

2023 Medicaid Quality Incentive Measure

Measure 1	
Contact Person	Sandra Assasnik, (206) 577-1805 or (503) 526-2016 (cell)
Measure Name:	Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) – Training for prescribers and pharmacists
Measure eligibility:	All acute care hospitals that participate in MQI are eligible to complete this metric
Why:	During 2021 and 2022 IPC Committee identification and prioritization of Infection Prevention and Control metrics and processes, members identified and prioritized AMS as one of the two top concerns. The IPC Committee helped to formulate and approve this metric over several months of meetings. They needed motivation to push forward AMS training for prescribers and pharmacists and felt that the MQI Program can play a major role in accomplishing this quality effort.
Clinical Rationale:	<p>New CDC data states more than half of antibiotic prescribing for selected events in hospitals was not consistent with recommended prescribing practices. Antibiotic prescribing was not supported in: 79% of patients with community-acquired pneumonia, 77% of patients with urinary tract infections, 47% of patients prescribed fluoroquinolone treatment, and 27% of patients prescribed intravenous vancomycin antibiotic. Hospital prescribers and pharmacists can improve antibiotic prescribing by optimizing antibiotic selection, re-assessing antibiotic treatment when the results of diagnostic testing are available, and using the shortest effective duration of therapy.</p> <p>Optimizing the use of antibiotics is critical to effectively treat infections, protect patients from harms caused by unnecessary antibiotic use, and combat antibiotic resistance. Antibiotic Stewardship Programs (ASPs) can help clinicians improve clinical outcomes and minimize harms by improving antibiotic prescribing. Hospital antibiotic stewardship programs can increase infection cure rates while reducing):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment failures • C. difficile infections • Adverse effects • Antibiotic resistance • Hospital costs and lengths of stay <p>The CDC has 7 core elements of hospital antibiotic stewardship, but there is no single template to optimize a program for antibiotic prescribing. The three fields identified by the IPC Committee for this MQI AMS measure contribute to establishing some standardized statewide elements that all hospitals can engage in to improve quality and safety. Standardized measures can help complex care show its value in improving outcomes and evaluating delivery and impact. This effort in improving AMS can be rewarded through MQI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/44/2/159/328413 • https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD003543.pub4/pdf/full • https://journals.asm.org/doi/full/10.1128/AAC.00825-16 • https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(17)30325-0/fulltext • https://www.nationalcomplex.care/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Quality-measures-report_final.pdf

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Definition:	<p>CDC definitions and how to improve hospital antibiotic use and help fight antibiotic resistance are located here: https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/core-elements/hospital/implementation.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fantibiotic-use%2Fcore-elements%2Fimplementation.htm</p> <p>Free CDC healthcare professional training with CEs is available here: https://www.train.org/cdctrain/training_plan/3697. Any course that fulfills Improvement Activities (IA) Patient Safety and Practice Assessment (PSPA) 23 and PSPA 24 under the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Merit-Based Incentive Programs, or MIPS may be used.</p>
Included Populations:	All populations served by the hospital.
Exclusions:	No exclusions.
Fields to be reported:	<p>a) Attestation that the antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leaders have completed infectious diseases specialty training, a certificate program or other training on antibiotic stewardship and that personnel files document this (see definition).</p> <p>b) Percent of prescribers and pharmacists (direct employees, contracted employees, residents, interns, and full and part-time employees) who have received annual training on AMS</p> <p>c) Upload of hospital policy for AMS that includes a description of “a” and “b” above.</p> <p>There is no single template for a program to optimize antibiotic prescribing in hospitals. Implementation of antibiotic stewardship programs requires flexibility due to the complexity of medical decision-making surrounding antibiotic use and the variability in the size and types of care among U.S. hospitals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/core-elements/hospital.html#:~:text=Antibiotic%20Stewardship%20Programs%20(ASPs)%20can,Treatment%20failures
	July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023
Reporting deadline:	30 days after the close of the performance period or by January 31, 2024.
Audits and validation: Do not change	Data are subject to audit by the state. WSHA will not audit but will complete a few basic validity checks.
Submission Frequency:	Once during the performance period from July 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.
Data collection system:	Washington State Hospital Association Quality Benchmarking System, QBS.
Data Scoring:	<p>a) 3 points for attestation that the appointed leader(s) for AMS have completed infectious diseases specialty training, a certificate program or other training on antibiotic stewardship and that personnel files document this.</p> <p>b) 3 points are provided for providing the percent of current prescribers and pharmacists who have received training on AMS.</p> <p>c) 4 points for upload of hospital policy for AMS that includes a description of “a” and “b” above.</p>

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	Ten points are possible.			
	Thresholds	a) Attestation that the appointed leader(s) for AMS have completed infection diseases specialty training (see above)	b) Providing the percent of current prescribers and pharmacists who have received training on AMS (see above)	Upload of hospital policy for AMS that includes a description of (a) and (b).
	Point Awards 2023	3 points	3 points	4 points