

# **A whole of system approach to Antimicrobial Stewardship**

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- No declarations

# “Whole of system”

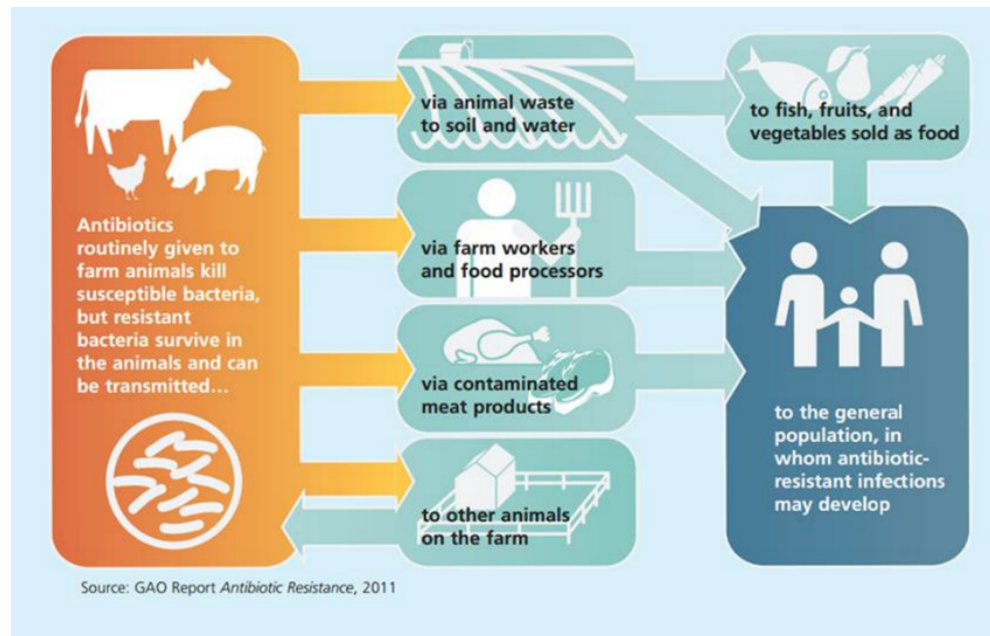


- Whole Ecosystem
  - One Health - Animal and Human
  
- Whole Healthcare system
  - Hospital and Community
  
- Whole ‘system’ within one healthcare institution
  - “Antibiotics are everyone’s business”

# Ecosystem level

Animal world  
veterinary, food agriculture

Human medicine



# Healthcare system level

Community general practice



Residential aged care



Hospitals



# Healthcare system level



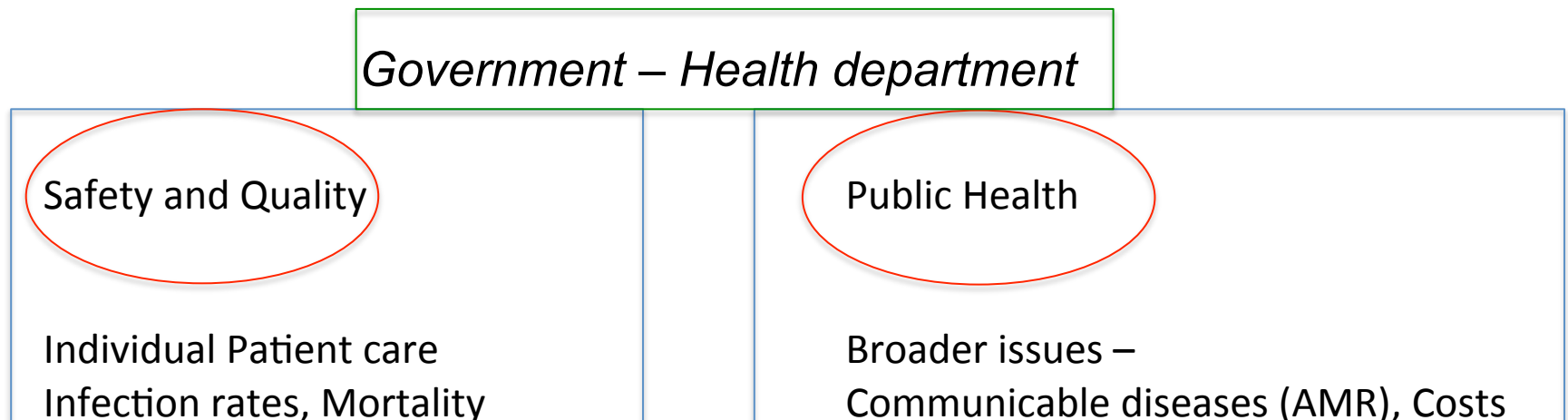
Antimicrobial stewardship =

*Strategies to optimize the use of antimicrobials to:*

*Improve **patient outcomes** - optimize prevention & treatment infections*

*Minimize impact on local **ecology** - limit antimicrobial resistance*

*Ensure **cost effective healthcare***

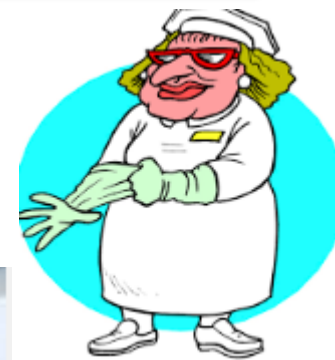


# Institutional level

Medication safety  
- pharmacists, doctors (physicians)



