

Antimicrobial Stewardship for Hospitalists



Valerie Vaughn, MD MSc
Assistant Professor
Director of Hospital Medicine Research
University of Utah
@ValerieVaughnMD



Megan Mack, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor
Michigan Medicine



No disclosures, conflicts of interest, or off-label uses

Dr. Jagriti Chadha, MD, FHM

Moderator

- **Associate Professor at University of Kentucky, Division of Hospital Medicine**
- **Assistant Dean for Competency Assessment**
- **Director, Residents as Teachers program**
- **Medical Director, Physician Development**
- **SHM Education Committee member**
- **SHM SPARK 3 section editor**



Jagriti Chadha has no relevant financial or advisory relationships with corporate organizations related to this activity.

Dr. Megan Mack, MD

- **Assistant Professor at Michigan Medicine, Division of Hospital Medicine**
- **Associate Division Chief and Service Chief, Division of Hospital Medicine**
- **Hospitalist lead for Infection Control and Prevention Committee, Michigan Medicine**



Megan Mack has no relevant financial or advisory relationships with corporate organizations related to this activity.


Twitter: @ValerieVaughnMD

Dr. Valerie Vaughn, MD MSc SFHM

- Assistant Professor (on tenure track) at University of Utah, Division of General Internal Medicine
- Director of Hospital Medicine Research
- Co-Director, Utah Quality Advancement Laboratory
- Hospitalist and Research Lead, Antimicrobial Use Initiative, Michigan Hospital Medicine Safety Consortium (HMS)
- SHM Research Committee
- SHM Research Abstract Competition Co-Chair



Valerie Vaughn has no relevant financial or advisory relationships with corporate organizations related to this activity.



Please take a
moment to answer
the poll questions.



AGENDA

Why stewardship matters

Why stewardship is hard

High yield stewardship opportunities




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“The use of antibiotics is the single most important factor leading to antibiotic resistance around the world...up to 50% of all the antibiotics prescribed for people are not needed or are not optimally effective as prescribed.”

Estimated minimum number of illnesses and deaths caused by antibiotic resistance*:

At least  **2,049,442** illnesses,
 **23,000** deaths

**bacteria and fungus included in this report*

Estimated minimum number of illnesses and death due to *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*), a unique bacterial infection that, although not significantly resistant to the drugs used to treat it, is directly related to antibiotic use and resistance:

At least  **250,000** illnesses,
 **14,000** deaths

Each year, antibiotic-resistant bacteria and fungi cause at least an estimated:



*Clostridioides difficile*** is related to antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance:



2,868,700
infections



223,900
cases



35,900 deaths



12,800 deaths

4,950,000

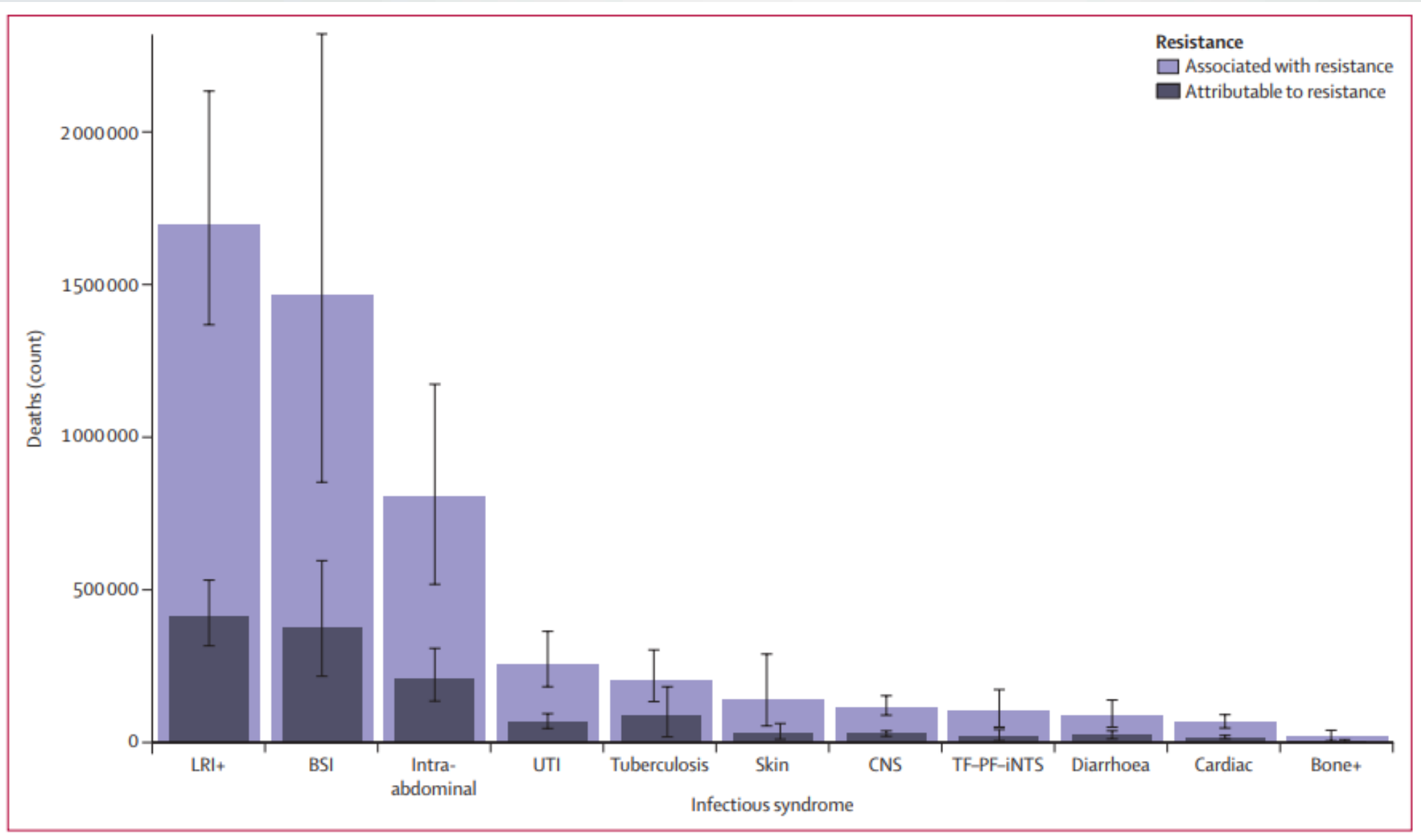
Global deaths associated with bacterial AMR, 2019




