Introduction to Diagnostic Stewardship

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DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP

For Optimization of Antimicrobial Therapy



Prof. Ferric C. Fang University of Washington



What is Diagnostic Stewardship?

- Coordinated guidance and interventions to improve appropriate use of microbiological diagnostics to guide therapeutic decisions.
- Diagnostic Stewardship should promote appropriate, timely diagnostic testing, including specimen collection and pathogen identification, and accurate, timely reporting of results to guide patient treatment.

What is Diagnostic Stewardship?

- The appropriate use of laboratory testing to guide patient management in order to optimize clinical outcomes and limit the spread of antimicrobial resistance.
- Not to be confused with the cost-effective use of laboratory tests, which, although part of diagnostic stewardship, is more limited in scope.

Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs)



PCR polymerase chain reaction



Microarray





PNA-FISH peptide-nucleic acid fluorescent in situ hybridization

MALDI-TOF MS

matrix-assisted laser desorption ionizationtime of flight mass spectrometry

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• A randomized trial compared conventional blood culture ID with rapid PCR and PCR plus stewardship

REF: Banerjee et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2015.



- Rapid PCR reduced treatment of contaminants
- Both rapid PCR and PCR plus stewardship shortened the time to antibiotic escalation but only PCR plus stewardship led to more rapid de-escalation

REF: Banerjee et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2015.

Outcome	Control (n = 207)	Rapid Multiplex PCR (n = 198)	Rapid Multiplex PCR + Stewardship (n = 212)	P Value Comparing 3 Groups
Clinical outcome				
Disposition				.12
Home	68 (32.9)	62 (31.3)	78 (36.8)	
Home with outpatient antimicrobial therapy	39 (18.8)	52 (26.3)	38 (17.9)	
Nursing home/skilled nursing facility	63 (30.4)	42 (21.2)	54 (25.5)	
Hospice/comfort care	12 (5.8)	8 (4)	7 (3.3)	
Death	11 (5.3)	11 (5.6)	8 (3.8)	
Length of stay (entire hospitalization), d, median (IQR)	8 (5–15)	8 (5–15)	8 (5–16)	.60
Length of stay (after enrollment), d, median (IQR)	7 (4–12)	6 (4–12)	7 (4–12)	.61
Intensive care unit admission within 14 d after enrollment	16 (7.7)	5 (2.5)	10 (4.7)	.06
Length of stay in intensive care unit (after enrollment), d, median (IQR)	3 (2–4)	2 (1–5)	3 (2–4)	.90
30-day mortality	22 (10.6)	20 (10.1)	18 (8.5)	.74
30-day attributable mortality	7 (3.4)	7 (3.5)	2 (0.9)	.42
30-day readmission for infection with same organism	6 (2.9)	6 (3)	8 (3.8)	.88
Toxicity/adverse drug reaction ^a	3 (1.4)	3 (1.5)	2 (0.9)	.82
Microbiologic outcomes				
Blood culture clearance within 3 d after enrollment	147 (71)	131 (66.2)	146 (68.9)	.79
Acquisition of <i>Clostridium difficile</i> or multidrug-resistant organisms ^b within 30 days after enrollment	15 (7.2)	16 (8.1)	21 (9.9)	.62
Cost per hospitalized patient, mean (median)				
Overall hospitalization costs	\$65 450 (\$27 192)	\$66 887 (\$23 935)	\$68 729 (\$29 064)	.78
Test costs	\$5377 (\$2082)	\$5680 (\$2585) ^c	\$5743 (\$2774) ^c	<.001
Antimicrobial costs	\$2194 (\$990)	\$1932 (\$866)	\$1741 (\$890)	.65

• Groups did not differ in mortality, length-of-stay or costs

REF: Banerjee et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2015.



• Rapid diagnosis combined with stewardship improves therapy of both blood culture contaminants and true bacteremia

REF: Bhowmick et al., Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis, 2018.



• Antimicrobial stewardship needs to be delivered in "real time"

REF: Beganovic et al., Open Forum Infect Dis, 2018.



 Rapid diagnosis combined with antimicrobial stewardship is highly cost-effective for patients with suspected bloodstream infections

ABBREVIATIONS: mRDT=molecular rapid diagnostic test, ASP=antimicrobial stewardship program, MALDI-TOF= matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight mass spectrometry, BC-GN=Gram-negative blood culture microarray, PCR=polymerase chain reaction, PNA-FISH= peptide-nucleic acid fluorescent in situ hybridization.