Infection prevention  
- ICPs, nurses, cleaners, (surgeons)

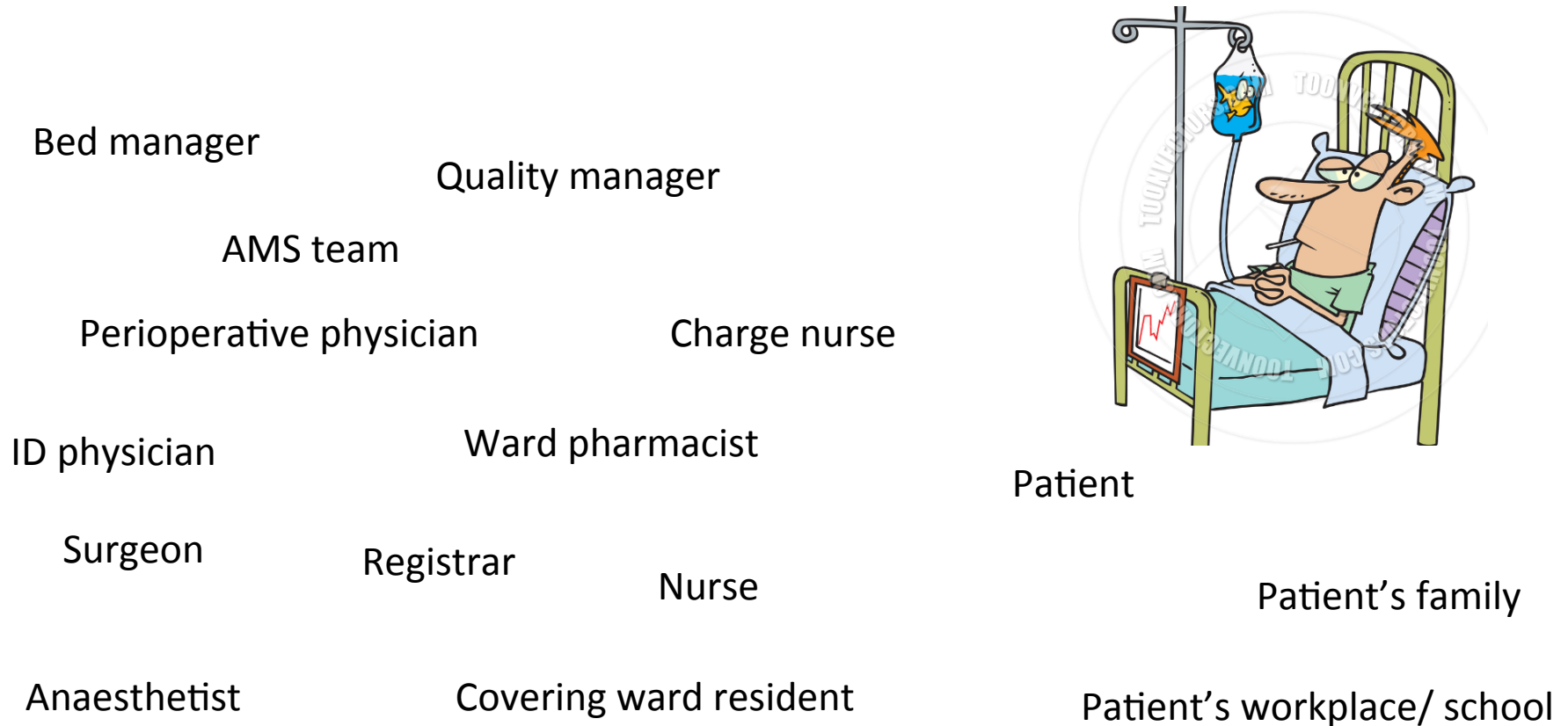


# Within an institution



NCAS

Lots of stakeholders with different perspectives, different drivers/priorities





# The challenge



- AMS doesn't fit neatly into one area
- Lots of stakeholders
  - People who don't normally interact, now need to
    - Vets/hospital doctors/GPs/nurses/pharmacists
- Antimicrobial use is very common
  - Part of everyday practice, people are attached to what they do
- We want to change their behaviour
  - That requires ongoing effort

We need our approach to be coherent, aligned, well thought out, practical, sustainable and its needs to lead to the changes that we want

# ‘Whole systems thinking’



- ‘Fragmented thinking’ created our problems

*“You can’t solve problems with the same thinking that created those problems.” - Albert Einstein*

- We need to look at the **interrelationships** between parts of a system rather than narrowly focusing on the parts themselves
- Incorporate a **range of perspectives**, conditions, connections and capabilities into a **dynamic analysis**
- Think in terms of relationships, connectedness, **context**
- Systems develop and **evolve**
  - requires understanding of renewal, change, transformation

