin; TOB=tobramycin; CIP=ciprofloxacin; LVX=levofloxacin; ATM=aztreonam; CTX-M=cefotaxime-Munich; KPC=*K. pneumoniae* carbapenemase; R=intrinsic resistance  
 Pogue JM, et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother.* 2018;62(5):e02538-17.

# Escalation Antibigram for Nonresponding Patients

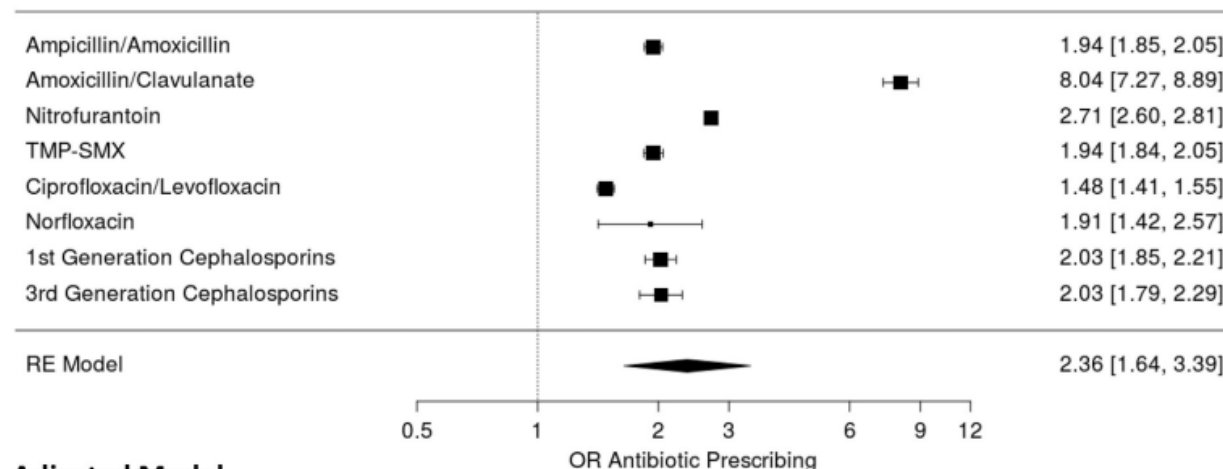
## Antibiograms as a function of antimicrobial resistance



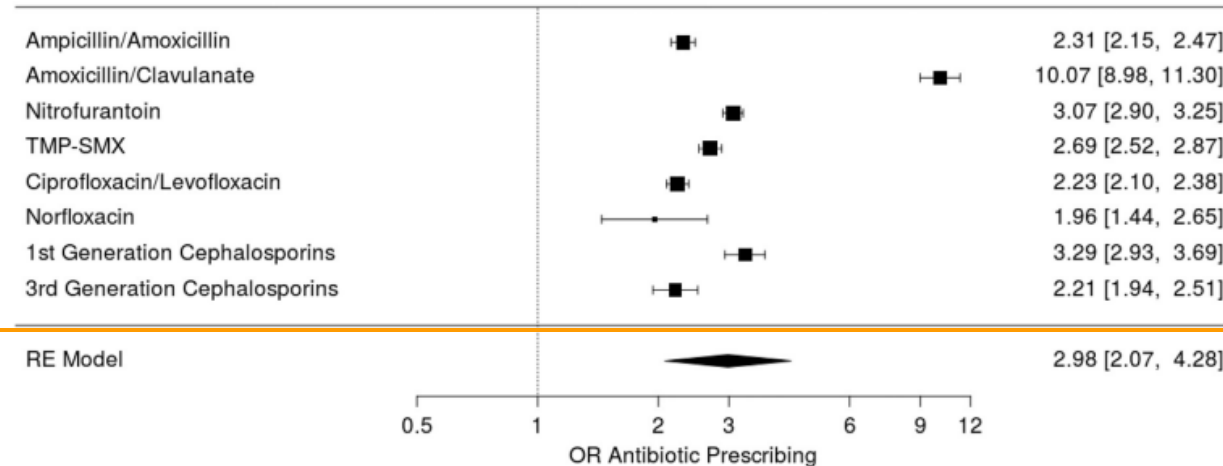
# Reporting is Associated with Prescribing

Patient-level antibiotic susceptibility reporting and association with directed antibiotic prescribing

