

Antibiotic stewardship for urinary tract infection: A program evaluation

Gilbert, BM.; O'Keefe, L; Baker, N (2021) 'Antibiotic stewardship for urinary tract infection: A program evaluation' *Geriatric Nursing*. 000(2021):1-3

Abstract

Evidence supporting the use of antibiotic stewardship programs (ASP) is growing in a variety of healthcare settings for its association with improved patient outcomes, decreased resistance, and improved healthcare costs. There have been few studies supporting this evidence in long-term care facilities. This project involved a program evaluation of a long-term care facility's ASP for urinary tract infection (UTI) management. Improvement in appropriate diagnosing and antibiotic prescribing for UTI was noted, but no conclusions could be made regarding the effect on patient outcomes. The ASP was considered beneficial in this facility and highlighted areas for improvement, notably the need for sustained commitment by facility leadership and healthcare providers. Nurse practitioners are equipped with the skills necessary to assist facilities with education and implementation of systematic programs for judicious antibiotic prescribing.

Areas for reflection

- Leadership is seen as an important element in antibiotic stewardship. How can we influence leadership in care settings outside of our place of work?
- How can we promote the correct and effective use of urine testing, such as urinalysis, to prevent inappropriate prescribing?
- Do patients also need education to help promote antibiotic stewardship?

For more information about the risk factors that can cause recurrent UTIs you can read [this article](#).