1,270,000


Global deaths attributable to bacterial AMR, 2019







“20% of hospitalized patients who receive an antibiotic have an adverse drug event (from that antibiotic) within 30 days”



“Antibiotic resistance added \$1,383 to the cost of treating a patient with a bacterial infection...in 2014, (antibiotic resistance) amounts to a national cost of \$2.2 billion annually.”

**2015
White House
National
Action Plan**

The diagram features a horizontal green arrow pointing to the right, with a small green circle at its tail. Four red circles are arranged around the arrow, each containing text. The circles are positioned at approximately 25%, 45%, 55%, and 75% of the arrow's length. The background is light gray with a blue and black geometric shape on the left side.

**January 1, 2020
CMS issued
Antibiotic
Stewardship
Condition for
Participation**

**2013
CDC, first national
report of burden of
antibiotic-resistant
pathogens**

**2017
Joint Commission:
Antibiotic
Stewardship
Standard for
Hospitals**



**2023
Joint Commission:
New antibiotic
stewardship
requirements for
hospital/critical
access programs**





AGENDA

Why stewardship matters

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High yield stewardship opportunities

**Distractions
or
interruptions**



**Competing
or conflicting
priorities**

Time/effort

Competing or conflicting priorities



SPOT SEPSIS

STOP SEPSIS

SEPSIS BUNDLES

TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 3 HOURS OF TIME OF PRESENTATION OF SEVERE SEPSIS*:

1. Measure lactate level.
2. Obtain blood cultures prior to antibiotics.
3. Administer broad spectrum antibiotics.
4. Administer 20ml/kg crystalloid for hypotension or lactate $>4\text{mmol/L}$.

* "Time of presentation" is defined from earliest chart annotation consistent with severe sepsis onset.

TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 6 HOURS:

5. Apply vasopressors for hypotension that does not respond to initial fluid resuscitation to maintain (MAP) $>65\text{mmHg}$.
6. In the event of persistent hypotension after initial fluid administration (MAP $<65\text{mmHg}$) or if initial lactate was $>4\text{mmol/L}$, reassess volume status and tissue perfusion.
7. Re-measure lactate if initial lactate >2 .



FREE XMAS CAROLS CD PICK UP AT TESCO EXPRESS

Daily Mail

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019

After Mail campaign, all new mothers warned to look for signs ++ Nurses and doctors to be retrained ++ 1 million leaflets sent to A&Es and GPs

ALL OUT WAR ON SEPSIS

Daily Mail END THE SEPSIS SCANDAL

RED ALERT! THERESA'S READY FOR... BATTLE



is

SIS

NESS



SEP-1 BUNDLE

3 Hour Bundle (to be completed within 3 hours of time zero)

- Send initial Lactic Acid Level
- Obtain Blood Cultures Before Abx
- **Administer Antibiotics**
- 30 ml/kg IV fluid bolus *in presence of hypotension* or Lactic Acid >4.0*

6 Hour Bundle (to be completed within 6 hours of time zero)

- Repeat Lactic Acid if initial Lactic Acid >2
- Vasopressors if hypotensive after fluids
- Repeat Physical Exam

WHAT'S "WORSE"?