## Unadjusted Model



## Adjusted Model



# Cascade and Selective Reporting

**Table 1A-1. Enterobacterales (excluding *Salmonella/Shigella*)<sup>a</sup>**

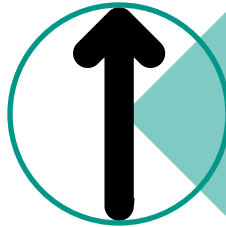
Tier 1: Antimicrobial agents that are appropriate for routine, primary testing and reporting	Tier 2: Antimicrobial agents that are appropriate for routine, primary testing but may be reported following cascade reporting rules established at each institution	Tier 3: Antimicrobial agents that are appropriate for routine, primary testing in institutions that serve patients at high risk for MDROs but should only be reported following cascade reporting rules established at each institution	Tier 4: Antimicrobial agents that may warrant testing and reporting by clinician request if antimicrobial agents in other tiers are not optimal because of various factors
Ampicillin			
Cefazolin	Cefuroxime		
Cefotaxime or ceftriaxone <sup>b</sup>	Cefepime <sup>c</sup>		
	Ertapenem	Cefiderocol	
	Imipenem	Ceftazidime-avibactam	
	Meropenem	Imipenem-relebactam	
		Meropenem-vaborbactam	
Amoxicillin-clavulanate			
Ampicillin-sulbactam			
Piperacillin-tazobactam			
Gentamicin	Tobramycin	Plazomicin	
	Amikacin		
Ciprofloxacin			
Levofloxacin			
Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole			
	Cefotetan		
	Cefoxitin		
	Tetracycline <sup>d</sup>		
			Aztreonam
			Ceftaroline <sup>b</sup>
			Ceftazidime <sup>b</sup>
			Ceftolozane-tazobactam
<b>Urine Only</b>			
Cefazolin (surrogate for uncomplicated UTI) <sup>e</sup>			
Nitrofurantoin			
		Fosfomycin <sup>f</sup> ( <i>Escherichia coli</i> )	

# Comment Nudges

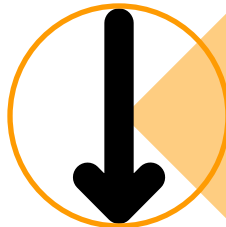
Commensal  
respiratory flora



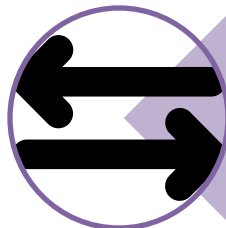
Commensal  
respiratory flora only:  
No *S. aureus*/MRSA  
or *P. aeruginosa*



De-escalation from anti-MRSA or  
anti-pseudomonal therapy



Duration of anti-MRSA and anti-  
pseudomonal therapy  
Acute kidney injury



ICU and hospital length of stay  
All-cause mortality

# Interpretation Guideline Changes

## Aminoglycoside breakpoint revisions from CLSI M100-Ed33

	Enterobacterales	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>
Gentamicin	Lowered	Deleted
Tobramycin	Lowered	Lowered
Amikacin	Lowered	Urine only

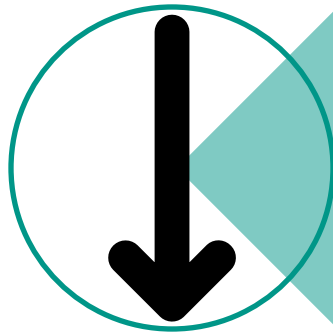
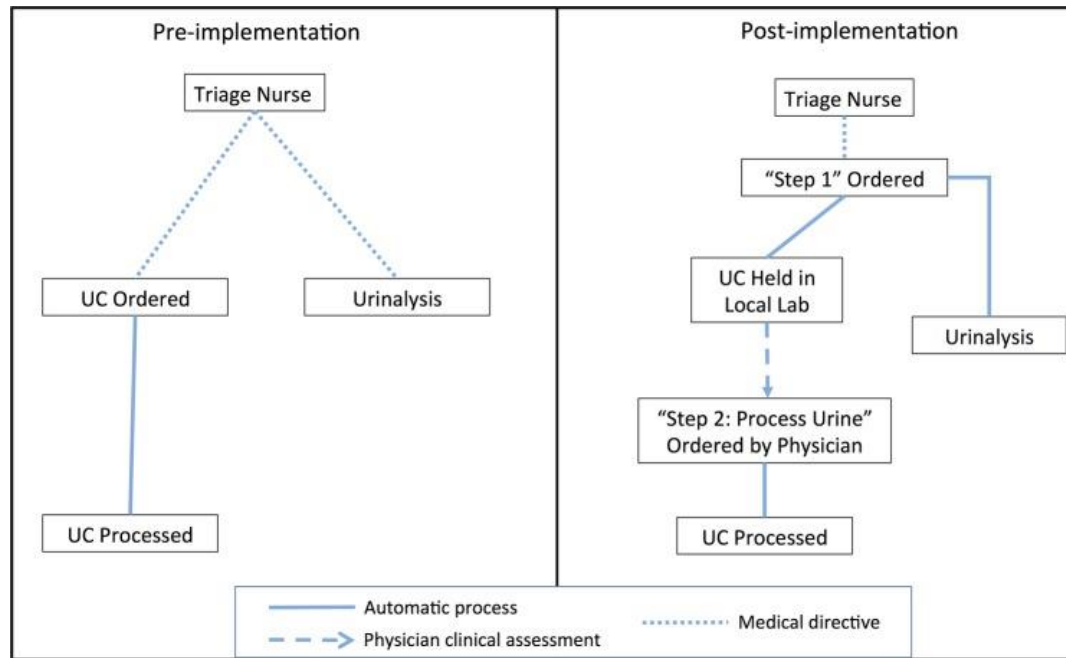
**Table 1. Comparisons of unit-specific combination antibiograms for Gram-negative respiratory isolates by using 2022 vs. 2023 breakpoints and subgroup results for isolates with *P. aeruginosa* and non-*P. aeruginosa***

