

RPS Antimicrobial Stewardship Training

*A behaviour change and quality
improvement workforce intervention*

Background

In response to the urgent need for action to tackle the effects of antimicrobial resistance on the healthcare system, we are delivering training to support pharmacists to drive the Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) agenda in their workplaces.

This training supports key actions from the UK AMR 5-year action plan (2019-2024) for optimising antimicrobial use in humans.

Strengthen stewardship programmes

Promote evidence-based guidance and interventions

Supports learners to contribute to system-wide interventions

Supports learners to test and implement behaviour change interventions

Builds a local and regional evidence base with learner projects from different levels and contexts

This training will help pharmacists from primary and secondary care across England to develop their practice using RPS frameworks, knowledge guides and assessments.



About the training

We have worked with local, regional and national AMS experts from across the profession to develop a training programme to build knowledge and skills in AMS.

Through 1:1 feedback and peer support, learners will be able to apply this learning in their day-to-day practice and undertake an improvement project that contributes to the UK Antimicrobial Stewardship plan.

Aims

This training aims to:

- Help learners develop core Antimicrobial Stewardship knowledge and skills that are applicable across settings
- Support learners to become confident in leading Antimicrobial Stewardship interventions
- Provide an opportunity for learners to develop and demonstrate Advanced Practice competencies

Outcomes:

By the end of training, learners will:

1. Be able to outline how AMS strategies can be used to mitigate the risk of AMR in general and in their workplace (APF 1.1,4.1)
2. Be able to assess pharmaceutical practice against the principles of antimicrobial management and make recommendations to improve practice (APF 1.1)
3. Be able to analyse problems and design interventions using behaviour change theory and a systems approach (APF 1.1,1.3)
4. Have led a team-based approach to an improvement intervention in their workplace using PDSA methodology (APF 1.1,1.2,1.4,2.1,2.2,3.4,3.6)

Learning topics

The key areas of focus of this training are around behaviour change and quality improvement. There will be an emphasis on developing these skills through a **series of webinars** and a **workplace improvement project**.

Learners will also develop an individualised learning plan to guide their development throughout the training. This is supported by a self-assessment quiz, a Knowledge and Capability Guide, a discussion board activity, and a library of self-directed learning resources.

Self-directed learning resources

- Antimicrobial Stewardship and Antimicrobial Resistance
- Principles of infection management
- Management of infectious syndromes
- Infections and special populations
- Antimicrobial medicines
- Communication, leadership and management

How are learners supported?



Training webinars

A series of 2 webinars with experts in behavior change, quality improvement and AMS.



Self-directed learning

Online activities and resources available at all times on our Moodle e-learning page to support self-paced learning.



Group learning and support

Learners are allocated a group led by one of our expert Tutors. Join online sessions, learn, network and collaborate as a group.

Further support is available from dedicated Tutors or the RPS, if required.



End of training assessment

A virtual 1-on-1 professional discussion with an AMS expert to review your development and provide you with feedback.

Who is involved?

Tutors

We work with the UKCPA Pharmacy Infection Network to find experienced specialists in Antimicrobial Stewardship who will be on hand to support learners with any queries throughout the training. Learners will meet their Tutor and learner group on the training day, and again during online group sessions. Tutors will be contactable throughout the training to help support learners.

RPS Co-ordinator

A member of the RPS Education team will be on hand throughout the training to support learners with getting started, accessing our tools and resources.

Assessors

The end of programme assessment is a 1:1 professional discussion with one of our AMS assessors, who are all recognised leaders in the field of Antimicrobial Stewardship! They will review the training portfolio and discuss learning over the course of the programme.

Lead Expert



Dr Diane Ashiru-Oredope, Lead AMR Pharmacist at Public Health England is our lead expert for the programme and will ensure that our training programme is up to date, of high quality and aligned to national AMR priorities. She brings a wealth of experience and leadership to the programme.

The workplace

Learners will need to engage peers and other stakeholders in their workplace complete their training activities.

This may include consulting and involving stakeholders for the design and delivery of their improvement project. Collaboration is the key to success with improvement initiatives!

This is a great opportunity for pharmacists to develop their Collaborative Working Relationships and Leadership clusters of the Advanced Pharmacy Framework!

Training outline

Complete online enrolment form

November 2020: Gain access to Moodle

November 2020: Training webinars

A series of 2 webinars covering with presentations and workshops covering key topics in AMS, behaviour change and quality improvement.

