

CENTER FOR LONG-TERM CARE QUALITY & INNOVATION



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PROJECT TITLE: Core Elements of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Nursing Homes

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### **Prescriber Assessment**

You received this needs assessment based on your affiliation with [nursing home corporation] and your credentials to prescribe. For this assessment, please consider residents to include all individuals for whom you are credentialed to prescribe and:

1) Which receive care in a Skilled Nursing Center or Long-term Care Center, and

2) Whose health information is reportable to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Please take a few minutes to provide some information about yourself and your experiences with prescribing. Thank you for your participation.

## **Deciding to Start: Antibiotics**

This section is about you, the prescriber, and your perceptions about antibiotic prescribing.

### 1. In the past month, how many antibiotic prescriptions did you write for residents at this [center]: (number of prescriptions)

0	1-2	3-4	5+
prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions

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2.	How frequently do you	encounter each	of the following	; conditions at thi	s [center]:
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	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a. Suspected Urinary Tract Infection					
b. Suspected Upper Respiratory Infection					
c. Suspected Lower Respiratory Infection					
d. Suspected Skin or Soft Tissue Infection					

When considering the following two questions:

- Medical necessity refers to the use of antibiotics only in the case of bacterial infection.
- The determination of bacterial infection can be based on **physical assessment or examination of the resident, documented signs and symptoms, culture results or diagnostic test results**.
- 3. How confident are you in your ability to distinguish between the two conditions presented:

	<b>Not at all</b> confident	<b>Not very</b> confident	<b>Somewhat</b> confidant	<b>Very</b> Confident	Extremely confident
a. Asymptomatic bacteriuria Vs. Symptomatic Urinary Tract Infection					
b. Viral sinusitis Vs. Bacterial sinusitis					
c. Viral Lower Respiratory Infection Vs. Bacterial Pneumonia					
d. Colonized wound Vs. infected wound					

4. How frequently do <b>you perform</b> each of the following: (select one)							
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always		
a. Prescribe <b>antibiotics as</b> <b>prophylaxis</b> for urinary tract infection (UTI)							
b. Wait for results of a urine culture before prescribing antibiotics for UTI							
<ul> <li>c. Prescribe an antibiotic just in case there is an infection</li> </ul>							
d. Delay antibiotic therapy and <b>Monitor symptoms</b>							
e. Delay antibiotic therapy and <b>Provide supportive</b> <b>therapy</b> (e.g., hydration)							
f. Review site-specific definitions of infection (revised McGeer criteria) or minimum prescribing criteria (Loeb's criteria)							
g. Use order sets for prescribing antibiotics							
h. Use <b>order sets</b> that include <b>non-</b> <b>pharmacologic</b> orders							

5. When **you are not the one to personally identify a change** in condition for a resident, how often do the follow situations occur regarding a change in condition?

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a.	I am notified by the <b>resident or a family</b> <b>member</b> of the resident.					
b.	I am <u>present</u> at the center and am notified of a change in condition by <b>nursing staff.</b>					
с.	I am <u>not present</u> at the center and am notified of a change in condition by <b>nursing staff.</b>					

### 6. For each item below, indicate how **frequently**:

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a.	You are <u>physically present</u> at the skilled nursing center when a <b>change in</b> <b>condition is identified</b> .					
b.	You are <b>familiar</b> with the resident for whom you are prescribing an antibiotic.					
c.	Nursing staff performs a physical assessment prior to starting an antibiotic.					
d.	<b>You</b> perform an <u>exam</u> prior to your prescribing an antibiotic.					
e.	You have <b>sufficient</b> <b>clinical information</b> to confidently start an antibiotic.					
f.	Lab results or other relevant objective <b>data</b> <b>are available prior</b> making an antibiotic prescribing decision.					

# Selecting an appropriate antibiotic: diagnosed bacterial infection

For the following questions, please think about your experiences selecting and prescribing an antibiotic regimen for your residents.

