

Strengthening Antimicrobial Stewardship Across Illinois: Our Statewide Strategy

July 16th, 2026

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Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Manager
Illinois Department of Public Health

Agenda



The Role of Public Health

Barriers to Antimicrobial Stewardship
Illinois Stewardship Strategy



Statewide Stewardship in Action

Acute Care Honor Roll Program
PALASE Collaborative & Long-Term Care Efforts
CHARM Project
U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week



Partnerships & Local Efforts

Collaboration with SIDP
Community Outreach
Local Health Department Initiatives



THE ROLE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Barriers to Antimicrobial Stewardship Implementation



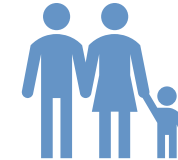
Limited Expertise
& Resources



Access to Data &
Technology



Prescriber Behavior
& Culture



Patient Expectations
& Education

Public Health Role: Turning Barriers into Opportunities

- Provide direct technical assistance
- Offer training, toolkits, educational webinars
- Create stewardship funding opportunities
- Collaborate with partners to support under-resourced settings

Expanded Expertise & Resources



- Analyze and disseminate state-level data
- Support facilities with data access and use for action
- Explore collaborations to expand surveillance & data infrastructure

Data Access & Integration



- Disseminate peer-comparison feedback
- Promote local champions and leadership commitment
- Provide evidence-based treatment recommendations and clinical decision support

Prescriber Engagement & Feedback



- Develop and disseminate patient-facing education
- Run public awareness campaigns
- Engage community events for public messaging

Informed Patients & Empowered Communities



Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship for Health Departments



Leadership Commitment

Dedicate human and financial resources for state and local health department antibiotic stewardship programs.



Accountability

Designate a leader or co-leaders, such as physician and pharmacist, responsible for the health department antibiotic stewardship program.



Stewardship Expertise

Ensure that the antibiotic stewardship program leader or co-leaders have expertise and experience implementing stewardship activities.



Action

Support the implementation of antibiotic stewardship activities by leveraging local partners or stewardship collaboratives.



Tracking

Monitor stewardship activities and antibiotic use data to inform and assess stewardship actions across the spectrum of health care.



