

Antibiotics: Handle with care!



Insert logo of national
institution

Insert logo of national
institution

Up to 50% of all antibiotic use in European
hospitals is unnecessary or inappropriate



Antibiotics: Handle with care!



Insert logo of national
institution

Insert logo of national
institution

Antibiotic stewardship programmes can lead to prudent use of antibiotics and reduce hospital costs.

Hospitals that implemented an antibiotic stewardship programme, reported these improvements:

- Reduced inappropriate prescribing by 96%;
- Reduced use of broad-spectrum antibiotics by 86%;
- Reduced overall expenditures by 80%;
- Reduced healthcare-associated infections by 71%;
- Reduced length of stay or mortality by 65%;
- Reduced antibiotic resistance by 58%.



Antibiotics: Handle with care!



Insert logo of national
institution

Insert logo of national
institution

Antibiotics are used inappropriately when:

- The administration of antibiotics in critically ill patients is delayed;
- The spectrum of antibiotic therapy is either too narrow or too broad;
- The dose of antibiotic is either too low or too high;
- The duration of antibiotic therapy is either too short or too long;
- Antibiotic therapy is not reviewed after 48-72 hours, or the choice of antibiotic is not streamlined when microbiological culture data become available.



Antibiotics: Handle with care!



Insert logo of national
institution

Insert logo of national
institution

Only a few antibiotics in the research and development pipeline may be effective against multidrug-resistant bacteria