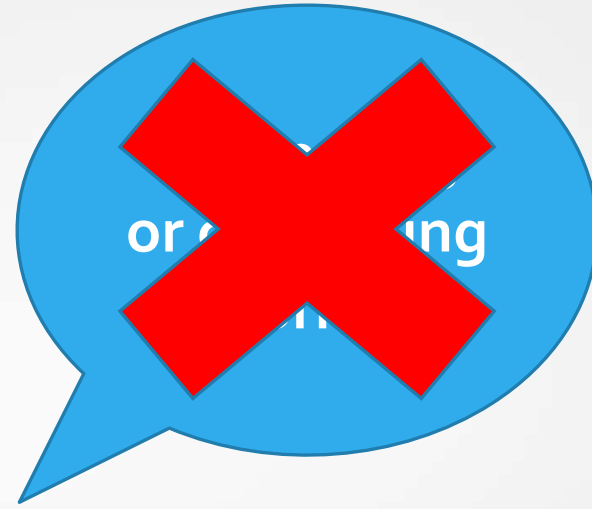
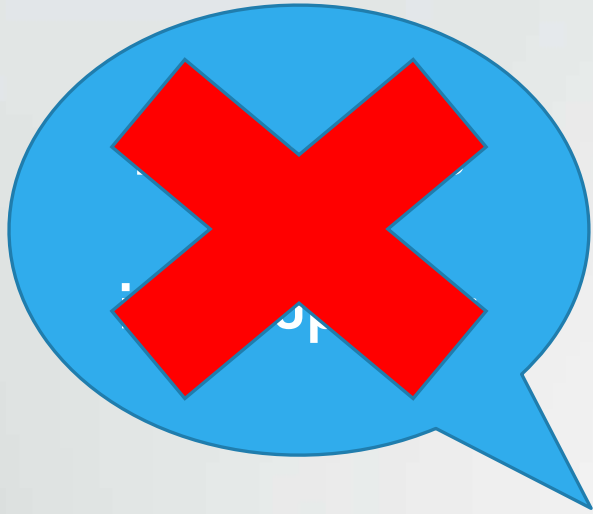
- Antibiotics withheld/initial suspicion for infection low → "subtle" transition → septic/bacteremic
- Pt gets antibiotics for non-infectious cause → gets readmitted for MDR infection

Distractions or interruptions

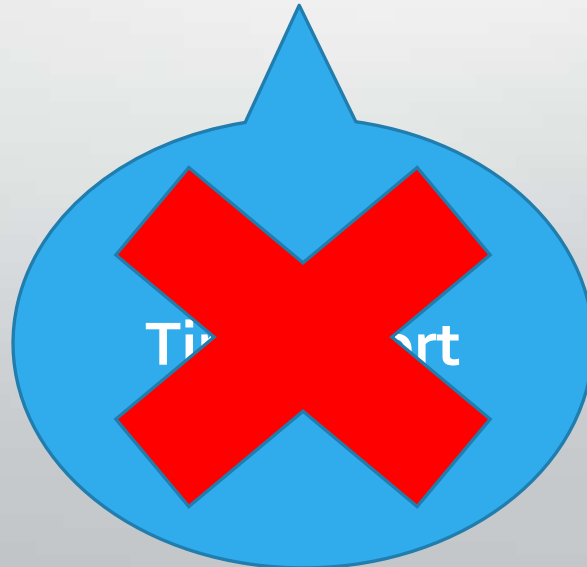
- BPAs
- Multimodal communication: phone, secure chats, pagers
- Patient care handoffs

Time and effort

- Hospitalist burnout on the rise post-covid
- Perception of stewardship efforts being time consuming and cumbersome



*Is stewardship
actually difficult
though?*



AGENDA

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80 year-old woman with dementia presents for altered mental status.

She comes in alone from her nursing home and is unable to provide any history.

Physical exam

Stable vital signs, oriented x 1

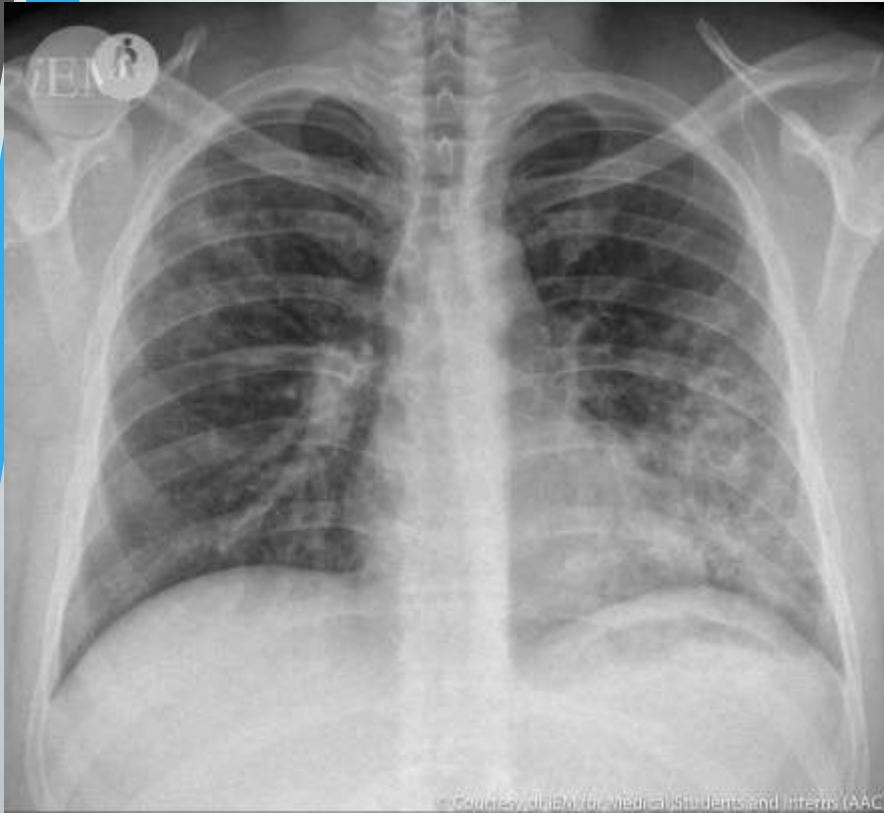
Exam difficult due to poor patient cooperation

Laboratory findings

WBC 10,000 (80% PMNs)



+ LE, + WBC, occ bacteria,
numerous squamous cells
(culture pending)




Left lower lobe
pneumonia



Poor positioning and effort.
Cannot rule out underlying
infection

What's your next step?

