



Division of Laboratory Systems

The Role of the Laboratory in Diagnostic and Antibiotic Stewardship

Introduction

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- Diagnostic stewardship focuses on testing and is defined as ordering the right tests for the right patient at the right time to inform optimal clinical care.
- The goal is to improve the entire diagnostic process from test ordering to test performance to reporting the test results

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- Diagnostic Stewardship Principles can be used throughout all areas of the clinical laboratory, such as but not limited to chemistry, hematology, blood banking and serology
- Diagnostic Stewardship relies on creating multidisciplinary partnerships to include clinicians, hospital administration and services, laboratory professionals and patients so that tests are:
 - Ordered appropriately
 - Collected correctly
 - Results understood by clinicians and patients
 - Treatment instituted as necessary

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- Diagnostic Stewardship is now considered an important part of Antibiotic Stewardship and the diagnosis and treatment of Infectious diseases is often used as an example of how diagnostic stewardship can work to improve timely and accurate diagnosis and treatment.
- In the presentations that follow we will further define and give examples of antibiotic and diagnostic stewardship in action.

- Dr. Daniel Diekema- Diagnostic Stewardship to Improve Antibiotic Stewardship
 - Daniel Diekema, MD, D(ABMM) Director of Division of Infectious Diseases in Department of Medicine at Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine and Professor of Internal Medicine (Emeritus) University of Iowa College of Medicine

- Mr. Jake D. Bunn, The Adult Blood Culture Contamination (BCC) National Patient Safety Measure

- Mr. Jake D. Bunn MBA, MLS(ASCP) Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Quality and Safety Systems Branch, Division of Laboratory Systems Center for Laboratory Systems and Response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Questions to CLIAC

1. Following the successful implementation of Antibiotic Stewardship programs, what are some of the benefits/challenges to developing a separate Diagnostic Stewardship program to support and educate providers as they order laboratory tests or receive test results with guideline-based interpretation?
2. How can clinical outcomes studies that include laboratory professionals and laboratory data be encouraged to inform best practice guidelines upon which diagnostic stewardship interventions can be based or tested?
3. What capabilities are needed to successfully improve the ease of use of the Electronic Health Information system in deploying Diagnostic Stewardship strategies such as guideline-based nudges or computerized decision support to educate providers as they order laboratory tests or receive test results with guideline-based interpretation?



For more information, contact CDC

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