Value of Effective Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS)

What is AMS?

A multi-disciplinary approach designed to optimise the use of antimicrobials, improve patient outcomes, reduce the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and hospital-acquired infections, and decrease healthcare costs¹

Why is AMS needed?

Annually, AMR is estimated to be contributing to:^{2,3}





Measuring the clinical and economic benefits of AMS



Healthcare costs encompass clinical parameters, such as length of stay and mortality, as well as economic costs of antimicrobials.⁷



Challenges to introducing AMS

- Initial cost/investment⁶
- Difficulties in quantifying/qualifying the effectiveness of AMS and its financial evaluation^{5,8}
- Integration and acceptance by hospital personnel¹
- Lack of recognition of the value of AMS¹
- There has been a lack of support at policy level, however, the WHO National Action Plan process is working to ensure governments take action^{9,10}



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