- A) Supportive care + Chest CT to evaluate for pneumonia
- B) Supportive care + empiric Vanc/Zosyn
- C) Supportive care + empiric ceftriaxone
- D) Supportive care + ask the night team to check response in 1-2 hours
- E) Give up, medicine was never supposed to be this hard...



High-Yield
Antibiotic Stewardship
Moment #1

Don't treat
asymptomatic
bacteriuria

(Bacteria in the urine in the absence of
signs/symptoms of UTI)

Signs of Symptoms of a UTI

- Dysuria
- Urinary frequency or urgency
- Suprapubic pain
- Costovertebral pain/tenderness
- *Without alternative cause:*
 - Fever
 - Hematuria
 - Spasticity (if spinal cord injury)
- Altered mental status + systemic signs of Infection (SIRS, leukocytosis)

Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

- Common in hospitalized patients
 - Elderly, women, h/o catheter, coming from nursing home
- Marker of debility/poorer prognosis
- Treatment does not improve outcomes
 - Increased risk of UTI in following year
 - Increased risk of developing antibiotic resistance
 - Elderly at highest risk of antibiotic associated adverse-events (*C. difficile*)

What is ASB?

- Bacteria in the urine in the absence of signs/symptoms of UTI
 - Even if UA is “positive”
 - Even if UA has pyuria, leukocyte esterase, nitrites, bacteria, multiple bacteria, resistant bacteria

Lab Finding	Odds Ratio for Inappropriate ASB Treatment
<i>E. Coli</i>	1.4 (1.1-1.8)
≥100,000 CFU	2.3 (1.8-2.9)
Positive urinalysis	2.8 (2.1-3.9)

What about patients with Altered Mental Status?

- Depends
 - Physical exam findings (suprapubic tenderness)
 - Vital sign abnormalities (sepsis?) or leukocytosis?
- If none of the above
 - Supportive care for 48 hours
 - e.g., IVF, constipation, medication evaluation



What about patients with Altered Mental Status?

- Of 11,793 patients hospitalized in 59 hospitals with a + urine culture and no symptoms or only non-specific signs & symptoms of a UTI
 - Only 166 (1.4%) developed bacteremic UTI
 - Predictors? Hypotension, tachycardia, leukocytosis
 - Not predictors? Altered mental status
 - Negative predictors? Dementia
- You'd have to treat nearly 100 patients with antibiotics to prevent one bacteremic UTI

Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria: 2019 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America^a

Lindsay E. Nicolle,¹ Kalpana Gupta,² Suzanne F. Bradley,³ Richard Colgan,⁴ Gregory P. DeMuri,⁵ Dimitri Drekonja,⁶ Linda O. Eckert,⁷ Suzanne E. Geerlings,⁸ Béla Köves,⁹ Thomas M. Hooton,¹⁰ Manisha Juthani-Mehta,¹¹ Shandra L. Knight,¹² Sanjay Saint,¹³ Anthony J. Schaeffer,¹⁴ Barbara Trautner,¹⁵ Bjorn Wullt,¹⁶ and Reed Siemieniuk¹⁷

“In older patients with functional and/or cognitive impairment with bacteriuria and delirium (acute mental status change, confusion) and without local genitourinary symptoms or other systemic signs of infection (e.g., fever or hemodynamic instability), we recommend assessment for other causes and careful observation rather than antimicrobial treatment.”

Risk Factors and Outcomes Associated With Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Hospitalized Patients

83% of patients with asymptomatic bacteriuria received (inappropriate) antibiotic treatment

Altered mental status in 18%
(OR 1.93 for treatment)

Risk Factors and Outcomes Associated With Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in Hospitalized Patients

Antibiotics associated with a 37% longer LOS

No improvement in other outcomes



80 year-old woman with dementia presents for altered mental status.

She comes in alone from her nursing home and is unable to provide any history.