Mid-January 2021: Group discussion

- Present your project plan to your group
- Participate in a group discussion and get feedback from your tutor

End of February 2021: Present your achievements

- Present your interim project outcomes to your group
- Participate in a group discussion and get feedback from your tutor

March 2021: End of training assessment

- 1 on 1 discussion with expert via Skype
- Assessment of training portfolio

Confirm enrolment

We will confirm your place and get you started

Online learning activities

Complete a baseline quiz and self-assessment

Devise an individualised learning plan for the training

Access learning resource library and reflect on learning

Discussion board activity

Record portfolio entries in your training portfolio document

Workplace-based activities

Form your QI team. Define your problem, intervention, and plan.

Carry out your plan using a PDSA approach and collect data on the way

Deliver a session in your workplace (e.g. train-the-trainer to support your intervention)

Submit completed training portfolio

Certificate of completion

Improvement projects

Wondering what projects might you be working on? Here are some examples.

Examples of topics	Examples of interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guideline compliance for common infections (e.g. Urinary tract infection, upper respiratory tract infection, community acquired pneumonia)• Long term repeat antimicrobial prescriptions• Time to antibiotics• Inappropriate requests to GPs for antibiotic prescriptions• Share, reuse or disposal of antimicrobials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular feedback of data• Changes to guidelines and procedures• Reporting and benchmarking of data between sites• Implementation of electronic prescribing protocols or functions• Antibiotic checklist implementation• 'Treating Your Infection' leaflets implementation

Testimonials:

"I believe this training programme was a great opportunity that complemented the current antimicrobials rotation I am in. The course provided me with a better understanding to carry out a quality improvement project and being able to recognise the difference between QI and Audit as well as sustaining change. The knowledge and capability guide was a great guide to my learning especially during this rotation which I will continue to use throughout my career. It highlighted my areas of strength and weaknesses in order for me to plan my learning"

"Hugely useful. Really valued input from RPS team and assessors. Also the signposting and networking to other AMS pharmacists was beneficial. Thoroughly enjoyed the training day, especially using data and QI - this learning stays with me most and I am regularly using these new skills"

"This course has really helped me develop my QI skills and has boosted my confidence in AMS. I now feel I am able to identify areas of practice which need improvement and then initiate a project in order to improve this with the methodology taught in this course."

Hear from one of our previous learners, [Katie](#), in her blog describing her experience in completing the training and undertaking her improvement project.

Case studies

Examples of improvement projects undertaken in previous cohorts of the programme:

Title		Novelty within organisation	Outcome
Secondary Care	Indicating indications!	New initiative	Improvement in <i>practice</i> achieved
	Reducing the number of urine dips requested in patients over 65 years to diagnose urinary tract infections in acute medicine	New initiative	Improvement in <i>practice</i> achieved
	Improving prescribing practices in patients with UTI	New initiative	Improvement in <i>practice</i> achieved
	Improving antibiotic prescribing through audit and feedback	New initiative	Improvement in <i>practice</i> achieved
	Improving the quality of antibiotic prescribing at the Royal Marsden	New initiative	Improvement in <i>practice</i> achieved
	The use of clarithromycin in mild to moderate community-acquired pneumonia	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	Improving antimicrobial stewardship in relation to community-acquired pneumonia on respiratory wards	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	Antimicrobial prescribing in community-acquired pneumonia	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	Reducing the time from prescribing to administration of restricted antimicrobials in the inpatient setting	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	Administration of intravenous antibiotics for the management of the acutely infected diabetes foot in the Diabetes and Endocrine Unit	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	Lower urinary tract infections in older people – empirical antibiotic prescribed following NICE/local guidelines	New initiative	Improvement in <i>processes</i> achieved
	The impact of a new antimicrobial drug chart on prescribed antibiotics at 48-72 hours	Builds on existing initiative	Data collection ongoing
Getting level with triazole therapeutic drug monitoring	Builds on existing initiative	Data collection ongoing	
Primary Care	Reducing prescribing of broad-spectrum antibiotics in GP surgeries	New initiative	Alternative approach recommended
	Prescribing variation in primary care: Utilising resources to reduce inappropriate prescribing with a focus on respiratory tract infection	Builds on existing initiative	Alternative approach recommended
	Reducing inappropriate antibiotic prescribing in respiratory infections by improving access to the TARGET 'Treating Your Respiratory Infection' leaflet	New initiative	Data collection ongoing
	High-risk antimicrobial audit and feedback in primary care	New initiative	Data collection ongoing
	Reducing inappropriate prescribing of antibiotic rescue packs for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	New initiative	Data collection ongoing
	Improving prescribing of broad-spectrum antibiotics to reduce the risk of <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection in primary care	New initiative	Data collection ongoing