



More than

**2 million**

illnesses  
and

**23,000**

deaths occur each year due to  
antibiotic resistance<sup>1</sup>



**47 million**

unnecessary outpatient antibiotics  
are prescribed each year<sup>2</sup>



Outpatient antibiotic stewardship  
programs meet improvement  
activity requirements for the  
Merit-based Incentive  
Payment System (MIPS)<sup>3</sup>

# Join the Telligen Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative for Outpatient Healthcare



## The Situation

The headlines are meant to be scary: *Superbugs. Crisis. The End of Antibiotics*. Concerns about the rise of antibiotic resistance cross federal, state, academic and industry lines. But how do outpatient healthcare providers translate this grave concern into action? And what resources are available to outpatient providers to help face this threat?

**Antibiotic stewardship programs** harness multidisciplinary teams and a strategic approach to monitor, reduce and prevent misuse and overuse of antibiotics. **Core Elements of Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship** (Facility Guidelines Checklist: <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/community/improving-prescribing/core-elements/core-outpatient-stewardship.html>) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identify four areas of focus in outpatient settings: *Commitment, Action for Policy and Practice, Tracking and Reporting* and *Education and Expertise*. Specific activities within each focus area will help you integrate antibiotic stewardship standards and principles into your practice.

## Join Us

As a **Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization** (QIN-QIO) for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Telligen can help your outpatient healthcare facility implement its own antibiotic stewardship program.

Participation in the Telligen outpatient antibiotic stewardship initiative not only **improves patient care**, but it also helps your facility **comply with federal quality improvement program requirements**—such as the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) offered through CMS and the Improving Communications and Readmissions (iCARE) program supported through the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program.

## Other Benefits

- **Tailored assistance.** Whether you're securing buy-in from leadership or refining antibiotic tracking and reporting methods, Telligen can help.
- **On-point resources.** Telligen has evaluated the best educational resources for providers and patients and brings them to you.
- **Ongoing education.** Telligen keeps you informed with continuing education and access to subject-matter experts.
- **No-cost quality improvement expertise.** As a QIN-QIO for CMS, Telligen services are provided at no cost to outpatient healthcare providers.
- **Focused on solutions.** In response to the alarming rise of antibiotic-resistant infections, the U.S. White House has called for a 50 percent reduction in inappropriate antibiotic use in outpatient settings by 2020. Telligen offers practical, evidence-based guidance to help get you there.

## The Goal

To measurably improve patient outcomes and reduce microbial resistance in outpatient settings through the adoption of the CDC core elements of outpatient antibiotic stewardship.

# IMPLEMENT Antibiotic Stewardship



## The Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship

**Commitment:** Demonstrate dedication and accountability to optimize antibiotic prescribing and patient safety.

**Action for Policy and Practice:** Implement at least one policy or practice to improve antibiotic prescribing, assess effectiveness and modify as needed.

**Tracking and Reporting:** Monitor antibiotic prescribing practices and offer regular clinician feedback or self-assessment opportunities.

**Education and expertise:** Provide educational resources to clinicians and patients about antibiotic prescribing and ensure access to needed expertise to optimize antibiotic prescribing.

## About the Telligent QIN-QIO

The Telligent Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), supports the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) National Quality Strategy to accomplish better care, smarter spending and better health for people and communities.

Working together within a three-state network, teams in Iowa, Illinois and Colorado work side by side with providers in all settings of care on quality improvement initiatives, while pooling resources and common elements to best serve the needs of beneficiaries, families, caregivers and healthcare providers across the region.

**Colorado** | Andrea Campbell | [andrea.campbell@area-d.hcqis.org](mailto:andrea.campbell@area-d.hcqis.org) | 720-554-1705

**Illinois** | Jenny Winkler | [jennifer.winkler@area-d.hcqis.org](mailto:jennifer.winkler@area-d.hcqis.org) | 630-928-5822

**Iowa** | Lori Parsons | [lori.parsons@area-d.hcqis.org](mailto:lori.parsons@area-d.hcqis.org) | 515-440-8597

**Pharmacy** | Katy Brown | [katy.brown@area-d.hcqis.org](mailto:katy.brown@area-d.hcqis.org) | 515-453-8124

[www.telligentqinqio.com](http://www.telligentqinqio.com)

- 1 Antibiotic Resistance National Summary Data. (n.d.). Retrieved October 7, 2016, from <https://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/pdf/3-2013-508.pdf>
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