Physical exam

Blood pressure 72/40, heart rate 110, RR 16, oriented x 1

Exam difficult due to poor patient cooperation

Laboratory findings

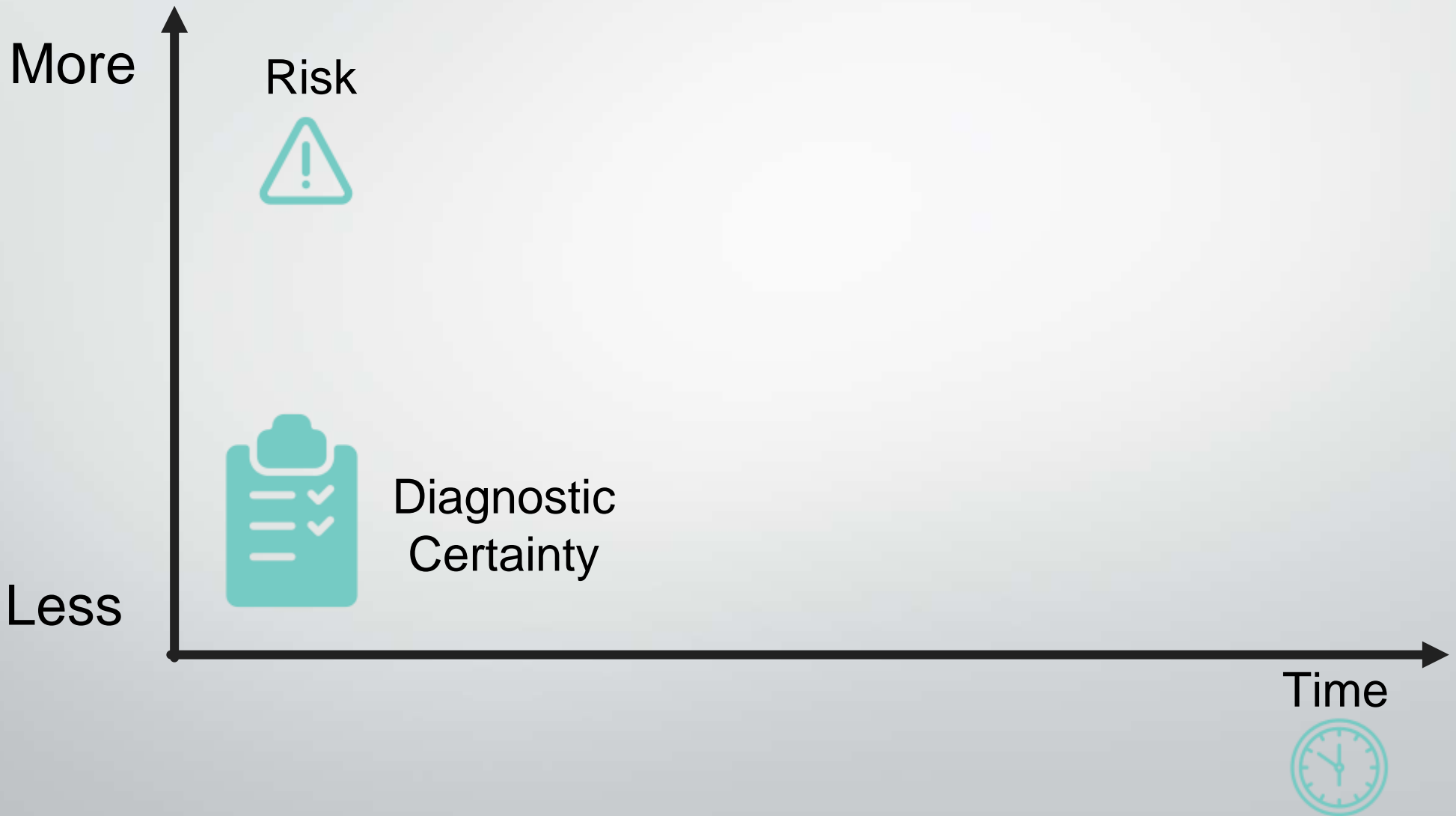
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*Give
antibiotics!!!*

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“For the bacteriuric patient with fever and other systemic signs potentially consistent with a **severe infection (sepsis)** and without a localizing source, **broad-spectrum antimicrobial therapy** directed against urinary and nonurinary sources should be initiated.”



Summary

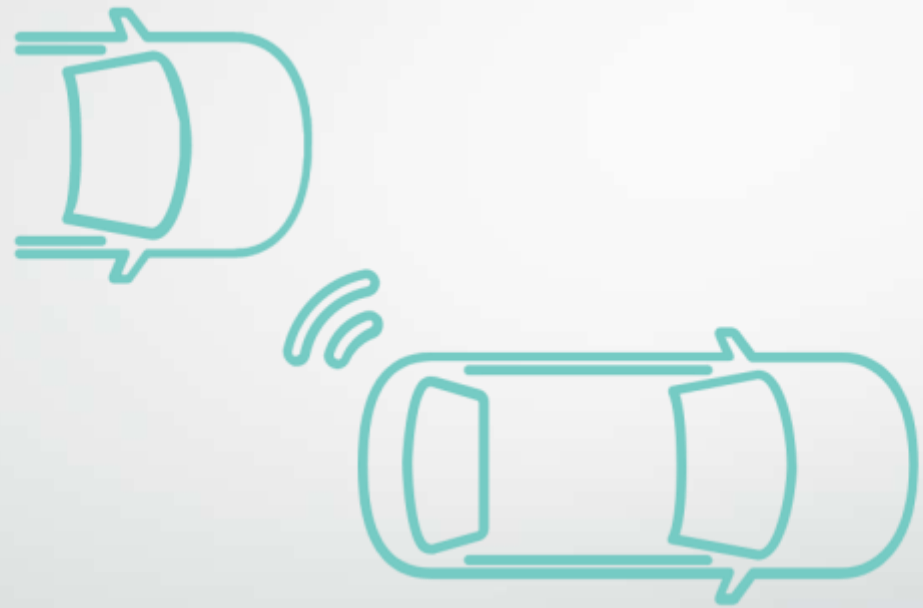
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria = positive urine culture in absence of signs/symptoms of a UTI
- A positive urinalysis does not mean a UTI
- In hemodynamically stable patients with altered mental status, check for alternative etiologies before treating for UTI (risk is <1%!)