Isolates, agent		Isolates susceptible, % by agent											
CLSI		Monotherapy		Amikacin		Gentamicin		Tobramycin		Levofloxacin		Ciprofloxacin	
		2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
All isolates (221 isolates)													
	Cefepime	75.1	75.1	88.7	79.6	86.0	79.2	86.4	85.1	89.6	89.6	80.5	80.5
	Meropenem	80.1	80.1	86.9	81.4	85.5	81.4	86.0	84.6	94.1	94.1	82.8	82.8
	Piperacillin-tazobactam	62.9	62.9	85.5	74.7	83.3	74.2	84.2	81.9	88.7	88.7	77.4	77.4
	Levofloxacin	82.4	82.4										
	Ciprofloxacin	71.5	71.5										
	Amikacin	85.1	58.8										
	Gentamicin	81.0	56.6										
	Tobramycin	82.8	79.2										

Isolates, agent		Isolates susceptible, % by agent											
CLSI		Monotherapy		Amikacin		Gentamicin		Tobramycin		Levofloxacin		Ciprofloxacin	
		2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
P. aeruginosa isolates (58 isolates)													
	Cefepime	67.2	67.2	94.8	67.2	93.1	67.2	98.3	94.8	81.0	81.0	81.0	81.0
	Meropenem	81.0	81.0	98.3	81.0	96.6	81.0	100.0	96.6	89.7	89.7	89.7	89.7
	Piperacillin-tazobactam	60.3	60.3	94.8	60.3	93.1	60.3	98.3	94.8	81.0	81.0	81.0	81.0
	Levofloxacin	75.9	75.9										
	Ciprofloxacin	75.9	75.9										
	Amikacin	93.1	0.0										
	Gentamicin	91.4	0.0										
	Tobramycin	98.3	93.1										

# Preanalytical Guidance

## ED UC ordering before and after intervention



Weekly ED UC %  
Patients admitted with UC  
Antibiotics prescribed for  
urinary indication



# RDT and ASP

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- ✓ Decreased mortality risk
- ✓ Faster time to effective therapy
- ✓ Decreased length of stay

# RDT and ASP at Lifespan

Pre- and post-implementation of Accelerate Pheno® with ASP intervention for GNB

Outcome	Pre (N = 102)	Post (N = 162)	P Value
Length of stay, days	7 (5-11)	5 (3-8)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Duration of IV therapy, days	8 (5-15)	4 (3-7)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Total duration of antibiotic therapy, days	15 (14-17)	13 (8-15)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
IV to PO conversion, n (%)	62 (61%)	126 (78%)	<b>0.003</b>
Time to optimal therapy, hours	64 (52-91)	20 (12-31)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Time to discontinuation of anti-MRSA therapy, days	2 (1-3)	1 (1-2)	<b>0.002</b>
Time to discontinuation of anti-pseudomonal beta-lactam, days	3 (3-5)	2 (1-2)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