REF: Pliakos et al., Clin Microbiol Rev, 2018.



Rapid diagnosis is more effective when coupled with real-time antimicrobial stewardship

REF: Timbrook et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2017.



• The greatest impact of rapid diagnosis/ASP is with Gram-negative BSI

REF: Timbrook et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2017.



Rapid Diagnostics and Community Acquired Pneumonia



 Antibiotics may be safely avoided in community-acquired pneumonia when serum procalcitonin levels are normal and only respiratory viruses are detected

REF: Gilbert et al., Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis, 2016.

Rapid Diagnostics in Skin and Skin Structure Infections

Variable	Intervention cohort	Comparison cohort	IRR ^a /OR ^b (95% CI)	p value
DDD ^c (mean, SD ^d)	25.6 (26.3)	27.6 (31.5)	0.929	0.454
DOT ^e (days) (mean, SD ^d)	22.0 (21.5)	24.3 (24.1)	0.907	0.007
Length of treatment (days) (mean, SD ^d)	14.1 (12.8)	15.0 (13.7)	0.945 (0.89–1.00)	0.072
Cost (€) (mean, SD ^d)	433.1 (678.8)	533.3 (909.3)	0.783	0.039
LOS ^e (days) (mean, SD ^d)	18.6 (20.9)	20.7 (25.1)	0.898	0.031
Need for surgery (n, %)	63.0 (40.6)	50.0 (32.3)	(0.96-2.24)	0.107
CDI ^f (n, %)	4.0 (2.6)	8.0 (5.2)	(0.73 - 2.2.7) 0.487 (0.24 - 1.00)	0.050
Related mortality (n, %)	1.0 (0.6)	4.0 (2.6)	0.245	0.022
Unrelated mortality (n, %)	6.0 (3.9)	8.0 (5.2)	0.740 (0.24–2.25)	0.595

 Rapid diagnostics improved days of treatment, cost, length of stay, CDI and related mortality, primarily as a result of more timely targeting of antistaphylococcal therapy

REF: Bouza et al., J Microbiol Immunol Infect, 2020.

Rapid Diagnostics in Acute Gastroenteritis



 Rapid diagnostics facilitated more rapid and targeted therapy of bacterial pathogens

REF: Cybulski et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2018.

Diagnostic Stewardship in C. difficile Infections



- Diagnostic tests cannot reliably distinguish colonization from infection
- Testing should be limited to patients meeting appropriate clinical criteria; inappropriate testing will lead to unnecessary treatment of colonized patients

Diagnostic Stewardship in Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections



 An educational intervention with audit and feedback reduced inappropriate urine culture orders and institutional CAUTI rates without an adverse clinical impact

REF: Luu et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2020.

Diagnostics-Guided Antibiotic Treatment

Odds Ratio (95% CI)

Overall	+	0.89 (0.80, 0.99)
Subgroups by sepsis 3 definition	{	
Meeting sepsis 3 definitio	n 	0.86 (0.76 to 0.98)
Not meeting sepsis 3 defi	nition -	0.96 (0.78 to 1.19)
Subgroups by organ failure		
SOFA 0-6	+	0.85 (0.66, 1.10)
SOFA 7-9		0.92 (0.73, 1.17)
SOFA >10		0.86 (0.72, 1.01)
No septic shock	-4-	0.97 (0.73, 1.28)
Septic shock	-	0.89 (0.79, 1.00)
No respiratory failure	-+ +	0.83 (0.64, 1.08)
Respiratory failure	-	0.89 (0.79, 1.00)
No Renal failure		0.86 (0.74, 1.00)
Renal failure	+	0.96 (0.83, 1.11)
Subgroups by type of infection		
Respiratory	-+	0.92 (0.79, 1.07)
Urinary	—	0.59 (0.30, 1.16)
Abdominal	-+-	0.87 (0.68, 1.11)
Skin / soft tissue	•	0.94 (0.43, 2.06)
CNS		0.61 (0.11, 3.46)
Udds Ratio (95% CI) 0.1	1	г 10
PCT use	is associated PCT use is	s associated
with lov	ver mortality with high	er mortality

 Procalcitonin-guided treatment in the ICU is associated with lower mortality and reduced antibiotic use

REF: Wirz et al., Crit Care, 2018.