AGENDA

Why stewardship matters

Why stewardship is hard

High yield stewardship opportunity #2





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Blood pressure 72/40, heart rate 110, RR 16, oriented x 1

Exam difficult due to poor patient cooperation

Laboratory findings

WBC 10,000 (80% PMNs)

*Give
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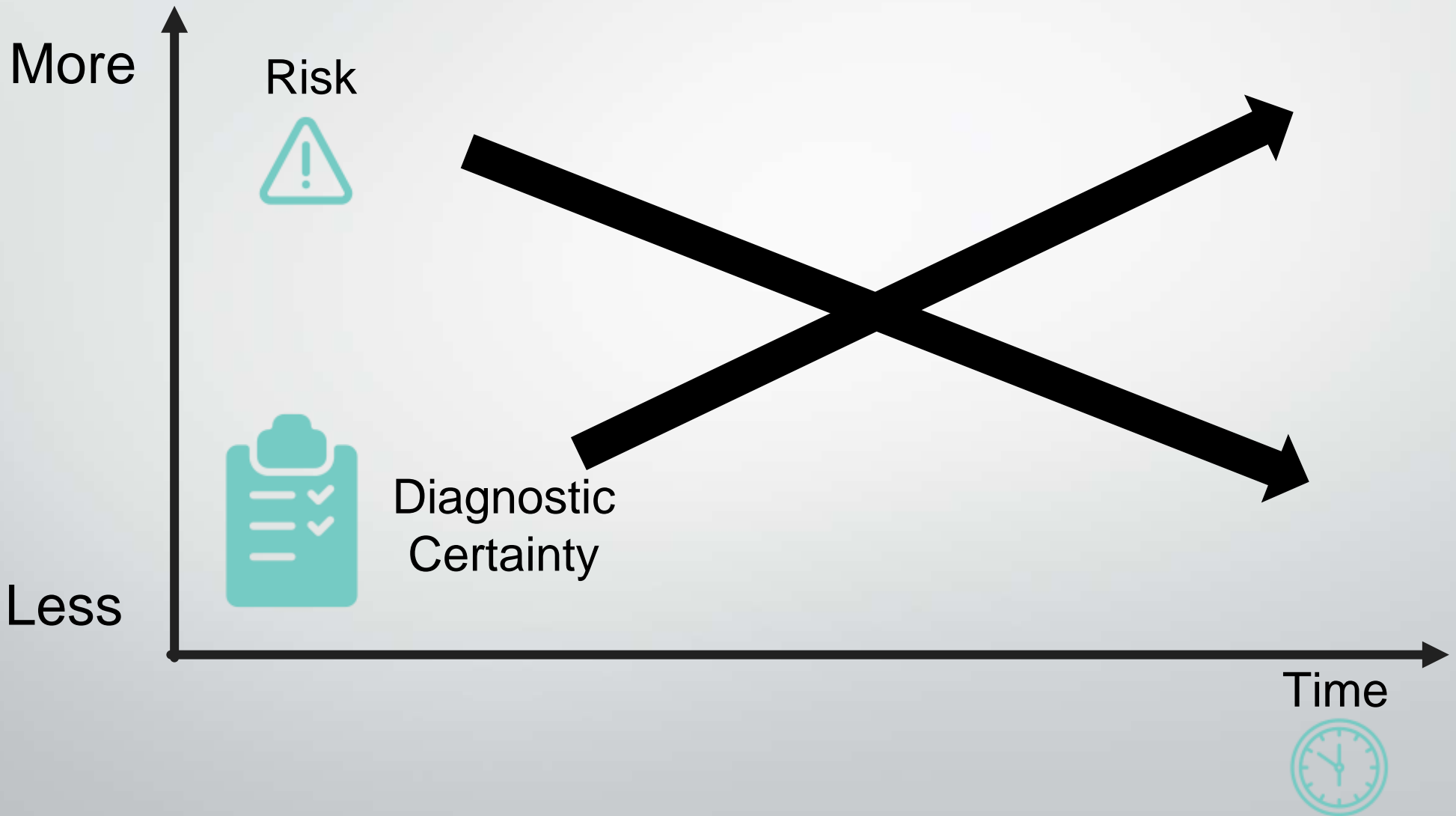
80 year-old woman with dementia presents for altered mental status.

She comes in alone from her nursing home and is unable to provide any history.

- Vital signs stabilize with fluids and broad-spectrum antibiotics
- Procalcitonin is negative
- Mental status clears, patient denies urinary/pulmonary symptoms
- You found out she was started on zolpidem just prior to admission
- In fact, she says...



“Dr., I never want that Ambien medicine again! It made me feel awful the second I took it!”



A photograph of a snowball rolling down a snowy slope. The snowball is in the lower right foreground, slightly out of focus. The slope is covered in snow and leads up towards the background. The sky is a clear, bright blue with several white, fluffy clouds scattered across it. The overall scene is bright and clear.

“Diagnosis Momentum”

A diagnosis made, even under great uncertainty, is rarely overturned



How much antibiotic overuse at discharge is there?

