



# Implementing Leading Practices in Antimicrobial Stewardship



Each year, **2 million** people become infected with bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics in the United States.

Approximately **23,000** people die annually as a direct result of infections that cannot be treated effectively with available antibiotics.



## 2007

Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the Society of Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) publish first AS guidelines.



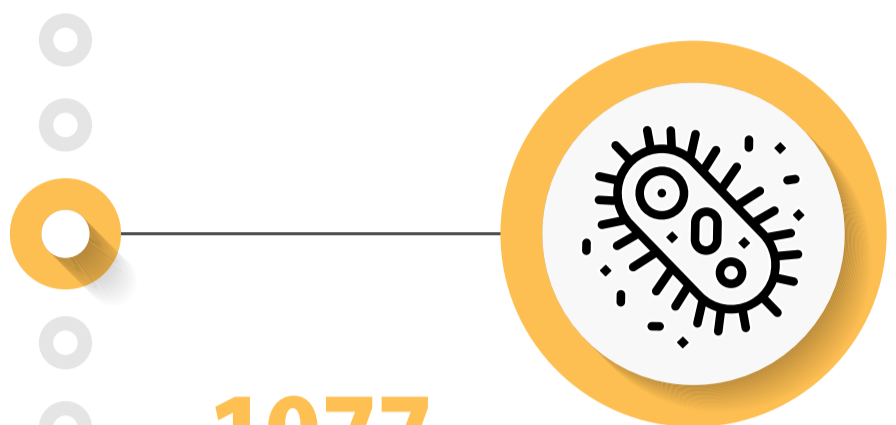
## 2016-2017

The Joint Commission publishes standards, effective January 2017, requiring hospitals and skilled nursing facilities to implement AS programs.



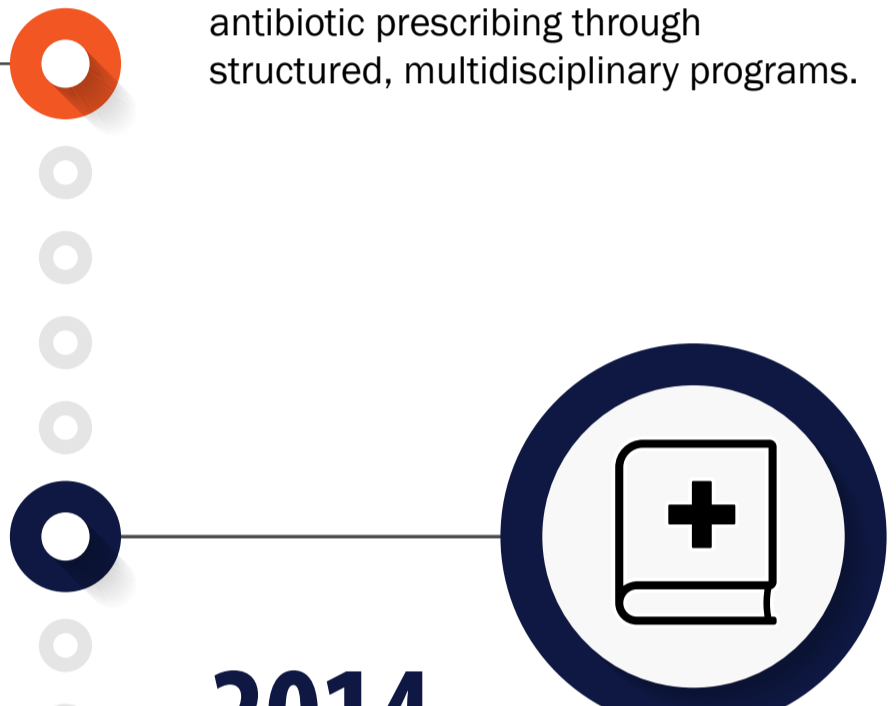
## 2019

The Joint Commission places greater emphasis on efforts to improve AS and the CDC is updating the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs.



## 1977

Concept of antimicrobial stewardship (AS) begins. AS aims to improve antibiotic prescribing through structured, multidisciplinary programs.



## 2014

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publish Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs.



## 2018

Pew Charitable Trusts and The Joint Commission convene “The Leading Practices in Antimicrobial Stewardship” meeting.

- Two interventions identified during meeting as leading practices that go beyond current guidelines and established practices:
  - **Diagnostic stewardship.** Addresses errors in diagnostic decision making that lead to inappropriate antibiotic prescribing.
  - **Handshake stewardship.** Method of engaging frontline providers on a regular basis for education and discussing AS barriers from clinician’s perspective.
- Days of therapy (or defined daily dose when days of therapy is not possible), *Clostridioides difficile* rates and adherence to facility-specific guidelines identified as preferred measures for assessing AS activities.

To learn more, read the full article “Leading Practices in Antimicrobial Stewardship: Conference Summary” from the July 2019 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* at <https://bit.ly/2WM6yV9>.