# Change our thinking and approach



## Systems thinking

Big picture view - holistic

**Context** - what works in one place may not in others

**Dynamic** - be responsive, expect change over time

## Systems approach

Involves every level, from senior management to front line staff

It is ongoing – part of daily practice, not a one-off activity

***Reflect, adapt, innovate, be creative***

# Outline

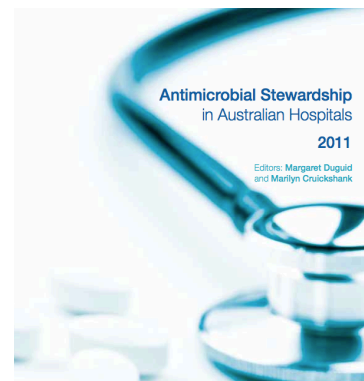


- i) ‘whole system’ approach to AMS from perspective of one healthcare institution
  - Organisation’s approach to AMS
- ii) ‘whole system’ approach to AMS from perspective of broader healthcare system (incorporating One health)
  - National strategy

# **Whole of system approach to AMS in a healthcare service**

# Establish Governance

Draft – update 2017  
ACSQHC



- Overall **accountability** for antimicrobial management lies with the organisation's management.
- Managers and Senior Clinicians are responsible for the antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) program, including:
  - ensuring that AMS resides within the organisation's **quality improvement and patient safety** governance structure
  - dedicating human, financial and information technology **resources**
  - ensuring ongoing **education and training** for staff

Make it a clear priority

# The Structure and Plan



- Develop a shared vision and goals
  - *To ensure better safer care*
- Establish a coordinating group - AMS committee
  - whole hospital activity, not ID owned, **broad representation**
- Build an AMS team
  - to do the day to day AMS activity
- Develop a plan
  - based on articulated goals, identify strategies to implement
- Decide what you will measure as indicators/ outcomes of interest
  - accountability

# The Strategies



Think about how you are addressing;

- Knowledge
  - Provide Information, Education, Disseminate evidence
    - Explain what we should do – know what best practice looks like
- Attitudes
  - Create a culture that values judicious antibiotic use, values evidence based care, build awareness of AMR
    - Ensure we understand why – we want to comply
- External barriers/ enablers
  - Give people rules and tools to make it easy
    - Ensure they are able to do it, they know how
- Monitor and Reflect – feedback to drive improvement



# The Actions



1. People - Education, Awareness, Capacity building
  - Explore their concerns (identify 'levers')
  - Perspectives of all stakeholders (Nurses, Pharma, HMOs, anaesthetist)
2. Practices - Implementation of AMS practices
  - Clear policies, Establish rules, Access to tools, Access to advice
  - Ensure it fits usual workflow for all stakeholders
3. Progress – Monitoring, Surveillance
  - Feedback meaningful data to all key players
  - Reflect and Adapt

# 1. People - Education/ Awareness



- Do the leg work, turn up, smile
  - Unit meetings
  - Ask about what worries them
  - Buy the registrar a coffee and talk for twenty minutes
- Online education
  - most acceptable to VMOs/consultants
  - Short emailed vignettes – repeated, quiz, all staff
- Shared ‘multi-unit’ guidelines
  - Be the bridge, build trust, (be prepared to do the hard work)



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Management of *Enterococcus* urinary tract infections

#### General tips:

- Only request urine cultures if the patient has **clinical signs of a urinary infection**
- **Catheter urine samples** almost always have **white blood cells** present and are colonised by bacteria, these do **NOT** need to be treated with antibiotics if the patient is otherwise well. If treatment is necessary, infection will not clear without changing the catheter (*in many cases this is all that is required*).

#### Enterococcus susceptibility and treatment options:

- Enterococci are Gram-positive cocci that are common commensal organisms of the gastrointestinal tract
- *Enterococcus faecalis* isolates are almost always **SUSCEPTIBLE** to **amoxicillin**
- *Enterococcus faecium* isolates are almost always **RESISTANT** to amoxicillin
- Note that amoxicillin-resistant isolates will be resistant to amoxicillin/clavulanate also
- Both *E. faecalis* and *E. faecium* are usually susceptible to **vancomycin** which must be administered

# People – Build capacity



- Capacity build amongst your staff
  - Empower pharmacists/ nurses/ HMOs - don't bypass them
  - You don't need to be an AMS expert to practice AMS
  - Give them language to use, create champions
  - Simple clear interventions they can make, questions to ask
  - They will be there (on the ward round) when you are not!

## Antibiotics are Everyone's Business <sup>Melt</sup>

- Antibiotics are one of the most common medicines prescribed in hospital
- Antibiotics are medicines used to treat or prevent infections caused by bacteria  
work for viruses which cause most 'colds' and 'flu'

# 2. Practices - Implementation of AMS



- Make it easy
  - **Clear Rules**
    - **Policies** in place
    - **Procedures** are clear – e.g; regular post prescription review
  - **Provide Tools**
    - Ensuring access to information, procedure fits workflow
  - **Restrictions** - Pre prescription approval very effective
  - **Persuasion** - Ensuring access to ID experts, discussion/ advice

Watch what staff do, how they do it, listen to why they do it  
Understand organisational change

This is the way we do business,

it isnt just a 'project' for one unit, one drug, or one condition

# Implement AMS Tools



Guidance MIS v1.4 Royal Melbourne Hospital | Approve | System Approval | Search Approvals | Guidelines | Authorised Approval | Auditor | Administrator

Patient Name: Simpson Do Not Use This Pt, Homer, Do Not Use UR: 123456 Gender: M Age: 52 Unit: Ward: Drug Guideline: Ceftriaxone Source: National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Therapeutic Guidelines BedNO: AMO:

<< Back Get Approval Start of Guideline

This patient meets the criteria for approval for ceftriaxone for sepsis, according to the hospital sepsis pathway.