Work funded by AHRQ K08 and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan
(Value Partnerships Program)

MEASURING ANTIBIOTIC OVERUSE AT DISCHARGE

21,825 hospitalized patients (at 46 hospitals)

12,445 treated for pneumonia

9,380 treated for urinary tract infection

7/1/2017 through 7/30/2019

MEASURING ANTIBIOTIC OVERUSE AT DISCHARGE



Unnecessary Antibiotics

Given for a non-infectious or non-bacterial syndrome



Excessive Antibiotics

Antibiotic needed, but prescribed for longer than necessary



Avoidable Fluoroquinolones

Antibiotic needed, but safer alternative exists



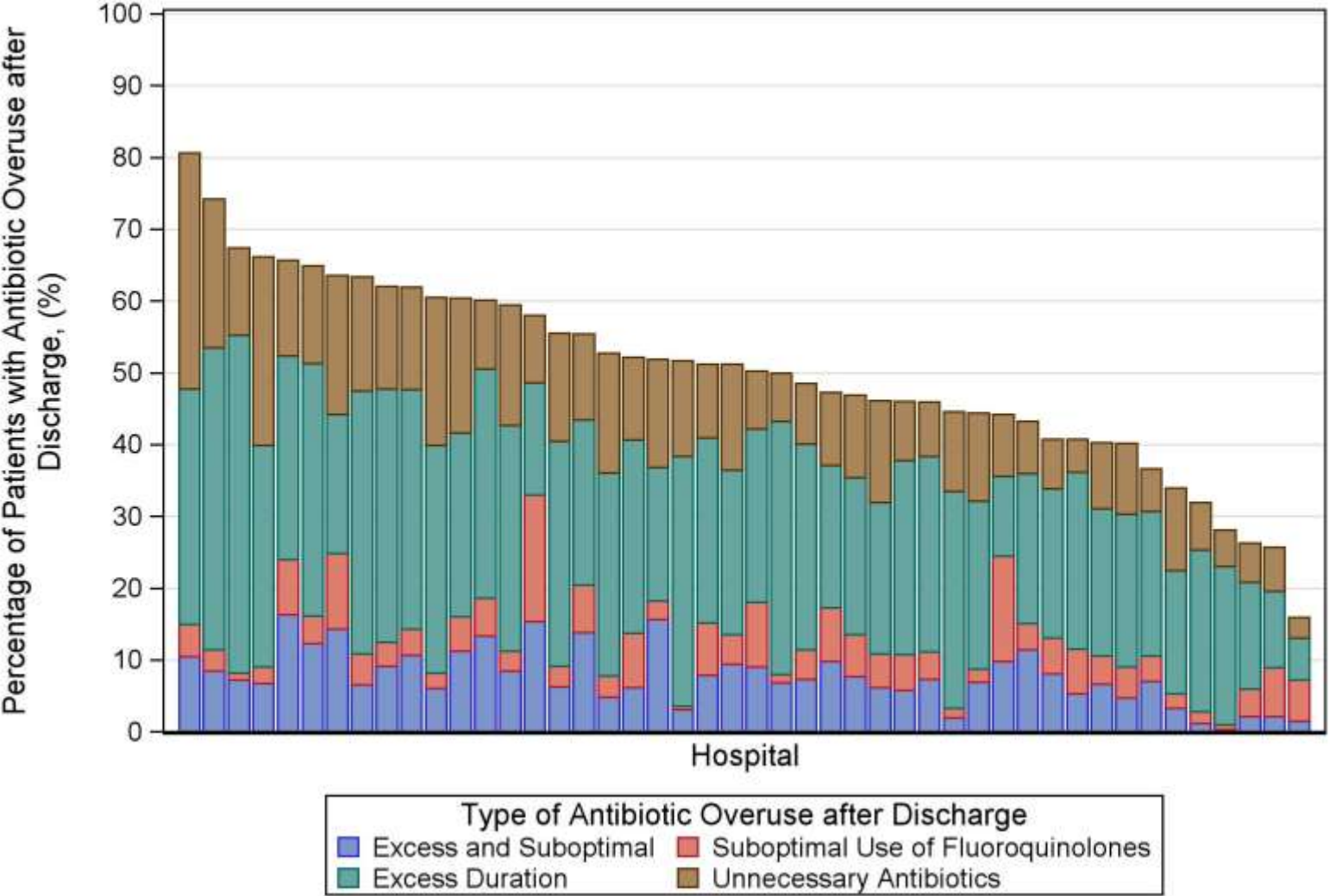
57% had antibiotic
overuse at discharge



39% had antibiotic
overuse at discharge

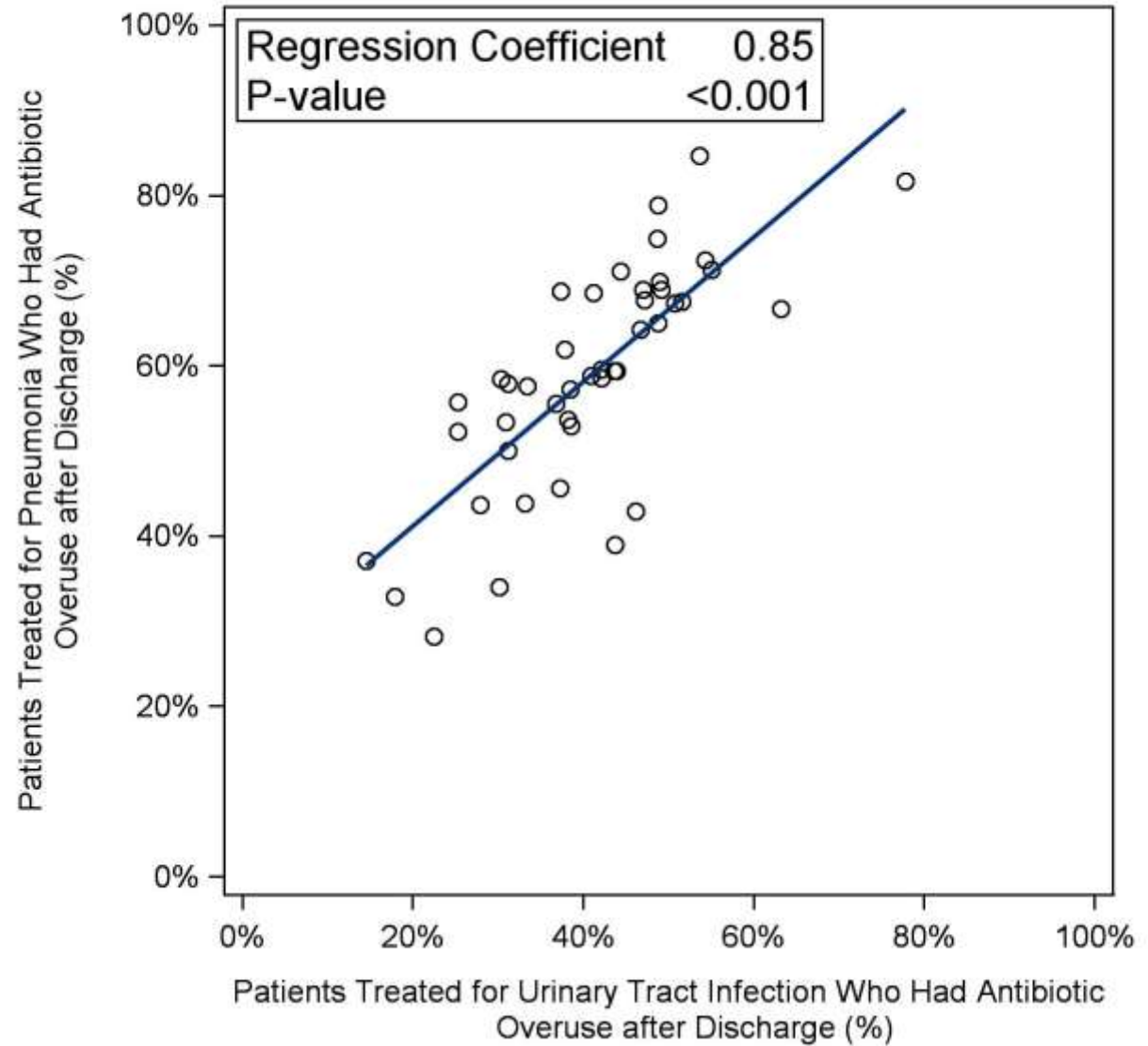
5-FOLD
VARIATION
ACROSS
HOSPITALS


Figure 1. Antibiotic Overuse after Discharge in Patients Treated for Pneumonia or Urinary Tract Infection, by Hospital, (N=46 hospitals)



STRONGLY
CORRELATED
ACROSS
CONDITIONS

Figure 2. Antibiotic Overuse after Discharge in Patients Treated for UTI vs. Patients Treated for Pneumonia, by Hospital, (N=44 hospitals)





High-Yield
Antibiotic Stewardship
Moment #2

Hospital
Discharge

THINK ABOUT 4 THINGS AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

1) Can antibiotics be stopped?

Infection no longer most likely diagnosis

Course has already been finished inpatient

THINK ABOUT 4 THINGS AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

- 1) Can antibiotics be stopped? If no,
- 2) Is the preferred agent being used?
