

Antimicrobial Efforts by CPS Reduce Antibiotic Spend by 75%

Antibiotic resistance is one of the most serious threats to public health. In a recent study, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that more than half of all antibiotics prescribed in hospitals were not consistent with recommendations. Inappropriately prescribing medication is a significant contributing factor to the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. This brings with it very real consequences. The CDC estimates that these “superbugs” kill more than 35,000 people in the U.S. each year.¹

THE CHALLENGE

One of our partners is a short-term acute care hospital in the southeast with a regional medical center affiliation. The facility operates with over 250 staffed beds and nearly 300 Medicare-certified beds.

In 2014, the organization’s antibiotic (ABX) spend tracked greater than \$20 per adjusted patient day (PAPD). To decrease this, while also working toward better outcomes for their patients, leaders at the hospital reached out to Comprehensive Pharmacy Services (CPS) to discuss our Antimicrobial Stewardship Program.

CPS ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The CPS Antimicrobial Stewardship Program is designed to not only address the antibiotic stewardship requirements and regulations set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), CDC, and the Joint Commission, but do so while delivering performance that dramatically exceeds what hospitals can do on their own.

After assessing the hospital’s unique situation inclusive of ABX spend, the CPS clinical team crafted and executed an action plan to realize the vision of hospital leaders.

- **DEVELOPED** a dedicated ABX Steering Committee to ensure alignment of internal and CPS stakeholders on related initiatives
- **ESTABLISHED** shared committee goals, with a primary focus on safety, efficacy, and cost
- **DEVELOPED** proprietary resources to encourage ABX program success, such as custom reference cards for pharmacy staff complete with useful information and treatment recommendations (based on antibiogram data)
- **CONSTRUCTED** antibiogram reviews discussing ABX sensitivities to bacteria

CPS ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM RESULTS

ABX efforts by CPS teams since 2014 have decreased spend by approximately 75%. The chart on the following page displays this spend reduction in detail from November 2019 through February 2021.

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Non-Exclusion Drug & Exclusion Drug Spend/Metric November 2019 – February 2021

Month	ABX Spend (PAPD)	Month	ABX Spend (PAPD)
November 2019	\$11.28	July 2020	\$7.79
December 2019	\$16.60	August 2020	\$7.00
January 2020	\$4.80	September 2020	\$7.58
February 2020	\$9.65	October 2020	\$10.46
March 2020	\$8.20	November 2020	\$9.15
April 2020	\$7.88	December 2020	\$10.10
May 2020	\$6.19	January 2021	\$4.61
June 2020	\$4.62	February 2021	\$5.27

Source: CPS Antimicrobial Stewardship Program data

CONCLUSIONS

From the 2014 ABX spend starting point of greater than **\$20/PAPD**, CPS Antimicrobial teams were able to reduce the spend to **\$5.27/PAPD** by February 2021.

ABX spend **decreased approximately 75%**

The performance of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at this partner site was the result of the careful execution of planned objectives developed in accordance with the hospital's broader strategy and stakeholder wishes. The hospital generated significant cost savings while simultaneously positioning pharmacy staff for success and nurturing better outcomes for patients.

For more information on how the CPS Antimicrobial Stewardship Program can help reduce your ABX spend while creating a better environment for patients, contact CPS at contactus@cpspharm.com.

ABOUT COMPREHENSIVE PHARMACY SERVICES

Founded 50 years ago, we are one of the nation's largest providers of pharmacy services - employing 2,500 pharmacy professionals and serving over 800 hospitals and healthcare facilities nationwide. We help clients tackle complex problems through our suite of services across inpatient pharmacy management and consulting, 340B, specialty and ambulatory pharmacy, telepharmacy, supply chain management, rehabilitation services, and more. CPS helps pharmacy leaders achieve operational excellence, drive clinical quality, attain continuous regulatory compliance, and improve bottom-line performance while supporting pharmacy staff, caregivers, and patients.