# Emerging Drug Resistance and Novel Antibacterials

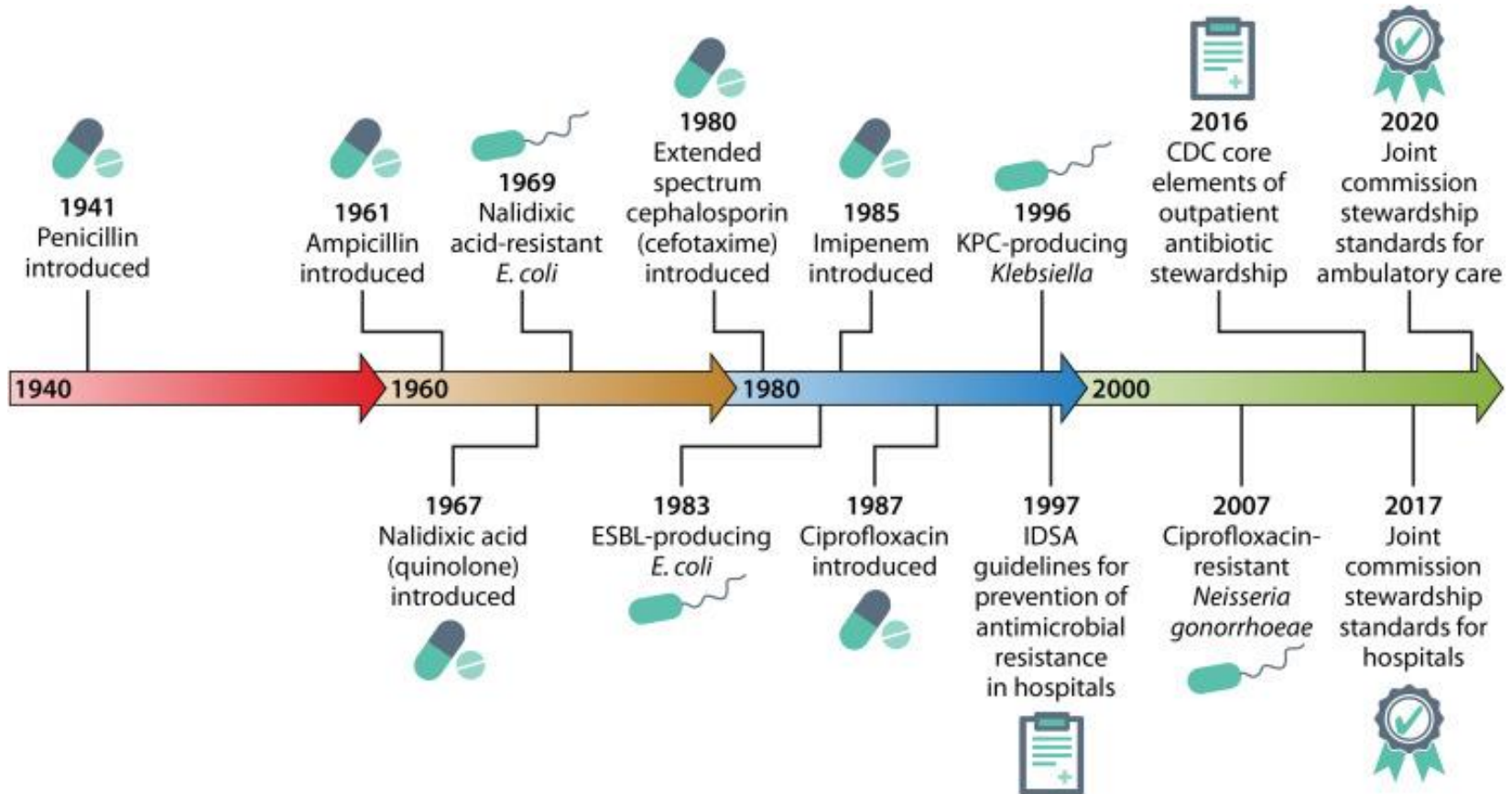
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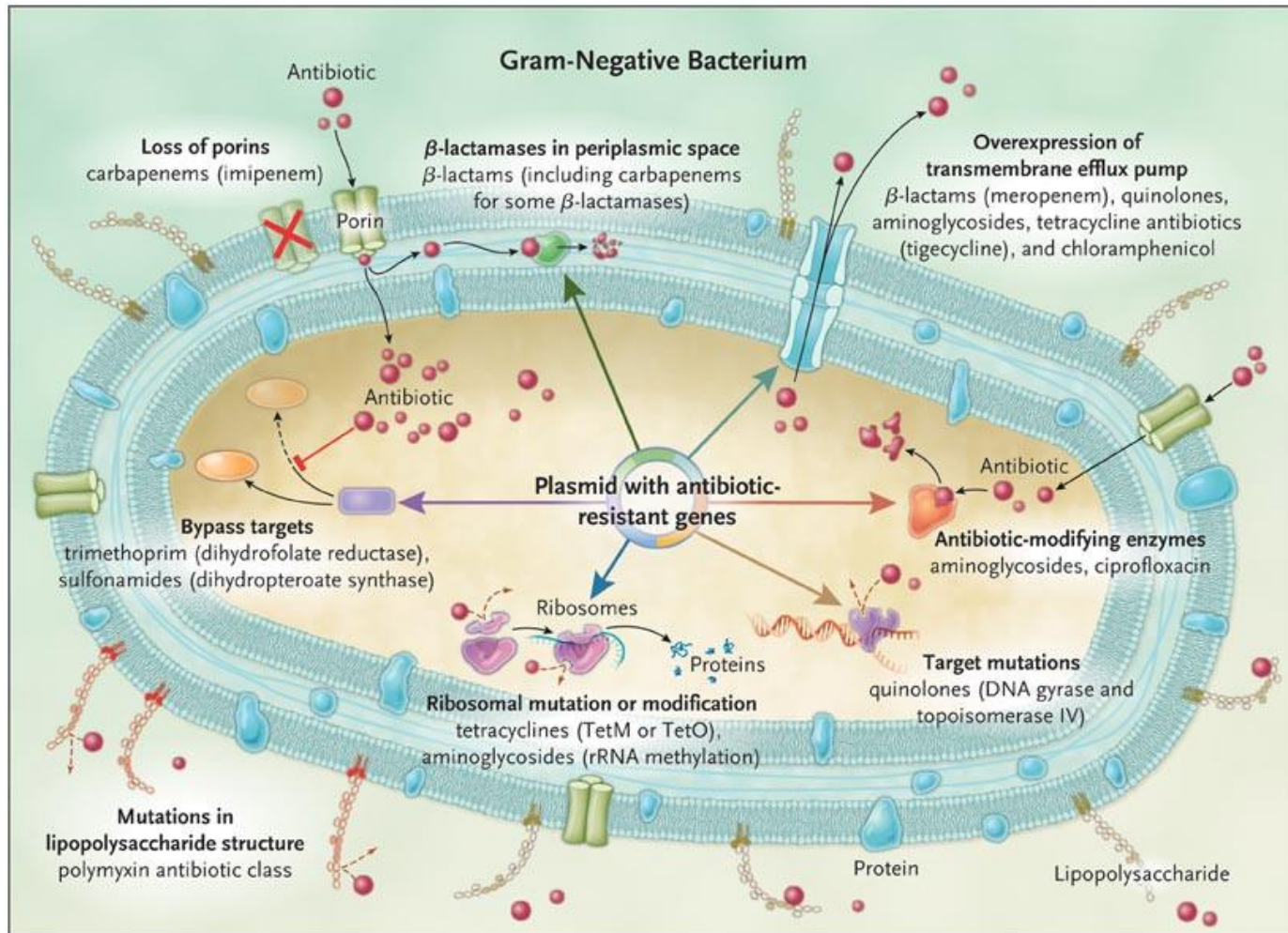
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# Timeline of Antibiotic Development, Resistance, and Stewardship