Diagnostics-Guided Antibiotic Treatment

	Total (n=577)	Viral infection (n=435)	Bacterial infection (n=71)	Inconclusive (n=71)	p value*
Mean age, months	21 (16)	20 (16)	24 (17)	25 (17)	0.044
Male sex	324 (56%)	246 (57%)	36 (51%)	42 (59%)	0.370
Mean maximal temperature, °C	39.4 (0.8)	39.3 (0.8)	39.7 (0.8)	39·4 <mark>(</mark> 0·9)	<0.0001
Mean duration of symptoms, days†	2.8 (1.7)	2.7 (1.7)	3.0 (1.8)	2.7 (1.8)	0.277
Hospital admission	316 (55%)	219 (50%)	59 (83%)	38 (54%)	<0.0001
Median time in hospital, days	3 (2-4)	3 (2-4)	4 (3–5)	3 (3-5)	<0.0001
Antibiotic treatment prescribed	224 (39%)	100 (23%)	71 (100%)	53 (75%)	<0.0001



- Rapid biomarker assays may differentiate bacterial and viral infections
- This platform measures TRAIL, IP-10 and CRP
- Negative predictive value for bacterial infections in children aged 2-60 mos. was 97.8%

REF: Van Houten et al., Lancet Infect Dis, 2017.

Diagnostics-Guided Antibiotic Treatment

Type of Pneumonia	Studies, No.	Sensitivity (95% CI), %	Specificity (95% Cl), %	Positive LR (95% Cl)	Negative LR (95% CI)	DOR (95% CI)	PPV, %	NPV, %
All	22	70.9 (58.8–80.6)	90.3 (86.1–93.3)	7.28 (5.3–10.1)	0.32 (0.22-0.46)	24.6 (13.6–375)	44.8	96.5
CAP/HCAP	4	85.0 (59.7–95.6)	92.1 (81.5-96.9)	10.8 (5.1–23.0)	0.16 (0.06-0.48)	66.4 (28.5–154.6)	56.8	98.1
VAP	5	40.3 (17.4–68.4)	93.7 (77.1–98.4)	6.34 (1.94–20.8)	0.63 (0.42–0.98)	9.96 (2.63–37.6)	35.7	94.8

 Nasal screening tests have 95-98% negative predictive value for ruling-out MRSA pneumonia

REF: Parente et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2018.

CONCLUSIONS

• ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP:

"Use the right drug at the right time at the right dose for the right duration."

• DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP:

"Obtain the right test in the right patient in order to use the right drug at the right time at the right dose for the right duration."



REF: Messacar et al. J Clin Microbiol, 2017.

Introduction to Diagnostic Stewardship: Clinical Antimicrobial Stewardship Perspective



Katherine K. Perez, PharmD, BCIDP Clinical Specialist in Infectious Diseases



Diagnostic Stewardship

- Diagnostic Stewardship involves modifying the process of ordering, performing, and reporting diagnostic tests to improve the treatment of infections
 - Detection & identification
 - Clinical chemistry
 - Imaging
 - Pharmacokinetic/ pharmacodynamics
- Antibiotic use opportunities:
 - Inappropriate use or interpretation of microbiology
 - Lack of microbiology confirmed diagnosis
 - Failure to submit appropriate specimens for culture
 - Misuse of microbiology resources
 - Overreliance on empiric coverage regardless of microbiology results



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Essential Antimicrobial Stewardship Activities in the Microbiology Laboratory

- Provide timely, reliable, and reproducible identification and antimicrobial susceptibility results
- Optimize communication of critical test result values and alert systems
- Collaborate with ID pharmacists and physicians on updating methods for susceptibility testing
- Participate in the development, revise, and publicize antibiogram reports consistent with CLSI standards
- Provide guidance for adequate specimen collection

Selective Reporting

Antimicrobial Stewardship in the Microbiology Laboratory: Impact of Selective Susceptibility Reporting on Ciprofloxacin Utilization and Susceptibility of Gram-Negative Isolates to Ciprofloxacin in a Hospital Setting

<u>Intervention</u>: Laboratory suppressed ciprofloxacin susceptibility to Enterobacteriaceae when there was susceptibility to other antibiotics on the Gram-negative panel

Outcome	Pre-intervention (2008-2010)	Intervention (2011-2015)	Increase in use of amoxicillin-clavulanate was
Ciprofloxacin utilization (DDD/1000 patient days)	87 (95% Cl, 83.7 to 91.2)	39 (95% Cl, 35 to 44)	noted at 6 months and was sustained <i>E. coli</i> susceptibility to ciprofloxacin improved significantly 12 months later (p <0.05)



