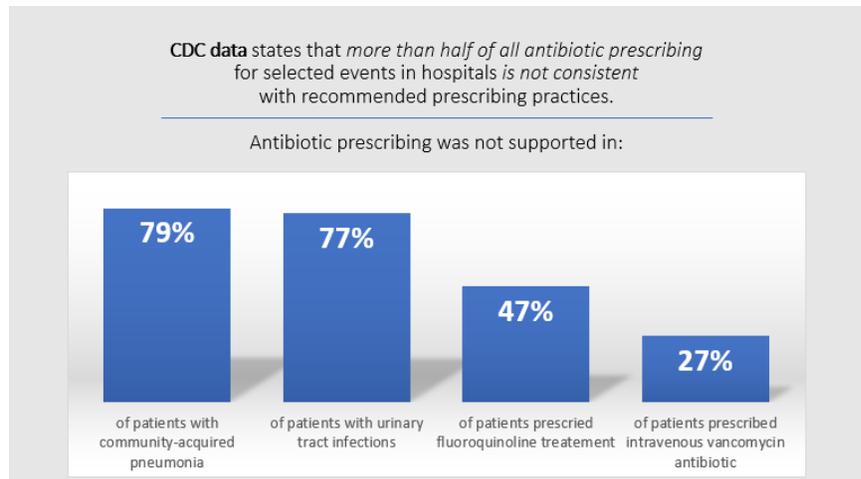


Antibiotic Stewardship for CDI Prevention

What can Infection Preventionists do to support antibiotic stewardship related to preventing CDI?

Develop training

- Educate staff and providers on appropriateness of testing (e.g., when to obtain a urine culture in a patient with a catheter, when to test for *C. difficile*) and the risks of CDI associated with inappropriate testing.
- Work with the antibiotic stewardship team to develop CDI education emphasizing the risks related of antibiotic overuse and which antibiotics are high risk for the development of CDI. Include information on:
 - appropriate duration of antibiotics for common infections,
 - surgical prophylaxis
 - inappropriate extension of antibiotic therapy at hospital discharge.



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and [Infection Control Today](#)

Translate data and communicate

- Communicate real-time CDI trends to administrators, providers, and staff.
- Provide data on hand hygiene adherence to the unit.
- Provide feedback to the clinical providers if there is excessive use of broad-spectrum antibiotics on the unit.

Educate providers and staff

- Support pharmacist-led antibiotic stewardship initiatives (e.g., collaborate on developing clinical algorithms, order sets, and/or order entry alerts to limit inappropriate testing and antibiotic use).
- Ask questions of providers during rounding:
 - Can we shift agents *from a higher-risk antibiotic* (i.e., third-/fourth-generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, carbapenems, and clindamycin)?
 - Can we *shorten the duration* of the antibiotic therapy? General guidelines for duration of therapy:
 - Community acquired pneumonia: 5 days
 - Hospital acquired pneumonia: 7 days
 - Urinary tract infections: 5-7 days
 - Skin and soft tissue infections: 5-7 days
- During staff interactions, discuss why antibiotic stewardship is important, how it supports the organization's CDI prevention program, the importance of staff practice, and the staff's role.

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THE CDI PREVENTION COLLABORATIVE

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