

AHRQ Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use – Ambulatory Care

We are recruiting pediatric and adult ambulatory clinics to participate in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use, a **free** 12-month program that **seeks to improve antibiotic prescribing**.

Beginning in December 2019, this program combines evidence-based guidance with strategies to address the attitudes, beliefs, and culture that often pose challenges to improving antibiotic prescribing. This program can help you protect your patients from exposure to unneeded antibiotics and their associated side effects, including rashes and *Clostridioides difficile* infections.

Participation in this AHRQ program will help your clinic(s) meet the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) requirements** and can demonstrate compliance with the new **Joint Commission Ambulatory Antimicrobial Stewardship Standard** as many of the concepts are similar. **Continuing education credits** including **Maintenance of Certification (MOC)** for ABIM, ABP, and ABFM will be offered at no charge for participants.

Benefits of participating include:

- Reduce unnecessary antibiotic use and increase appropriate antibiotic use
- Improve patient safety and safety culture
- Enhance teamwork and communication around diagnosis and treatment of infections and antibiotic prescribing in your practice
- Maintain and improve patient and family satisfaction
- Improve workflow, especially during the busy cold and flu season

Eligible Clinics

Clinics that care for children and/or adults and are:

- Primary care clinics
- Urgent care clinics
- Student health clinics
- Community-based health clinics (e.g. Federally Qualified Health Centers or FQHCs)
- Outpatient specialty clinics that provide primary care (e.g., OB/GYN)

How can I learn more?

Attend an informational Webinar:

Date	Time (ET)
September 24	4 p.m.
October 3	3 p.m.
October 15	11 a.m.

Date	Time (ET)
October 30	1 p.m.
November 5	2 p.m.
November 14	2 p.m.

Visit <https://safetyprogram4antibioticstewardship.org/> or email antibioticsafety@norc.org.

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