The recommended dose is CEFTRIAXONE 1g IV daily. Higher doses are required for some indications, up to 2g IV 12-hourly for meningitis.

This antibiotic is usually given with other antibiotics for this indication

Use the link on the right to view this topic in the Therapeutic Guidelines: Antibiotic.

The approval number will be valid for 2 days.

Note: No dose adjustment is required for patients with renal impairment. Ceftriaxone is Category B1 in pregnancy and is compatible with breastfeeding but may cause diarrhoea in the infant.

Click 'Get approval' or press 'Enter' to get an approval number.

--- END OF GUIDELINE ---

Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard

**Life-threatening conditions**

A patient with a life-threatening condition due to a suspected bacterial infection receives prompt antibiotic treatment without waiting for the results of investigations.

**Purpose**

To reduce the time taken to provide antibiotic treatment for suspected life-threatening bacterial infections.

**What the quality statement means**

- For patients. If you are extremely unwell with a suspected bacterial infection, you are given antibiotics as soon as possible.
- For clinicians. Prescribe and administer appropriate empirical antibiotic treatment to patients with a suspected life-threatening bacterial infection, obtain clinical specimens as appropriate but do not delay administration of antibiotics or wait for results of investigations.
- For health services. Ensure the availability of relevant clinical pathways and local antibiotic formulary so clinicians give patients with life-threatening bacterial infections appropriate antibiotic treatment without delay.



>65 hospitals, 4 states

>10 years

All hospital types

- private (Epworth, Ramsay)
- rural (several sites)

Full cycle

- Approvals
- Post prescription review
- Auditing
- Decision support

Meeting new challenges

EMM Integration

iReview - Antimicrobial Stewardship System for The Royal Melbourne Hospital, City Campus

Welcome, Buising, Kirsty! You are logged in to Royal Melbourne Hospital Logout Approve

Ward Rounds: Review the patient records and provide recommendations where necessary.

Clear My List Add Patient Manually

- Click on Clear My List to clear your entire ward round list.
- Click on Add Patient Manually to add a patient for the Ward Rounds manually.

You have 19 Patient(s) to review Group By: All Ward Unit

Click on the Ward to select

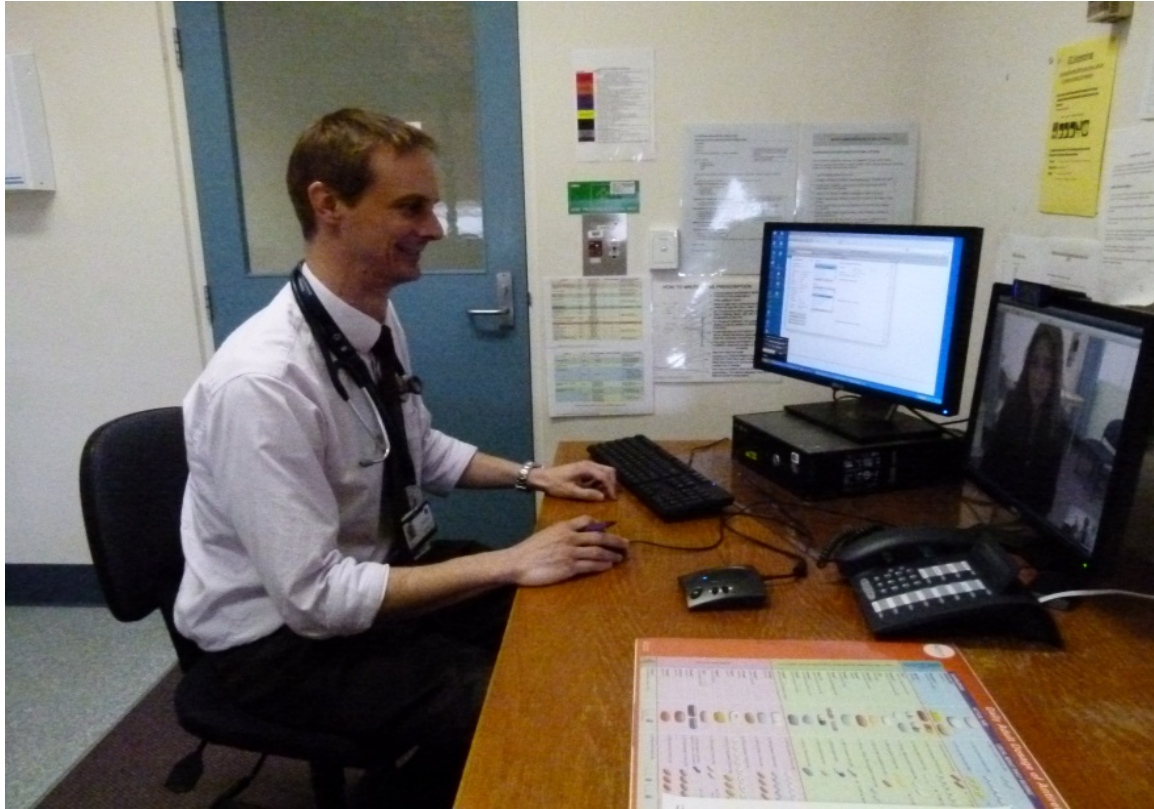
<<Uncategorized>> This group has 3 Patient(s) to review