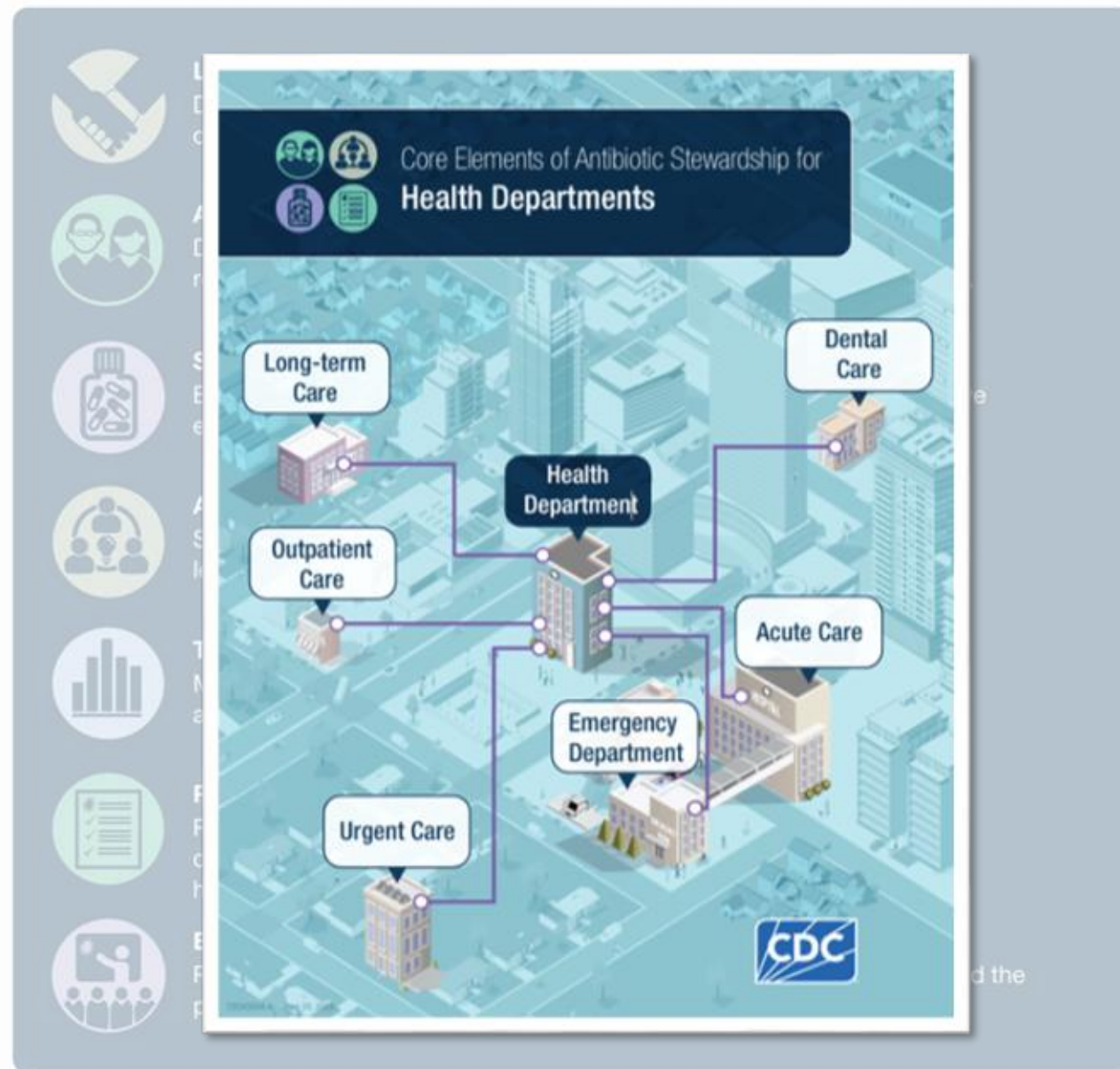
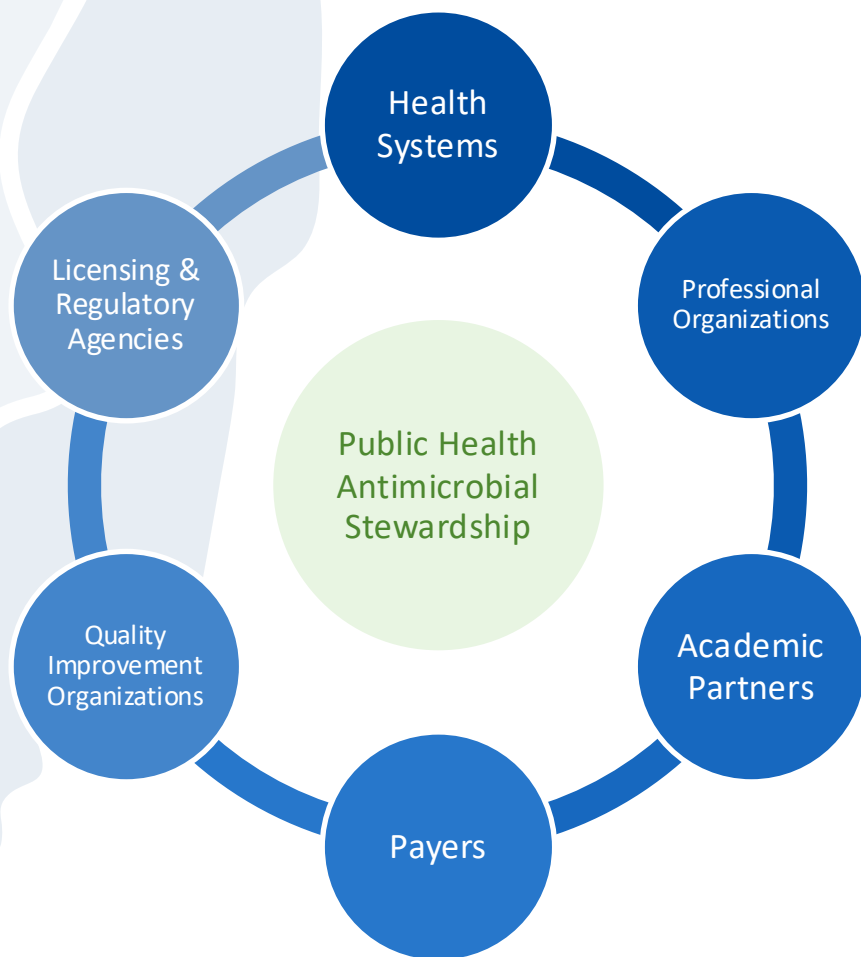
Reporting

