Antibiotic Stewardship Driver Diagram

Primary Drivers

Timely and appropriate initiation of antibiotics

- Decreased incidence of antibiotic-related adverse drug events (ADEs)
- Decreased prevalence of antibiotic resistant healthcare-associated pathogens
- Decreased incidence of healthcare-associated *C. difficile* infection
- Decreased pharmacy cost for antibiotics

Secondary Drivers

- Promptly identify patients who require antibiotics
- Obtain cultures prior to starting antibiotics
- Do not give antibiotics with overlapping activity or combinations not supported by evidence or guidelines
- Determine and verify antibiotic allergies and tailor therapy accordingly
- Consider local antibiotic susceptibility patterns in selecting therapy
- Start treatment promptly
- Specify expected duration of therapy based on evidence and national and hospital guidelines

- Make antibiotics patient is receiving and start dates visible at point of care
- Give antibiotics at the right dose and interval
- Stop or de-escalate therapy promptly based on the culture and sensitivity results
- Reconcile and adjust antibiotics at all transitions and changes in patient’s condition
- Monitor for toxicity reliably and adjust agent and dose promptly

- Monitor, feedback, and make visible data regarding antibiotic utilization, antibiotic resistance, ADEs, *C. difficile*, cost, and adherence to the organization’s recommended culturing and prescribing practices

- Develop and make available expertise in antibiotic use
- Ensure expertise is available at the point of care

Leadership and Culture