# 7. How **confident are you in your ability to appropriately select** an antibiotic for the following conditions: (select)

		Not at all confident	Not very confident	Somewhat confidant	Very Confident	Extremely confident
a.	Symptomatic Urinary Tract Infection					
b.	Diagnosed bacterial sinusitis					
с.	Diagnosed bacterial pneumonia					
d.	Cellulitis or infected wound					

8. For each of the following tasks, how **confident are you in your ability to perform** each task relating to prescribing an antibiotic:

		<b>Not at all</b> confident	<b>Not very</b> confident	<b>Somewhat</b> confidant	<b>Very</b> Confident	<b>Extremely</b> confident
a.	Choosing an <b>appropriate</b> <b>antibiotic</b> for a given site of infection					
b.	Choosing an appropriate antibiotic dose					
c.	Choosing the correct <b>dosing interval</b> (e.g., daily or twice daily)					
d.	Choosing an appropriate <b>length of</b> <b>therapy</b>					
e.	Choosing the <b>correct</b> <b>antibiotic based on</b> <b>resident factors</b> (e.g., age, weight, renal function, allergies, drug interactions, contraindications)					
f.	Using <b>culture results</b> to inform your prescribing decision					
g.	Reading Nursing Center specific <b>antibiograms,</b> when they are available, to inform your prescribing decision.					

# Influence of nurses

The following questions ask about your perceptions of the influence the nurse staff have on antibiotic prescriptions.

#### 9. For the following question, consider the situation where:

"You receive a phone call from a nurse at a nursing center. Your resident is experiencing isolated behavioral change, and is without fever or localizing symptoms."

Thinking of **your experiences** at [center] how frequently do the following occur:

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
а.	Nurse provides thorough assessment					
b.	Nurse communicates details <b>without</b> <b>prompting</b>					
c.	Nurse provides sufficient information to determine if an antibiotic is needed					
d.	Nurse requests <b>diagnostic testing</b> of resident for presumed infection					
e.	Nurse <b>requests an</b> <b>antibiotic</b> for a resident					
f.	<b>You trust</b> the nurse's assessment					
g.	You comply with the nurse's requests for <u>diagnostic</u> <u>testing</u>					
h.	You comply with the nurse's <u>request</u> for an antibiotic and prescribe the antibiotic					

**10.** For each item below, please indicate **how important** you feel it is to a productive collaboration with nursing staff (choose one answer):

		<b>Not at all</b> important	<b>Not very</b> important	<b>Somewhat</b> important	<b>Very</b> important	<b>Extremely</b> important
а.	Acknowledging the role of nurses in Skilled Nursing Centers					
b.	Seeking contributions from nurses regarding antibiotic prescribing					
c.	Addressing misconceptions about the roles when I observe them.					
d.	Respecting the expertise and unique contributions of nursing staff					
e.	Identifying overlapping professional skills that I share with nursing staff					
f.	Valuing the benefits of a collaborative experience with nursing staff					

# Influence of family and caregivers

11. For the following question, please think about the following situation:

"Your resident has experienced a change in condition. You have been notified by nursing staff, and you are still considering whether or not to start an antibiotic."

In reference to the decision to prescribe an antibiotic, how frequently do the following occur at [center]?

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
а.	A family member or caregiver contacts you to discuss the change in condition					
b.	Nursing staff informs you a family member or caregiver would like to <b>discuss the</b> <b>change in condition</b> with you.					
с.	A family member or caregiver asks you to prescribe an antibiotic in response to a non- specific change in condition.					
d.	A family member or caregiver asks you to <b>avoid using</b> <b>antibiotics</b> in response to a non- specific change in condition.					
e.	A family member or caregiver <b>asks you</b> <b>to assess the</b> <b>resident</b> in person.					

12. For the following question, please think about the following situation:

"Your resident has experienced a change in condition. A family member or caregiver has contacted you to discuss starting an antibiotic in response to a change in condition."

In reference to the discussion with the family member or caregiver, how frequently do the following occur at [center]?