Report data on stewardship activities and antibiotic use to health department leadership, local partners, stewardship collaboratives, healthcare professionals and the public.



Education

Provide antibiotic stewardship education to healthcare professionals and the public to optimize antibiotic use.



Illinois Action Plan to Prevent HAI/AR (2025-2030)

Priority Area: Antimicrobial Stewardship



Strengthen public health and health care facility infrastructure to facilitate AS work

Identify designated personnel and key stakeholders to coordinate and support state health department AS initiatives.



Improve antimicrobial prescribing practices across all health care settings

Enhance AS implementation across health settings.
Evaluate AS practices and monitor antimicrobial prescribing and use.
Promote transparency and communication.



Raise public awareness about appropriate antimicrobial use

Provide education to the general public on antimicrobial resistance and appropriate antimicrobial use.



STATEWIDE STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION



ACUTE CARE

Acute Care Honor Roll

Recognizing and supporting hospitals that demonstrate excellence in antimicrobial stewardship.



PALASE COLLABORATIVE

Promoting safe antibiotic use across the post-acute care continuum through partnership and data sharing.



LONG-TERM CARE

- **Educational Webinars:** Timely, evidence-based education on antibiotic stewardship topics tailored to long-term care providers.
- **1:1 Consults:** Personalized technical assistance to address stewardship practices, address challenges, and implement practical solutions.



OUTPATIENT CARE

CHARM Project

Leveraging claims data to measure outpatient antibiotic use, track trends, and drive stewardship action.



GENERAL PUBLIC

- **U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week (USAAW):** Annual statewide campaign to raise awareness of antibiotic misuse and the importance of using antibiotics responsibly.
- **Community Outreach:** Engaging communities through events, partnerships, and targeted messaging to promote appropriate antibiotic use and prevent resistance.