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Behavioral Intervention

Microbiology Comment Nudge Improves Pneumonia Prescribing

<u>Intervention</u>: Respiratory cultures with no dominant organism growth and no *Pseudomonas* spp. or *Staphylococcus aureus* were reported by the clinical microbiology laboratory as:

<u>Pre-Intervention Reporting:</u> "Commensal respiratory flora only" Intervention Reporting: "Commensal respiratory flora only: No *S. aureus*/MRSA or *P. aeruginosa*"

<u>Objective</u>: De-escalation or discontinuation of anti-MRSA or anti-pseudomonal therapy

<u>Design</u>: quasi-experimental study conducted over 2 study periods: 6 month pre-intervention (Aug 2015 - Jan 2016) and 6 months following implementation of the intervention (Aug 2016 – Jan 2017)

<u>Outcome</u>	Pre-intervention Intervention (n=105) (n=105)		P-value	•
De-escalation or discontinuation	39%	73%	<0.001	•
Acute kidney injury	31%	14%	0.003	•
All-cause mortality	30%	18%	0.052	

- 5.5-fold increased odds of deescalation (95% CI, 2.8-10.7)
- Duration of anti-MRSA and antipseudomonal therapy was reduced from 7 days to 5 days (p<0.001)
- No difference in ICU or hospital LOS

Race Against Turnaround Time

- Recent explosion of FDA-approved rapid diagnostic test (RDT) methodologies for infectious diseases
 - Role of RDT and biomarkers is recognized as a key recommendation for antimicrobial stewardship by the IDSA
- Emerging methods include a large variety of technologies
 - Complexity, price, speed, and ability to identify single or multiple pathogens vary greatly
- Major focus on disease states & pathogens associated with increased morbidity, mortality, & excessive healthcare costs
 - Including: bloodstream infections, respiratory tract infections, GI infections; influenza virus, MRSA, vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* spp. (VRE), *Clostridium difficile*, extended-spectrum β-lactamase (ESBL)- producing *Klebsiella* spp., carbapenemase-producing organisms, *M. tuberculosis*, and *Candida* spp.

Organism Identification and Initiation of Targeted Antimicrobial Therapy



This is an illustration of general differences between the two methods. These timelines are hypothetical and may not occur in clinical practice

Collaboration & Decision Making



Perez KK, et al. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2013 Sep;137(9):1247-54

Examples of Process and Clinical Outcomes for Stewardship

Studies evaluating MALDI-TOF MS as part of antimicrobial stewardship								
	Nagel et al	Huang et al	Wenzler et al	Perez et al	Lockwood et al	Beganovic et al		
Organisms/ Site of Infection	Coagulase- negative Staph BSI	Bacteria and yeast BSI	Acinetobacter baumannii LRTI	Gram-negative BSI	Gram-negative BSI	Bacterial BSI		
Time to:	Time to:							
Identification	83.4 to 57 hrs*	84 to 55.9 hrs*	83 to 75 hrs*	36.6 to 11 hrs*º	32 to 6.5 hrs*º	MALDI-TOF MS during both study periods		
Effective Antibiotics	37.7 to 23 hrs	30.1 to 20.4 hrs*	77.7 to 36.6 hrs*	73 to 36.5 hrs* Not reported		16.8 vs 12 hrs		
Optimal Antibiotics	58.7 to 34 hrs*	90.3 to 47.3 hrs*	Not reported	75 to 29 hrs*	71 to 30 hrs*	75 to 43 hrs*		
ICU LOS (d)	28 vs 11	14.9 vs 11.4*	17 vs 19	7.3 to 6.3	2.3 to 3.7	4 .3 vs 1.2*		
Hospital LOS (d)	14 vs 15	14.2 vs 11.4	13 vs 11*	11.9 vs 9.3*	6.4 vs 6.4	15 vs 9*		
Mortality	21.7% vs 3.1%*	20.3% vs 14.5%*	20% vs 25%	10.7% vs 5.6% 9.4% vs 4.9%		Not reported		
Hospital costs per inpatient	Not reported	Not reported	\$49,402 vs \$42,872	\$45,709 vs \$26,126*	\$18,644 vs \$15,234*	\$28,677 vs \$15,784*		