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
а.	Educate him/her on the <b>importance of</b> <b>using an antibiotic</b> <b>only when an</b> <b>infection is</b> <b>bacterial</b> , not viral.					
b.	Educate him/her on the possibility that other health conditions may resemble a bacterial infection.					
c.	Educate him/her of the <b>risks of using</b> <b>antibiotics</b> (for example, <i>C. difficile</i> infection or antimicrobial resistance).					
d.	Prescribe an antibiotic because a family member or caregiver has requested it, though you are not certain the antibiotic is needed.					

13. <u>In your opinion</u>, how important are each of the following when deciding to prescribe an antibiotic or not? (select one)

		<b>Not at all</b> important	<b>Not very</b> important	<b>Somewhat</b> important	<b>Very</b> important	<b>Extremely</b> important
а.	Consider the requests of family members or caregivers.					
b.	Counsel the family about appropriate antibiotic prescribing.					
с.	Involve family members and caregivers in antibiotic decision making, even if they do not initiate contact.					

# 14. For each of the following tasks, how **confident are you in your ability to discuss antibiotic use** with a resident's family member or caregiver?

		<b>Not at all</b> confident	<b>Not very</b> confident	<b>Somewhat</b> confidant	<b>Very</b> Confident	Extremely confident
a.	Educating a family member or caregiver on the risks of unnecessary antibiotic use.					
b.	Discussing the process of diagnosing a bacterial infection with a family member or caregiver.					
c.	Discussing the process of monitoring a resident whose change in condition does not clearly indicate a bacterial infection.					
d.	Discussing the process of choosing an appropriate antibiotic for a diagnosed bacterial infection.					

### Cross-covering prescribers

The following questions focus on the role of cross-covering prescribers in prescribing antibiotics

### 15. In the past month, how many antibiotic prescriptions were started one of your residents by a crosscovering prescriber at [center]? (select one)

0	1-2	3-4	5+
prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions

16. Thinking about your experiences at [center], **where are your residents** when they are started on an antibiotic? (select all that apply)

□ Skilled nursing center where they reside

□ Outpatient clinic

□ Urgent care

Emergency department (not admitted to inpatient)

□ Hospital stay (inpatient or observation stay)

17. For the following question, please think about the following situation:

"Your resident is started on antibiotics by a covering prescriber. This prescriber can be a cross-covering prescriber or an Emergency Department prescriber."

In reference to the antibiotic prescribed by the covering prescriber, how frequently do the following occur at [center]?

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a.	You are <b>unsure why</b> your resident was started on the antibiotic.					
b.	You <b>change the</b> <b>antibiotic</b> that was prescribed.					
с.	You <b>change the</b> <b>antibiotic dose</b> that was prescribed.					
d.	You <b>change the</b> <b>duration</b> the antibiotic was prescribed.					
e.	You <b>discontinue the</b> <b>antibiotic</b> prescribed.					

## **Nursing Center Influence**

The following questions focus on your experiences and perceptions at [center]

#### 18. How often does [center] provide feedback to you on your use of antibiotics? (Select one)

Never	Once a year	Twice a year	Quarterly	Monthly

19. Appropriate antibiotic prescribing refers to a comprehensive approach to antibiotic prescribing. This approach includes:

- 1) Using antibiotics only for bacterial infections,
- 2) Selecting an antibiotic that <u>matches the infection site</u> or bacterial pathogen,
- 3) Selecting the an appropriate antibiotic dose and duration, and
- 4) <u>Re-evaluating the resident</u> after an antibiotic has been started.

Below is a list of policies or activities that could be implemented to improve appropriate antibiotic use at Skilled Nursing Centers. Each item may affect one or more components of appropriate antibiotic use.