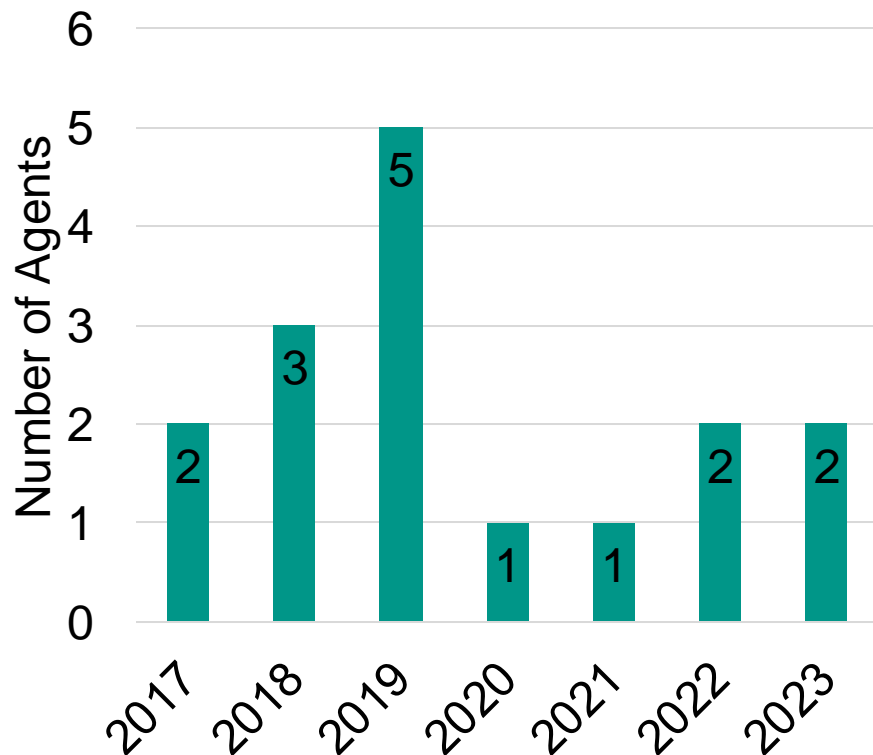
# Mechanisms of Antimicrobial Resistance