Perez KK et al. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2013;137:1247-54. Huang AM et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2013;57:1237-45. Wenzler E et al. Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis. 2016;84(1):63-68. Nagel JL et al. J Clin Microbiol. 2014;52(8):2849-54. Lockwood AM, et al. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2016;37(4):425-32. Beganovic M, et al. J Clin Micro. 2017;55(5):1437-45. *Statistically significant p≤ 0.05 ° Direct from positive blood culture bottles BSI: bloodstream infection LTRI: lower respiratory tract infection

Directing Antibacterial Therapy for Resistant Bacteria – Stewardship Interventions

Table 2 Antimicrobial stewardship intervent	ions.			
Intervention	Number of recommendat	ions at each timepoint		
	Organism identification via MALDI-TOF MS and reported to ID pharmacist ($n = 65$)	Antimicrobial susceptibility results reported to ID pharmacist $(n = 71)$	Total accepted (%)	
Escalation or initiation of antibiotic therapy	33	30	61/63 (96.8)	
Narrowed and/or tailored treatment for isolated pathogen	3	18	18/21 (85.7)	
Discontinued antibiotics not targeting isolated pathogen	21	12	26/32 (81.3)	
Optimized regimen based on administration or pharmacokinetics & pharmacodynamics	8	11	19/20 (95)	
Accepted/Total (%)			124/136 (91.2)	

- Factors: patient history, antibiotic exposures, and risk factors for MDR or ESBL-producing Gram-negative pathogens
 - Pre-intervention arm: 80.9 hrs vs Intervention arm: 23.2 hrs

Laboratory + ASP – Outcomes Measured

Study	Laboratory intervention	ASP intervention	Impact on time to laboratory results	Clinical impact
Forrest, et al. 2008	Rapid ID of enterococci (PNA FISH from positive blood culture bottle (BCx)	ASP daily follow-up	Final microbiology results 3 and 2.3 days earlier for <i>E.</i> <i>faecalis</i> and <i>E. faecium</i> infections, respectively	Significant reduction in 30-day all-cause mortality for <i>E. faecium</i> infection; faster time to appropriate antibiotics for <i>E. faecium</i> infections
Walker, et al. 2016	Rapid ID of Gram-negative organisms (multiplex PCR panel) from positive BCx	ASP pharmacist intervention	Organism ID reported 34 h earlier	Shorter length of ICU stay; significant reduction in 30-day all-cause mortality
Bauer, et al. 2010	Rapid ID of staphylococci with <i>mecA</i> detection (multiplex PCR panel) from positive BCx	ASP pharmacist intervention	Time to result not reported	Decreased overall hospital costs by ~\$21,000 per patient; increased rate of antibiotic de- escalation
Sango, et al. 2013	Rapid ID of enterococci and <i>vanA/vanB</i> detection (multiplex PCR panel) from positive BCx	ASP intervention	AST result for vancomycin resistance reported 48 h earlier	Effective therapy started 23 h earlier; shorter length of hospital stay; decreased overall hospital costs by ~\$58,000 per patient
Neuner, et al. 2016	Rapid ID and AST (multiplex PCR panel) for Gram-positives from positive BCx	ASP pharmacist intervention	Not reported	Decreased time to antimicrobial switch by 27 hr, time to de-escalation by 29 hr
Smith, et al. 2017	MRSA nasal PCR assay in ICU patients with nosocomial pneumonia	ASP daily follow up	Institutional protocol	Reduction of vancomycin by 2.1 days of therapy per patient; \$108 per patient cost avoidance (vancomycin, drug monitoring, and surveillance testing)
Brumley, et al. 2016	Institutional CDI testing and surveillance	Real-time ASP team follow up with CDI management best practices	NA	Increased compliance with CDI management bundle (45% to 81%), improved appropriate CDI therapy (64% to 82%)

Forrest GN, et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2008;52:3558-3563. Walker T, et al. J Clin Microbiol. 2016;54:1789-1796. Smith MN, et al. J Crit Care. 2017;38:168-71. Brumley PE, et al. J Antimicrob Chemother. 2016;71:836-40.

Bauer KA, et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2010;51:1074-1080. Sango A, et al. J Clin Microbiol. 2013;51:4008-4011 Neuner EA, et al. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2016;37:1361-1366.