- Click on the patient name to open the record.
- Click on Add Drug to add a drug in to the existing record.
- Click on 'e' icon (where it appears within a record) to manage the record in Guidance.
- Click on Delete (x) within the record to remove a patient from the list.

**Romano, Charlie**  
M, 54y 4m  
Patient MRN: 625370  
[DISCHARGED] [GUIDANCE NR: PRR-0311-X]  
2016, Duration: No Info  
urinary tract source  
Review Complete  
Other expert review (Excludes from review)  
No approval done by home unit; Ceftriaxone commenced 1/11 Previous urine MCS 16/9 Proteus mirabilis cultured

**Arellano, Janiz**  
F, 35y 9m  
Patient MRN: 8118385  
[DISCHARGED] [GUIDANCE NR: PRR-2310-X]  
2016, Duration: No Info  
publicly available

# Implement AMS Clinical support



AMS programs without access to ID experts – can “set people up to fail”

ID experts can't be everywhere, but technology enables broader access

Explore new models of care so expert advice is available

# 3. Progress - Surveillance



- Must be **meaningful** and actionable
  - Lots of audits done that go nowhere
  - Must get help to interpret data
  - Pull out one or two key messages/ actions
- **Communicate information** and **Propose action** in response
- E.g; Cellulitis audit
  - what error is being made, which units, what patient group, what drug,
  - ***what will we do about it?***

PDSA Quality improvement cycle: Plan Do Study **Act**



# Progress – surveillance be responsive

- Liaise closely with infection prevention
- If outbreaks/ issues occur, adapt in a timely way
- Great opportunity to engage, build rapport

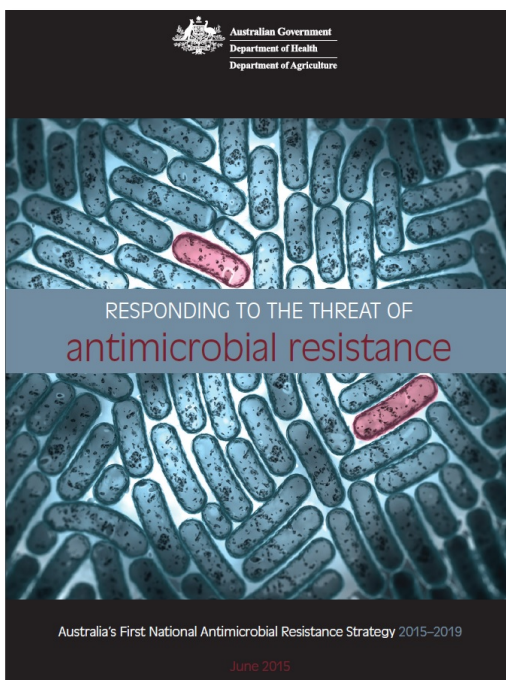
## Cardiothoracic surgery antibiotic prophylaxis recommendations

Patient Group	Antibiotics	Peri-op dosing	Post-op dosing	Duration for CAGS
<p><b>Low risk of methicillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus</i></b></p>	<u>Cephalozin</u>	2g IV (3g if >120kg) bolus 15-60 minutes before incision*	2g IV 8-hourly (1g 8-hourly if eGFR < 60mL/min)	3 doses post-op
<p>10<sup>th</sup> May - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 During investigations of Pseudomonas sternal wound infection cluster</p>	<u>add</u> Ceftazidime	1g IV bolus 15-60 minutes before incision*	1g IV 8-hourly (1g 12-hourly if eGFR < 60mL/min)	3 doses post-op (2 doses post-op if eGFR < 60mL/min)
<p><b>High risk of methicillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRSA colonisation / previous infection</li> <li>• Current hospitalisation &gt; 5 days</li> <li>• Valve re-operation</li> <li>• Urgent re-operation (return to theatre or early revision)</li> </ul>	<p><u>Cephalozin</u></p> <p><u>and</u> Vancomycin</p>	<p>2g IV (3g if &gt;120kg) bolus 15-60 minutes before incision*</p> <hr/> <p>1.5g IV (2g if &gt;120kg) starting infusion 30-120 minutes before incision</p>	<p>2g IV 8-hourly (1g 8-hourly if eGFR &lt; 60mL/min)</p> <hr/> <p>1.5g IV 12-hourly (2g if &gt; 120kg)</p>	<p>3 doses post-op</p> <hr/> <p>1 dose post-op if eGFR &gt; 60mL/min</p>
<p>10<sup>th</sup> May - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 During investigations of Pseudomonas sternal wound infection cluster</p>	<u>add</u> Ceftazidime	1g IV bolus 15-60 minutes before incision*	1g IV 8-hourly (1g 12-hourly if eGFR < 60mL/min)	3 doses post-op (2 doses post-op if eGFR < 60mL/min)