#### How impactful would each of the following be at improving appropriate antibiotic use at [center]?

	<b>Not at all</b> impactful	<b>Not very</b> impactful	Somewhat impactful	<b>Very</b> impactful	<b>Extremely</b> Impactful
a. Nursing center specific antibiotic diagnosing <b>guidelines</b>					
b. Minimum antibiotic prescribing <b>guidelines</b>					
c. <b>Computer-assisted</b> order entry					
d. Nursing center specific antibiogram					
e. Pharmacist review of antibiotic choice					
f. Pharmacist review of antibiotic dose and duration					
	<b>Not at all</b> impactful	<b>Not very</b> impactful	<b>Somewhat</b> impactful	<b>Very</b> impactful	Extremely Impactful

g. Pharmacist review of culture and sensitivity results			
h. Access to resident <b>culture</b> <b>data</b> at time of antibiotic prescribing			
i. Thorough <b>nurse assessment</b> of resident			
j. Clear communication of resident change in condition from nurse			
k. Condition-specific, protocol-driven antibiotic prescribing recommendation from nurse			
I. Timely notification of updates or changes in resident condition			
m.Annual <b>staff influenza</b> immunization			
n. <b>Policies restricting or</b> <b>eliminating</b> antibiotic starts overnight			
o. Limiting choice of antibiotics on units to antibiogram susceptible antibiotics			
p. <b>Developing a formulary</b> based on the Nursing Center antibiogram			

# Post-prescribing Optimization

For the following questions please think about what happens after a resident is prescribed an antibiotic.

20. In the past month, at [center], **how many antibiotic prescriptions did you review for appropriateness** after it was started? Please include reviews you performed on antibiotics prescribed by a cross-covering prescriber. (select one)

0	1-2	3-4	5+
prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions	prescriptions

21. How frequently do the following occur either **by you or another staff member** (for example, nursing staff, pharmacy staff, or other prescribers) when caring for residents at [center]:

		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a.	Residents are <b>re-</b> <b>examined</b> for resolution of infection- related symptoms.					
b.	Antibiotic prescriptions are reviewed when culture and sensitivity data becomes available.					
c.	Antibiotic prescriptions are reviewed when other <b>diagnostic test</b> <b>results</b> become available					

### 22. How **important it is for you to perform** the following:

		Not at all important	Not very important	Somewhat important	Very Important	Extremely important
a.	Review an antibiotic prescription when <b>culture and</b> <b>sensitivity data</b> become available					
b.	Switch to a narrower- spectrum antibiotic when culture and sensitivity data support this.					
c.	Review other <b>diagnostic test</b> results (labs, imaging, etc.)					
d.	Re-assess a resident after starting an antibiotic for <b>resolution of</b> <b>symptoms</b>					
e.	Stopping an antibiotic upon resolution of symptoms					
f.	Evaluate a resident after starting an antibiotic for <b>side</b> <b>effects</b>					
g.	Shortening a long course of antibiotic therapy					

# Antibiotic Stewardship

Antibiotic Stewardship interventions often focus on one or more component of antibiotic prescribing. These three components are: 1) diagnosing an infection, 2) choosing an effective antibiotic, and 3) ensuring an antibiotic is optimally prescribed as the resident's condition progresses.

In the next three questions, please provide your opinions as they relate to components of an Antibiotic Stewardship intervention.

### 23. In your opinion, how important is each of the following items to appropriate antibiotic use in Skilled Nursing Facilities:

		<b>Not at all</b> important	<b>Not very</b> important	<b>Somewhat</b> important	<b>Very</b> important	<b>Extremely</b> important
a.	Differentiating between asymptomatic bacteriuria and symptomatic Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)					
b.	Differentiating between viral Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI) and bacterial sinusitis					
c.	Differentiating between viral Lower Respiratory Tract Infection (LRTI) and bacterial pneumonia					
d.	Differentiating wound colonization and wound infection					
e.	Choosing the appropriate antibiotic for diagnosed infection					
f.	Follow up of residents started on antibiotics for diagnosed infection					

## 24. <u>In your opinion</u>, how important are **your individual prescribing practices** to the overall development of antimicrobial resistance at [center]? (select one)

		<b>Not at all</b> important	<b>Not very</b> important	<b>Somewhat</b> important	<b>Very</b> important	<b>Extremely</b> important
а.	Overall use of antibiotics					
b.	Using as narrow spectrum an antibiotic as possible					
с.	Avoiding long courses of antibiotic therapy					

### 25. <u>In your opinion</u>, how important are each of the **Nursing Center attributes** in antibiotic stewardship interventions?