 - 1) Narrow spectrum when able
 - 2) Avoid fluoroquinolones when able

THINK ABOUT 4 THINGS AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

- 1) Can antibiotics be stopped? If no,
- 2) Is the preferred agent being used?
- 3) What's the shortest effective duration?

E.g., 3-5 days for most patients with CAP; 3-5 days for uncomplicated UTI

THINK ABOUT 4 THINGS AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

- 1) Can antibiotics be stopped? If no:
- 2) Is the preferred agent being used?
- 3) What's the shortest effective duration?
- 4) Is the dose, indication, total planned duration (with start/stop dates) in discharge summary?

Summary

1. Antibiotics can often be stopped at hospital discharge
2. If prescribing antibiotics, make sure to assess:
necessity, duration, antibiotic selection
3. Documentation key to aiding communication

CONCLUSIONS

As hospitalists we have a key role in antibiotic stewardship

Help fight antibiotic resistance AND improve patient outcomes

Even with sepsis metrics, we have high-yield opportunities for improvement

Not treating asymptomatic bacteriuria


Including stable delirium (i.e., those without sepsis)

Pausing to think about antibiotics at discharge

Stop unnecessary (e.g., now know it's ASB)

Shortest effective duration (e.g., 3-5 days for CAP)

Safest, narrowest spectrum (avoid fluoroquinolones when able)



Please take a
moment to answer
the poll questions.



Questions?

Keep In Touch!

•••
@ValerieVaughnMD

valerie.vaughn@hsc.utah.edu

Megantre@med.umich.edu