# **Whole of system approach to AMS at a National level**

# Australia's First National Strategy to address Antimicrobial Resistance



## Objective One

*Increase awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance, its implications and actions to combat it, through effective communication, education, and training*

## Objective Two

*Implement effective antimicrobial stewardship practices across human health and animal care settings to ensure the appropriate and judicious prescribing, dispensing and administering of antimicrobials*

## Objective Three

*Develop nationally coordinated One Health surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial usage*

## Objective Four

*Improve infection prevention and control measures across human health and animal care settings to help prevent infections and the spread of resistance*

## Objective Five

*Agree a national research agenda and promote investment in the discovery and development of new products and approaches to prevent, detect and contain antimicrobial resistance*

## Objective Six

*Strengthen international partnerships and collaboration on regional and global efforts to respond to antimicrobial resistance*

## Objective Seven

*Establish and support clear governance arrangements at the local, jurisdictional, national and international levels to ensure leadership, engagement and accountability for actions to combat antimicrobial resistance*

# National level



1. Education
2. Implement AMS practices
3. Surveillance
4. Work with Infection prevention
5. Research
6. Policy / Governance
7. International partnerships

# 1. Education

## Capacity building

National Centre for Antibiotic Stewardship activity:

- Advanced Infection control & AMS - ID micro trainees/ consultants
  - Bi annually – since 2011 (ASID endorsed)
- AMS for nurses and ICPs
  - Melbourne and Sydney - since 2012 (ACIPC endorsed)
- AMS for pharmacists
  - Melbourne - since 2014 (SHPA endorsed)
- AMS in rural/regional hospitals
  - Benella - since 2016 (RICPRAC endorsed)



# 2. Implement AMS Activities Resources



Welcome to the National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship  
Centre for Research Excellence

Getting Started

Hospital Aged Care Community Animal

Welcome to the National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship  
Centre for Research Excellence

<b>Clostridium difficile management pathway (adult)</b>		Surname: _____ Given Names: _____ UR number: _____ Date of Birth: _____
<b>Recognise</b>	Does this patient have suspected C difficile infection? Symptoms might include diarrhoea, fever.	
<b>Pathology tests</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Send stool for C difficile testing <input type="checkbox"/> Collect FBC, EUC, CRP, LFTs, glucose, If severe, add lactate	
<b>1. Infection control</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Isolate the patient and use contact precautions upon recognition of diarrhoea	
<b>2. Assess Severity</b>	Assess vital signs, Signs of severe CDI include: <input type="checkbox"/> Requiring ICU care, haemodynamic instability OR <input type="checkbox"/> severe abdominal pain, peritonitis OR <input type="checkbox"/> Ileus/toxic megacolon OR <input type="checkbox"/> serum white cell count $>15 \times 10^9/L$ OR <input type="checkbox"/> serum Lactate $>2\text{mmol/L}$ OR <input type="checkbox"/> acute renal failure Creatinine increase 50% from baseline OR <input type="checkbox"/> serum albumin low $<25\text{mg/L}$ OR <input type="checkbox"/> fever $>38.5C$	Consider need for fluid resuscitation if BP $<100\text{mmHg}$ or lactate $>2\text{mmol/L}$ - See sepsis pathway
<b>Call a MET if patient meets MET call criteria at any stage</b>		
<b>3. Review all antibiotics</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cease all other systemic antibiotics if possible. If not possible, discuss with the antimicrobial stewardship team or VIDS to see if lower risk alternatives are an option (e.g. ciprofloxacin or ceftriaxone, may be higher risk than doxycycline or penicillin).	

## Urine MC&S - interpretation of results Fact Sheet - for hospitals and acute care facilities



This Fact Sheet is intended as a guide only and does not equate to expert opinion. Interpretation of results should always be taken in context with the patient's current condition and clinical review.

- Only send a urine sample for microscopy, culture and susceptibility (MC&S) if the patient has clinical symptoms and signs of a urinary tract infection (UTI). 'Smelly' urine or 'cloudy-looking' urine is not a good sign for UTI.
- **Urine 'Dipstick'** tests are not reliable enough to make a diagnosis of UTI, a urine sample should be sent for M,C&S wherever possible.
- Always provide accurate clinical notes on the request slip to help the laboratory interpret the results and issue an appropriate report.
- **Asymptomatic bacteriuria** is when bacteria are cultured from a urine sample in the absence of other clinical symptoms or signs of infection. This can be found in up to 25% of elderly women. Antibiotic treatment is usually NOT recommended (exceptions include pregnant women and those undergoing urological surgical procedures).
- **Catheter urine samples** almost always have white blood cells present and will grow bacteria (most urinary catheters become colonised by bacteria). Treatment is NOT required if the patient is otherwise well.
- If a catheterised patient is unwell and antibiotic treatment is necessary, then the urinary catheter should always be changed. Infection will not clear without changing the catheter. In many cases, a change of catheter may be all that is required. Antibiotic treatment without removing the catheter may result in infection with highly resistant bacteria.

