

Community pharmacy quality scheme 2020-22: antimicrobial stewardship initiatives

Recommendations for community pharmacy

- **Ensure community pharmacy teams act as antimicrobial stewards and promote antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention and control**
 - Ensure all patient-facing community pharmacy staff that provide advice on medicines or healthcare in the pharmacy are aware of the principles and can practice effective antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) and infection prevention and control (IPC).
 - Pharmacy teams should promote AMS by pledging to be Antibiotic Guardians and should have an awareness of their current antibiotic formulary and know how to access it.
- **Encourage patients to complete the TARGET antibiotic checklist**
 - The TARGET antibiotic checklist was designed for patients to complete whilst waiting for their prescription to be dispensed enabling the pharmacy team to initiate AMS conversations and actions. The TARGET antibiotic checklist is available digitally and translated in multiple languages. In addition, the managing common infection (self-care) leaflets are also available digitally and translated in multiple languages. These resources can be used for patients accessing services remotely. Pharmacy staff are asking patients the questions in the patient section which may inhibit embedding the use of the antibiotic checklist into day-to-day practice. We recommend asking patients to complete it themselves to promote efficiency and aid uptake of use.
- **Utilise TARGET toolkit resources to support awareness and education**
 - There are a range of TARGET resources that have been developed and are now available for use in community pharmacy. The TARGET antibiotics hub contains a toolkit that aims to help influence healthcare professionals and patients' personal attitudes, social norms and perceived barriers to optimal antibiotic prescribing. It includes resources that can each be used to support prescribers' and patients' responsible antibiotic use.
 - The resources for use in community pharmacy include:
 - [How to use pharmacy resources](#) (containing a [community pharmacy flowchart](#))
 - [TARGET Antibiotic Checklist](#)
 - [Community pharmacy counselling checklist](#)
 - [UTI Women Under 65 Leaflet for community pharmacies](#)
 - [RTI leaflet for community pharmacies](#)
 - [Other TARGET leaflets that can be used in community pharmacy](#)
 - Pharmacy teams should continue to educate patients on AMR and the use of antibiotics using the TARGET resources and distribute the patient information leaflets to promote patient recall of advice given.
 - The leaflets should be used to support patients with antibiotic prescriptions, patients referred via the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) and walk-in patients for minor illnesses and become part of day-to-day practice.
- **Promote influenza vaccinations**
 - Pharmacy teams should continue to promote vaccinations to protect patients whilst simultaneously contributing to reducing the prevalence of AMR. Community pharmacy teams can use completed Antibiotic Checklists to identify patients for influenza and COVID-19 vaccination.