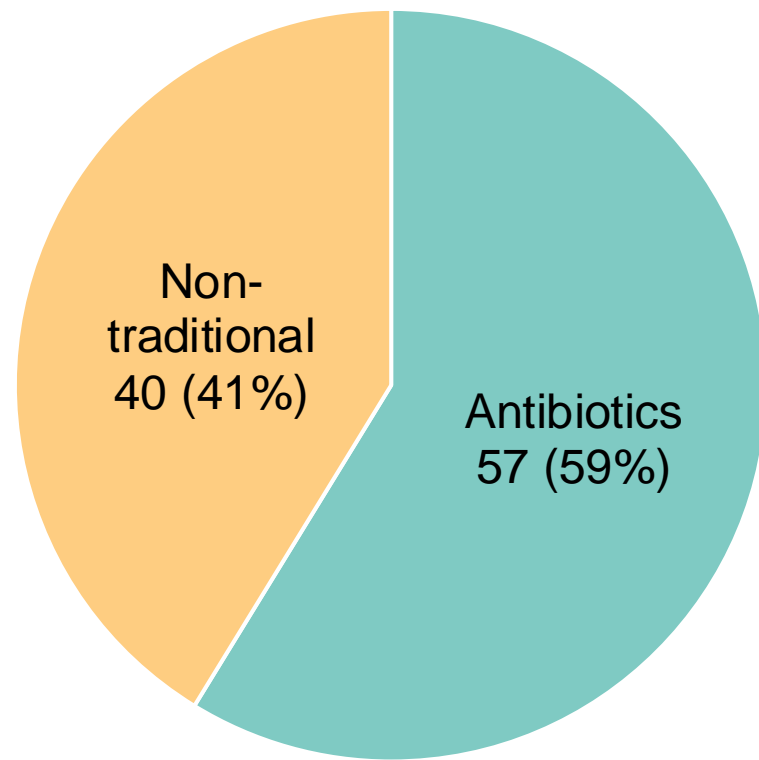
# Antibacterial Clinical Pipeline

## 7/2017 to 12/2023

Approved Antibacterial Agents

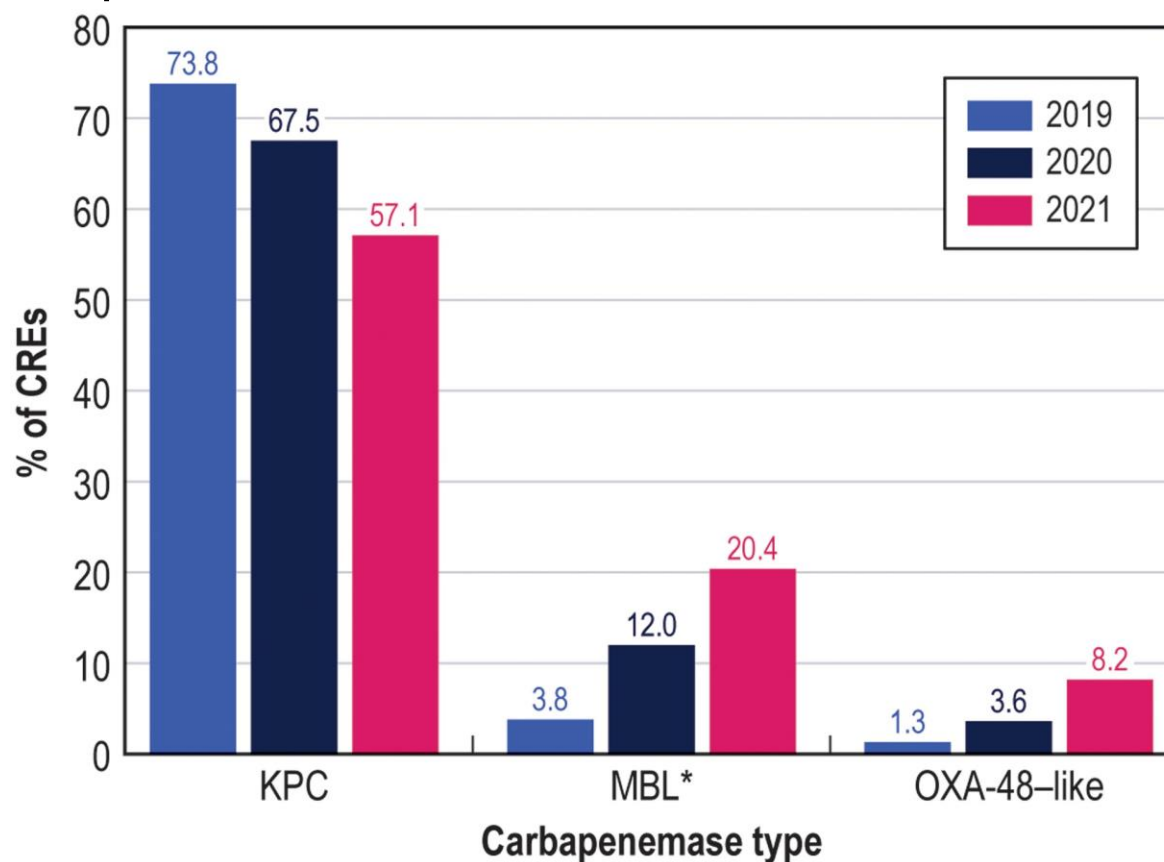


Antibacterial Agents in the Clinical Pipeline



# Changing Carbapenemase Epidemiology

Carbapenemase trends in the US from 2019 to 2021



\* Includes NDM type (87.9%) and IMP type (12.1%).

# CRE Activity of Novel $\beta$ -Lactams

Antibiotic	Class	KPC	MBL	OXA-48
Cefiderocol	Siderophore cephalosporin	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ceftazidime-avibactam	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporin, DBO $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor	Yes	No	Yes
Ceftazidime-avibactam + aztreonam	3 <sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporin, DBO $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor, monobactam		Yes	
Imipenem-cilastatin-relebactam	Carbapenem, degradation inhibitor, DBO $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor	Yes	No	No
Meropenem-vaborbactam	Carbapenem, boronate $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor	Yes	No	No

DBO=diazabicyclooctane

Tamma PD, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2024.

2023 Antibacterial agents in clinical and preclinical development: an overview and analysis. Geneva: WHO; 2024.