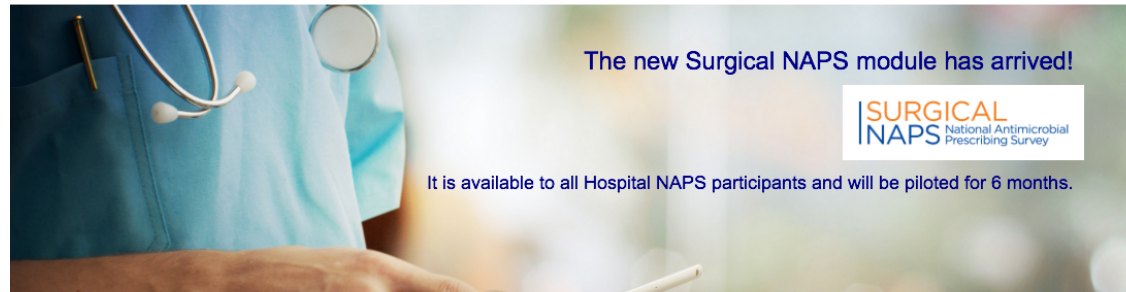


# 3. Surveillance- audits



**NAPS** National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey

About NAPS | Contact Us  
Welcome Kirsty! | My Account | Log Out



Please select your module below



- Common tools
- Clear definitions
- Trained auditors
- Comparable information



# 4. Work with Infection prevention



Already doing infection surveillance

Counting infections (hospital, community)

Documenting isolates (pathogen resistance profiles)

Need to align with data on antimicrobial use and clinical outcome

- *How are the patients being managed? their outcomes?*

*Eg; Don't just count CREs, look at how those patients are being treated*

# 5. Research – Implementation



## **Data collected within everyday workflow**

ensure it is robust, meaningful data

## ***Document changes with interventions over time***

- Antimicrobial use
  - Volume = Ecologic pressure (antimicrobials), Appropriateness
- Antimicrobial resistance
  - Organisms (prevalence, resistance)
- Clinical management of Infection
  - Treatment used, clinical outcomes (mortality, LOS)
- Infections rates
  - HAI infection events, pathogen transmission dynamics

Data linkage where possible





# 6. Policy / Governance



Policies will drive change – very powerful!

Australia in 2009, 80 hospitals audited  
9 had AMS Programs, 19 had partial activity

*Chen et al J Pharm Res 2010*

Since 2013, all must have AMS programs

BUT

Sites will do the 'bare minimum'

and

Accreditors may not be able to judge efficacy well  
so be prescriptive!



# Hospital Accreditation: AMS



3.15 The health service organisation has an antimicrobial stewardship program that:

- includes an antimicrobial stewardship policy
- provides access to, and promotes the use of, current, evidence-based Australian therapeutic guidelines and resources on antimicrobial prescribing
- has an antimicrobial formulary that includes restriction rules and approval processes
- incorporates recommendations and principles from the Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard

3.16 The AMS program will:

- review antimicrobial prescribing and use
- use surveillance data on antimicrobial resistance and usage to support appropriate prescribing
- evaluate performance of the program, identify areas for improvement, and take action to improve the appropriateness of antimicrobial prescribing
- report to clinicians and the highest level of governance in relation to compliance with the antimicrobial stewardship policy

DRAFT 2017, ACSQHC  
New National Standards

The goal of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard is to ensure that a patient with a bacterial infection receives optimal treatment with antibiotics. This means that patients are offered the right antibiotic to treat their condition, the right dose, the right route, at the right time and for the right duration. This should be based on accurate assessment and timely review as to lessen the risk of adverse effects and reduce the emergence of antibiotic resistance.

**UNDER THIS CLINICAL CARE STANDARD**



A patient with a life-threatening condition due to a suspected bacterial infection receives prompt antibiotic treatment without waiting for the results of investigations.



A patient with a suspected bacterial infection has samples taken for microbiology testing as clinically indicated, preferably before starting antibiotic treatment.



A patient with a suspected infection, and/or their carer, receives information on their health condition and treatment options in a format and language that they can understand.



When a patient is prescribed antibiotics, whether empirical or directed, this is done in accordance with the current version of the *Therapeutic Guidelines* (or local antibiotic formulary). This is also guided by the patient's clinical condition and/or the results of microbiology testing.



When a patient is prescribed antibiotics, information about when, how and for how long to take them, as well as potential side effects and a review plan, is discussed with the patient and/or their carer.



When a patient is prescribed antibiotics, the reason, drug name, dose, route of administration, intended duration and review plan is documented in the patient's health record.



A patient who is treated with broad-spectrum antibiotics has the treatment reviewed and, if indicated, switched to treatment with a narrow-spectrum antibiotic. This is guided by the patient's clinical condition and the results of microbiology tests.