		<b>Not at all</b> important	<b>Not very</b> important	<b>Somewhat</b> important	<b>Very</b> important	<b>Extremely</b> important
а.	Leadership of Nursing center administration					
b.	Quality of care provided by Nursing center staff					
с.	Communication between nursing staff and me, the prescriber					
d.	Effectiveness of the Infection Control Professional (ICP)					
e.	On-going Pharmacist review of medications					

### General Provider Information

Programming note: [facility] - indicates a program instruction to insert selected facility name in this place holder.

26. Do you have **prescribing privileges**? (if no, terminate survey administration)

🗆 Yes

🗆 No

The following questions pertain to your role as a prescriber.

27. How many **skilled nursing centers** do you currently work in? (number of centers)

1	2	3	4+

28. How long have you been in practice? (years)							
< 1 year	1 – 5 years	6 - 10 years	11 - 15 years	16+ years			

For the next questions, please think about the skilled nursing center affiliated with [corporation] where you work most frequently. What is the name of this center?

#### [Drop down menu listing all centers]

#### 29. Thinking of your **affiliation** with [facility], how long have you been working at this center: (years)

	< 1 year	1 - 5 years	6 – 10 years	11 - 15 years	16+ years
In your <b>current</b> position?					
In <b>total</b> at this location?					

### 30. Thinking about the corporation that [facility] is a part of, how would you best describe your employment status?

I am:

Employed **full-time** by this corporation.

Employed **part-time** by this corporation.

□ Not at all employed by this corporation.

31. What **percentage of your professional time** do you spend at this center? (percent of total professional time)

< 20%	21 - 40%	41 - 60%	61 - 80%	81 - 100%

32. How <b>frequently are you on-site</b> at this center? (times on-site)						
Less than once     Once per     Multiple times     Once per week     Multiple times     Daily						

per <u>month</u>	month	per <u>month</u>	per <u>week</u>	

### 33. In your opinion, how important is quality improvement to leaders at this nursing center? (select one)

<b>Not at all</b>	<b>Not very</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	Very important	<b>Extremely</b>
important	important	important		important

### 34. Does this center have a champion for antibiotic prescription/surveillance? (select one)

🗆 No

🗆 Yes

Unsure

### 35. Who is the champion for antibiotic prescription/surveillance at this center? (If more than one, select all that apply)

 $\Box$  We **do not** have an antibiotic prescription/surveillance champion

- or
- □ Administrator
- $\Box$  Director of Nursing
- $\Box$  Medical Director
- □ Infection Control Staff
- □ Nursing Staff
- 🗆 Pharmacist
- Infectious Disease Consultant
- □ Other
- Unsure

36. In your opinion, if [facility] was rated today what quality star rating would they receive? (select one)

- 🗆 1 Star
- □ 2 Stars
- □ 3 Stars
- 4 Stars
- □ 5 Stars

### Demographics

37. What <b>prescribing</b> degrees have you attained? (Select all that apply)
□ D.O.
□ M.D.
□ M.P.A
□ N.D.
□ N.P.
□ P.A.
Pharm.D.
Other - Please specify:
38. What is your <b>primary specialty</b> ? (Select one)
Family Practice
Geriatrics
Hospice and/or Palliative medicine
Infectious disease
Internal medicine

- □ Pulmonary and/or Critical care
- □ Other Please specify\_\_\_\_

 $\Box$  N/A

#### 39. Number of years since **graduation from medical school**? (years)

0 - 10	11 - 20	21 - 30	31+

### 40. What is your **gender**?

□ Male

□ Female

#### 41. Which best describes your ethnicity?

🗆 Hispanic

□ Non-Hispanic

### 42. Which of the following best describes your **race**?

□ American Indian or Alaska Native

🗆 Asian

Black/African American

□ Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

🗆 Latino

 $\Box$  White

□ Multiracial

Other – Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your time.