# CRE Testing and Reporting

Carbapenemase	CAZ-AVI	IMI-REL	MEM-VAB	Other
KPC alone	Test and report	Test and report	Test and report	
OXA-48 alone	Test and report	Suppress or report as R or do not test	Suppress or report as R or do not test	
KPC + OXA-48	Test and report	Suppress or report as R or do not test	Suppress or report as R or do not test	
MBL ± serine β-lactamase	Suppress or report as R or do not test	Suppress or report as R or do not test	Suppress or report as R or do not test	Test and report cefiderocol or CAZ-AVI + aztreonam
Carbapenem-R but negative for carbapenemases	Test and report	Test and report	Test and report	

CAZ-AVI=ceftazidime-avibactam; IMI-REL=imipenem-cilastatin-relebactam; MEM-VAB=meropenem-vaborbactam; R=resistant

Tamma PD, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2024.

CLSI. *Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing*. 34th ed. CLSI supplement M100. CLSI, USA 2024.

Narayanan N, et al. Breaking Bad Bacteria: Mastering the 2024 CLSI M100 Updates Together. <https://sidp.maplelms.com/mod/resource/view.php?id=996>.

# Ceftazidime-Avibactam + Aztreonam

## CDC's Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory Network Expanded AST Program

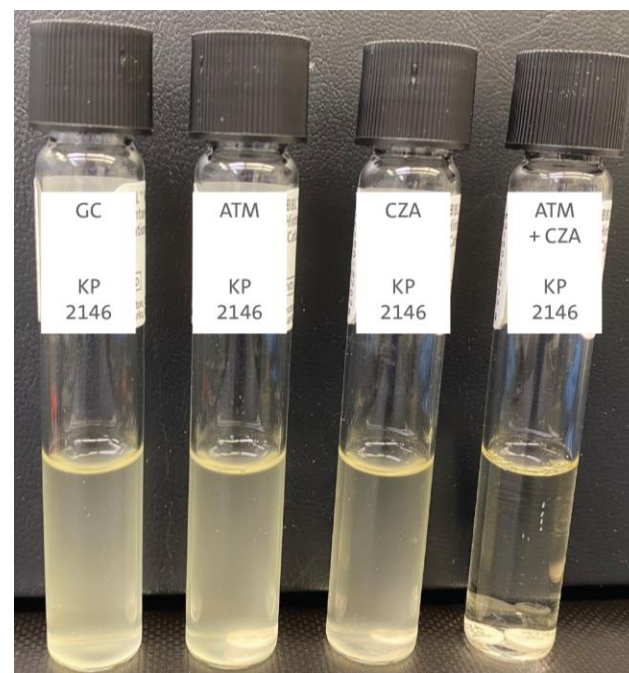
- Digital printer creates custom AST panels for aztreonam-avibactam MIC testing



