



# ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP

GREATER NEW YORK HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION/UNITED HOSPITAL FUND

GNYHA has partnered with United Hospital Fund (UHF), the New York State Council of Health System Pharmacists, its member hospitals, and other stakeholders on an Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative. A cornerstone of the initiative has been a comprehensive Antimicrobial Stewardship Certificate Program with the goal to provide the knowledge base and mentorship needed to help health care facilities, including hospitals and nursing homes, develop or bring their existing antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASP) to the next level by using a multidisciplinary team approach to ensure the proper use of antibiotics.

## GNYHA EXPERIENCE IN ASP

Since 2015, GNYHA has led the effort to train antibiotic stewardship champions throughout New York State in accordance with the CDC's Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship. Recent ASP-related engagements include:

- **Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative:** Partnered with United Hospital Fund (UHF) and NYS Council of Health Systems Pharmacists (NYSCHP), to deliver accredited ASP certification program to over 200 clinicians from more than 80 hospitals. Engagement focused on reducing *C. difficile* and UTI transmission rates. GNYHA and UHF supported hospital efforts through ongoing coaching calls.
- **Nursing Home Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative:** GNYHA worked with partners including UHF, NYSCHP, NYCDOHMH, and Montefiore to engage a team approach for training nursing home staff as ASP champions. This certification program focuses on reducing *C. difficile* and UTI transmission rates and ensure the proper use of antibiotics. Participating clinicians were required to gain institutional commitment and assess their current ASP practices. The latest ASP for nursing homes engagement launched in June 2017 and included over 45 nursing home facilities.
- **NYS Partnership for Patients ASP Initiative:** As part of NYSPFP's Infection Prevention Initiatives, GNYHA, in partnership with HANYS, GNYHA supports hospitals to implement a three-phased rapid cycle improvement project centered on ASP. Engagement focuses on reducing hospital multi-drug resistant organism (MDRO) infection rate, focusing on MRSA and *C. difficile* by 20% by September 2018 from a 2015 baseline.
- **Antibiotic Use and Resistance Reporting Survey:** On behalf of NYS Department of Health, GNYHA worked with members to survey hospital challenges and readiness to antibiotic use and resistance reporting to the CDC.

## FUTURE STATE OF ASP

With a growing network of ASP champions and expertise, GNYHA aims to extend ASP projects to target specialized populations and areas of transition, as well as increase engagements across care settings. In 2018, GNYHA will extend further programming to Long Term Care facilities and continue to serve as a leader in coordinating ASP activities across multiple stakeholders in the region and nationwide.

## BEST PRACTICES

The CDC developed the *Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs* to highlight best practices in ASP, including:

- **Leadership Commitment:** Dedicate necessary human, financial, and technology resources.
- **Accountability:** Appoint a single leader to be responsible for program outcomes.
- **Drug Expertise:** Appoint a single pharmacist leader to be responsible for improving antibiotic use.
- **Action:** Implement at least one recommended action (i.e., "antibiotic time out" after 48 hours).
- **Tracking:** Monitor antibiotic prescribing and resistance patterns.
- **Reporting:** Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to relevant staff.
- **Education:** Educate clinicians on resistance and optimal prescribing.

The Core Elements are available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/healthcare/implementation/core-elements.html>.

