



# The Core Elements of Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship Facility Checklist



National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases  
Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion



## Facility Checklist for Core Elements of Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship

CDC recommends that outpatient care facilities take steps to implement antibiotic stewardship activities. Use this checklist as a baseline assessment of policies and practices that are in place. Then use the checklist to review progress in expanding stewardship activities on a regular basis (e.g., annually).

### COMMITMENT

1. **Can your facility demonstrate dedication to and accountability for optimizing antibiotic prescribing and patient safety related to antibiotics?**  Yes  No

If yes, indicate which of the following are in place. (Select all that apply.)

- Identify a single leader to direct antibiotic stewardship activities within a facility.
- Include antibiotic stewardship-related duties in position descriptions or job evaluation criteria.
- Communicate with all clinic staff members to set patient expectations.

### ACTION

2. **Has your facility implemented at least one policy or practice to improve antibiotic prescribing?**  Yes  No

If yes, indicate which interventions are in place. (Select all that apply.)

- Provide communications skills training for clinicians.
- Require explicit written justification in the medical record for nonrecommended antibiotic prescribing.
- Provide support for clinical decisions.
- Use call centers, nurse hotlines, or pharmacist consultations as triage systems to prevent unnecessary visits.

### TRACKING AND REPORTING

3. **Does your facility monitor at least one aspect of antibiotic prescribing?**  Yes  No

If yes, indicate which of the following are being tracked. (Select all that apply.)

- Track and report antibiotic prescribing for one or more high-priority conditions.
- Track and report the percentage of all visits leading to antibiotic prescriptions.
- (If already tracking and reporting one of the above) Track and report, at the level of a health care system, complications of antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance trends among common outpatient bacterial pathogens.
- Assess and share performance on quality measures and established reduction goals addressing appropriate antibiotic prescribing from health care plans and payers.

### EDUCATION AND EXPERTISE

4. **Does your facility provide resources to clinicians and patients on evidence-based antibiotic prescribing?**  Yes  No

If yes, indicate how your facility provides antibiotic stewardship education. (Select all that apply.)

- Provide face-to-face educational training (academic detailing).
- Provide continuing education activities for clinicians.
- Ensure timely access to persons with expertise.