

Antibiotics: handle with care!

Prescribers' checklist

- Is there a high probability of a bacterial infection, rather than colonization or a viral infection?
- Does the patient have an infection that will respond to antibiotics?
- Have you checked the patient's recent antibiotic use, drug allergies, hospitalisation or institutionalisation, use of immunosuppressive therapy and microbiology results for the previous 3 months?
- Is the patient on the right antibiotics, dosage, and route of administration?
- Can an antibiotic with a narrower spectrum be used to treat the infection?
- Have you prescribed the shortest possible duration of treatment?
Have the appropriate cultures been taken?
- Do the culture results necessitate starting antibiotic therapy or modifying ongoing the current antibiotic therapy?
- Have you documented the indication of antibiotic treatment, drug choice, dosage, route of administration and duration of treatment in the patient chart?
- Does the choice of antibiotic therapy comply with your hospital's guidelines?
- Does the choice of antibiotic therapy comply with your hospital's antibiotic resistance patterns?



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If you want to know more about the antibiotic stewardship programme in your hospital, contact [email address] or call [phone number]. See more information at [hospital website]



The statements in this poster are supported by scientific evidence. Visit <http://antibiotic.ecdc.europa.eu> or scan the QR code.