RDT + ASP Intervention

Randomized Trial of Rapid Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction-Based Blood Culture Identification and Susceptibility Testing

<u>Intervention</u>: Patients with positive blood cultures were randomized to standard processing, rmPCR (FilmArray Blood Culture ID Panel) results reported with template comments, or rmPCR results reported with template comments and real-time audit and feedback of antimicrobial therapy by the stewardship team

All groups (control, rmPCR, & rmPCR+ASP): MALDI-TOF MS for pathogen identification of colonies isolates from positive blood cultures		Timeline, hours (h) 0 Control (n = 169) Rapid multiplex PCR (n = 147)		12	24	36 🛛	48 AST	60	72
rmPCR assay detects Gram-positive bacteria, Gram- negative bacteria, Candida spp., mecA, vanA/B, and KPC directly from positive blood culture bottle specimens (no growth required)		Rapid multiplex PCR + stewardship (n = 165)		\ ♥			AST		
		Antimicrobial stewardship oversight in rmPCR+stewardship group Organism identification AST Phenotypic antimicrobial susceptibility report Phenotypic antimicrobial sus						Escalation	
<u>Outcome from time of</u> <u>Gram-stain</u>	Control (n=207)	rmPCR (n=198)	rmPCR (n=198)		rmPCR + ASP (n=212)			P-value	
Time to identification	22 h		1.3	3 h	h			<0.0001	
Time to de-escalation (n=344)	34 h	38 h		27 h			<0.0001		
Time to escalation (n=122)	24 h	24 h 6 h		5 h			0.04		
 Time to first appropriate de-escalation, escalation was shortest with the ASP review. Increased use of narrow spectrum agents, earlier de-escalation for Gram-positive infections Decreased the potential for treatment of contaminated blood cultures 				•	No diff Antimi require clinical	erence crobial s ed to ful impact	in LOS, r stewards ly realize of RDTs	nortality ship inte e the pot	, or cost rvention is cential

The Future State

Applying Rapid Whole-Genome Sequencing to Predict Phenotypic Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Results among Carbapenem-Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Clinical Isolates

Timeline comparing availability of organism identification and AST testing along with actual and anticipated antibiotic treatment decisions using standard approaches versus live-streaming whole genome sequencing data generated from Nanopore sequencing and assembly

Case: 64 year old liver transplant recipient with an NDM-1, CTX-M-15, and CMY-4 producing *Klebsiella pneumoniae* bacteremia



First Things First...

- Collaborate with the clinical microbiology laboratory director(s) to identify the most (or "A") useful clinical laboratory result for your institution based on pathogen prevalence and/or targeted disease state
- Grab someone from finance and quantify the cost burden based on frequency and hospital costs (even a rough estimate is useful!)
- Take inventory of resources available to support real-time RDT reporting and expectations
 - Workflow changes for the microbiology staff (even if only during an electronic surveillance alert validation time frame)
 - Workflow changes to the ASP team using the frequency data and the lab's reporting workflow, the ID pharmacist should be able to forecast a patients/week fairly accurately
- Changing culture trust between clinicians and the ASP members is critical
 - Never underestimate the power of a "no-brainer" intervention!

Implementation & Evaluation

- Communication plan for result reporting from microbiology laboratory to the treating team by way of the ASP should be formally established
 - Consider a pilot period (3-6 months) this will give everyone involved a better idea of the proposed resources are sufficient and time to work out any unknowns
- Close working relationship between the ASP team and microbiology laboratory necessary to keep everyone in the loop on workflow issues, even when it doesn't seem "necessary"
 - The microbiology laboratory technologists & the ASP pharmacist both play a vital role in communicating education for hospital providers to familiarize them with RDT and how it might impact patient outcomes... no one wants to be surprised!

Provider Education

- Diagnostic methodology used
- Indications for testing in the institution
- Available alternative testing
- Advantages and limitations
- Associated costs
- Turnaround time
- Presentation of report and guidance on interpretation
- ASP intervention for optimal time to appropriate antibiotics

Post-Implementation

- Showcase the work (number of patients, number of interventions, time to appropriate antibiotics, etc.) & the "big picture" vision –
 - Start with the cost burden of what you've improved
 - Keep documentation as consistent as possible
 - Make it a "deal" & get in front of as many stakeholders as possible!
- Stay focused and methodical with any roll out, remain vigilant and critical of the data – allows for process improvement
- Prepare "how-to" materials, educational references, deliver workshops, in-services
 - Creates legacy for the program
 - Keeps the ASP team and microbiology lab staff engaged and friendly

Introduction to Diagnostic Stewardship

Questions and Comments



Speaker

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