NHS
Suffolk and
North East Essex
Integrated Care Board

Antibiotic Resource Pack

Background

Antimicrobial resistant infections impact on patient safety and the quality of patient care. Evidence suggests that antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is driven by over-using antibiotics and prescribing them inappropriately. Reducing the inappropriate use of antibiotics will delay the development of antimicrobial resistance that leads to patient harm from infections that are harder and more costly to treat. Reducing inappropriate antibiotic use will also protect patients from healthcare acquired infections such as *Clostridium difficile* infections.

NICE guidance recommends all organisations: establish an antimicrobial stewardship programme, monitor and evaluate antimicrobial prescribing and local resistance patterns and provide regular feedback to individual prescribers about their antimicrobial prescribing.[1]

Aim

The antibiotic resource pack has been designed to build on the work of the previous Antibiotic LES to improve the quality of antibiotic prescribing within GP practices, to reduce the use of broad spectrum antibiotics and contribute to reducing the development of antibiotic resistance. The pack will aid practice based discussions and highlight areas to target where improvements in prescribing habits could be implemented.

Objectives

Use of the pack will contribute to:

- Reducing inappropriate prescribing
- Increased adherence to ICB formulary and national guidance
- Education of prescribers
- Achievement of the prescribing incentive scheme metrics
- Signpost to patient leaflets and additional resources

Contents

- Data
    - Adherence to national targets can be found through our PowerBI dashboard (please note permission is required to access this- please contact us for access)
    - Data is provided on the impact of antibiotic prescribing on admission rates.
    - Data is provided on the impact of broad spec prescribing on Clostridium. difficile rates
- Audit tools for practices
    - Target self-assessment tool designed to evaluate current practice antibiotic prescribing.
- Resources for practices
    - Top tips for antibiotic prescribing
    - Top tips for sending microbiological samples.
    - Quick reference summary to the current antibiotic formulary
    - Point to consider when reviewing prescribing habits.
    - Tool to record discussions and actions.
- Resources for patients/waiting rooms.
    - Target leaflets for managing common infections and treating respiratory tract and urinary tract infections.

- Details of posters for waiting/clinical areas
- Examples of slides and videos for TV screens

How should the pack be used?

The information provided in this pack should be used as follows:

1. Carry out the self-assessment tool to identify baseline position and highlight areas for improvement.
2. Review of the practice data to identify prescribing areas to focus on
3. Conduct practice meetings with all prescribers to review prescribing habits and produce an action plan to improve prescribing.
4. Document actions and implementation dates which can be reviewed at future meetings.
5. Ensure copies of the quick reference formulary guide are available in all consultation rooms
6. Disseminate “top tips” information to all prescribers.
7. Provide patients with the relevant information leaflets during all future consultations.
8. Continue with regular meetings to review outstanding actions and monitor prescribing habits with available data.
9. Annual review of self-assessment tool identifies areas for future development

If you have any questions or feedback or require further information or support in using the resource pack, then please contact the alliance based Medicines Management Team:

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References

[1] NICE guidance - ng15 - Antimicrobial stewardship: systems and processes for effective antimicrobial medicine use 18th August 2015 Antimicrobial stewardship: systems and processes for effective antimicrobial medicine use (nice.org.uk)