If investigations are conducted for a suspected bacterial infection, the responsible clinician reviews these results in a timely manner (within 24 hours of results being available) and antibiotic therapy is adjusted taking into account the patient's clinical condition and investigation results.



If a patient having surgery requires prophylactic antibiotics, the prescription is made in accordance with the current *Therapeutic Guidelines* (or local antibiotic formulary), and takes into consideration the patient's clinical condition.

More information on the Clinical Care Standards program is available from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care website at [www.safetyandquality.gov.au/ccs](http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/ccs).

Life threatening sepsis – urgent Rx

Samples taken for micro Ix

Information provided about Dx

Prescribe c/w guidelines

Communicate plan – duration, SEs

Documentation is clear

Review results of micro Ix

De-escalate narrow spectrum

Surgical prophylaxis c/w guideline

# 7. International engagement



## Key issues:

- Lack of clinician capacity/ expertise  
Eg; clinical pharmacists
- Lack of training  
Eg; advanced AMS training
- Lack of rational prescribing guidelines
- Need for guidance on appropriate use of tests
- Lack of meaningful interpretation of data
- Absence of resources/ tools  
Eg; medication chart
- Pharma incentives to prescribers
- Over the counter access/ poor regulation
- Lack of diagnostic tests
- Poor access to medicines, drug costs
- Counterfeit medications

Asia Pacific  
Main Countries and Territories



**Engage, Mentor**  
**Disseminate learning**  
**Collaborate, Share**  
**Advocacy**

# Conclusion: Systems approach



In an institution, consider:

- i) People (Education)
  - Address Knowledge, Attitude
  
- ii) Practices (Implementing strategies)
  - Address External barriers and enablers
  - Rules - policies/ procedures
  - Tools - understand the day to day activities
  - Restrictive and Persuasive strategies
  
- iii) Progress (Surveillance)
  - should be monitored in a meaningful way

Involve all stakeholders

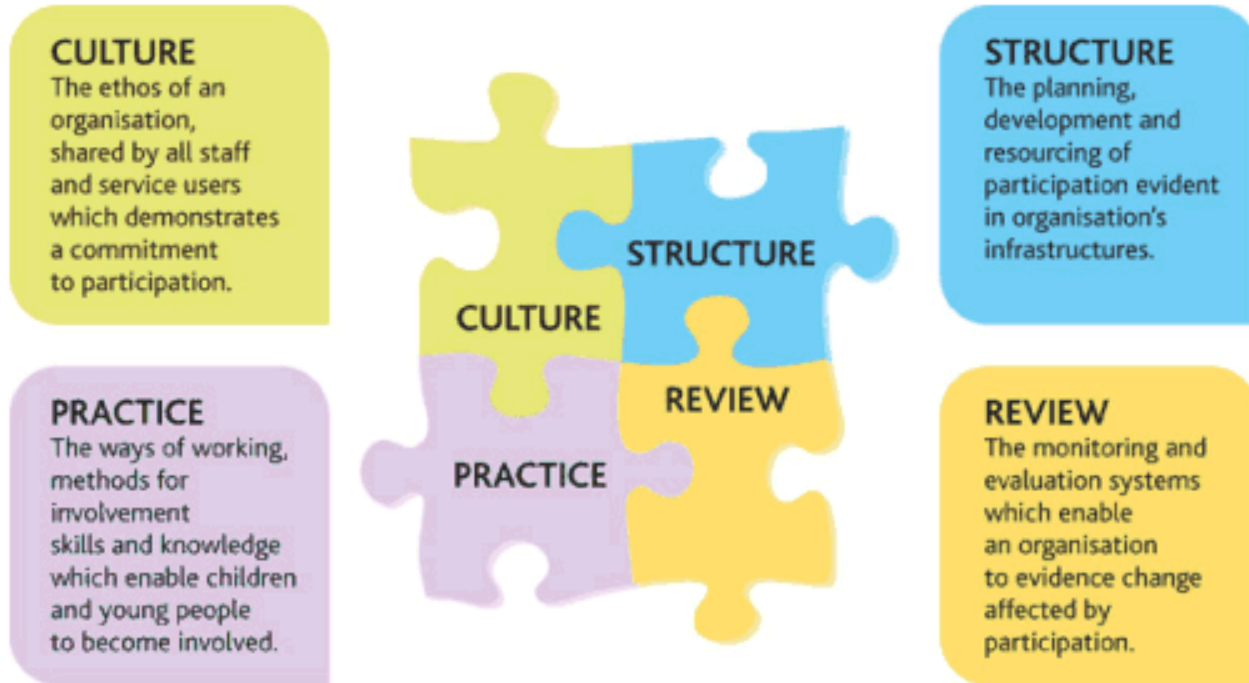
Be adaptive, creative, always evolving

At a broader national healthcare system level it considers;

- Coordinating the institution level AMS work
  - Education
  - Implementing AMS practices
  - Surveillance
  
- Aligning this with
  - Infection prevention activities
  - Research esp funding Implementation research
  - Policy/ governance requirements
  - International engagement

Thinking about stakeholders beyond the institution

# Thankyou



Questions?