● **Southeast:** Tennessee Public Health Laboratory | [ARLN.health@tn.gov](mailto:ARLN.health@tn.gov)  
● **Mid-Atlantic:** Maryland Public Health Laboratory | [MDPHL.arln@maryland.gov](mailto:MDPHL.arln@maryland.gov)  
● **Northeast:** Wadsworth Center Labs | [ARLNCORENY@health.ny.gov](mailto:ARLNCORENY@health.ny.gov)

## Broth Disk Elution Method

- Uses disks as source of antimicrobials for broth dilution testing

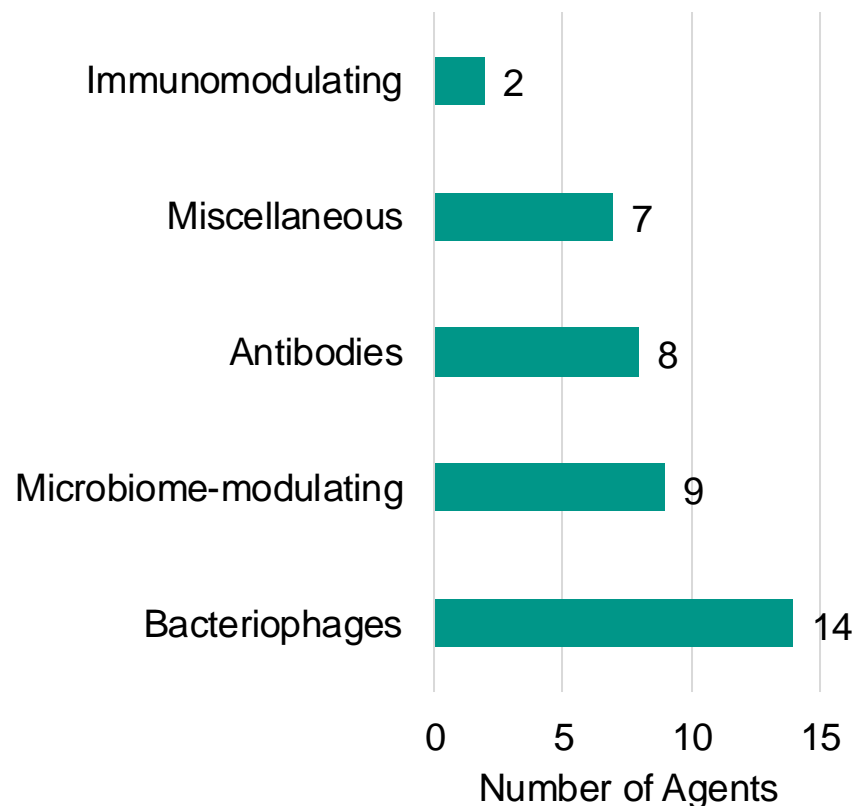


# Non-Traditional Antibacterial Agents

## Approved Agents

Agent	Approval	Administration	Indication
SER-109 (Vowst™ fecal microbiota spores, live- brpk)	US FDA	Oral capsules	Prevention of rCDI after antibacterial treatment for rCDI
RBX2660 (Rebyota® fecal microbiota, live-jslm)	US FDA	Suspension delivered by enema	
BB128 (Biomicta™ faecal microbiota)	Australia TGA	Suspension delivered by endoscopy or enema	Restoration of gut microbiota in rCDI

## Agents in the Clinical Pipeline



# Conclusion

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- ASPs use a multidisciplinary approach to optimize antimicrobials, maximize patient outcomes, and decrease antimicrobial resistance
- Clinical microbiologists are essential members of ASP
- Novel antibacterials must be used judiciously
- There is a critical need for innovative antibacterial agents

# FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE: UNDERSTANDING ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP, REPORTING, AND RESISTANCE

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Stewardship

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Northeast Association for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease  
37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
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