PARTNER WITH LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

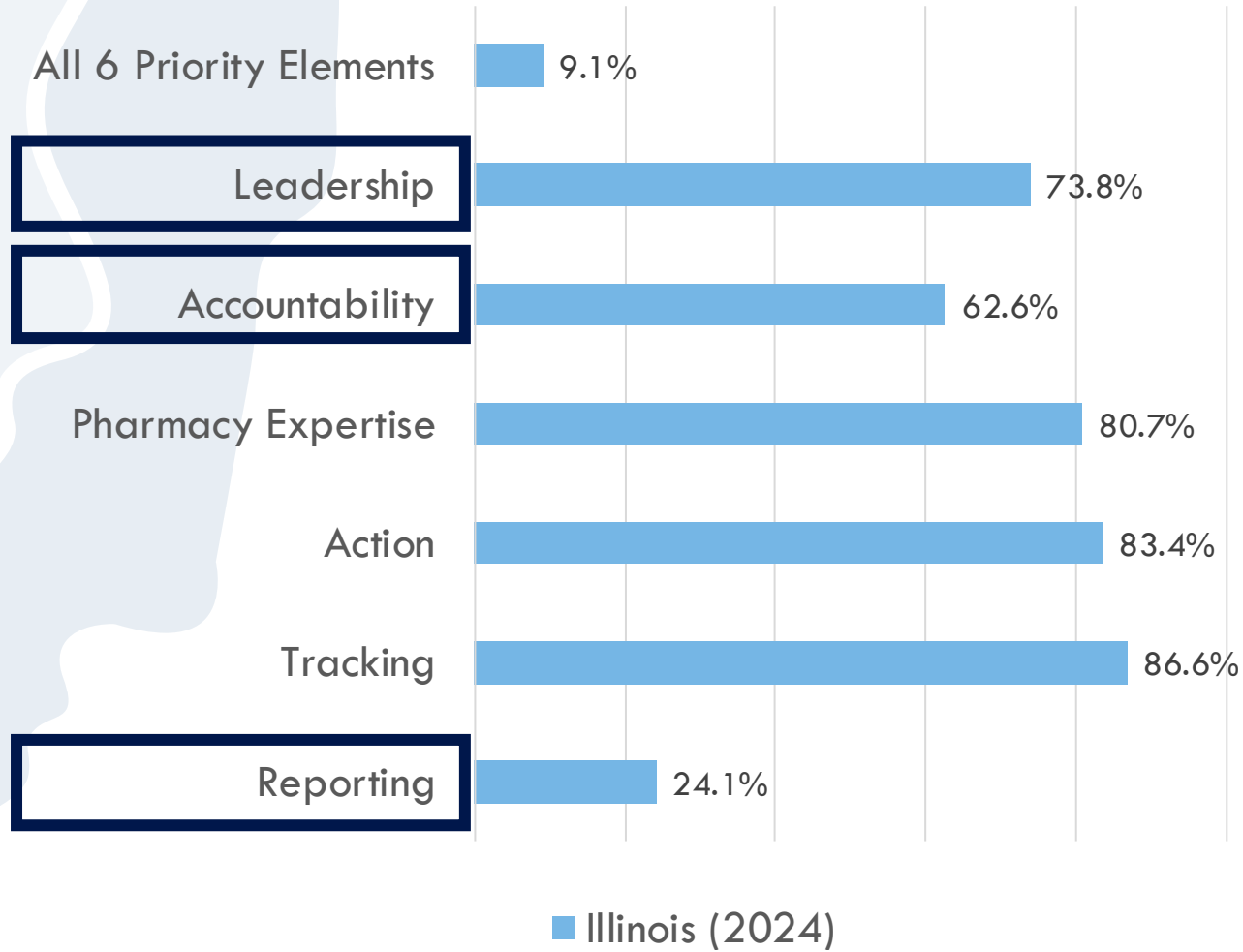
Collaborating with local health departments to extend stewardship expertise, share resources, build capacity, and advance stewardship initiatives statewide.





ACUTE CARE HONOR ROLL

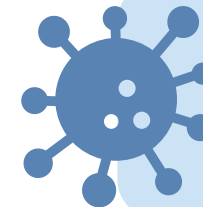
Illinois Hospital Priority Element Reporting (2024)



AS physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have AS responsibilities in their contract, job description, or performance review.



ASP is co-led by a physician AND pharmacist.



Reports are shared with prescribers AND adherence to treatment guidelines is monitored.



RECOGNITION Part I (Tiered)

CDC Priorities for
Hospital Core Element

2026 Spring

2026 Fall

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT & ATTESTATION LETTER

(Required)

RECOGNITION PART I (TIERED)

Facilities achieve recognition by implementing CDC Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation at one of three levels:



BRONZE



SILVER



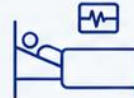
GOLD

Notice of Award: October 1, 2026
Formal recognition during
U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week

Application Opens:
October 1 – December 31, 2026



Regional
Collaborative



Transitions
of Care



Formal
Mentorship



Community
Outreach



CHARM or
PALASE

Inaugural Cycle: Highlights



2

BRONZE
Awardees



49

SILVER
Awardees



38

GOLD
Awardees



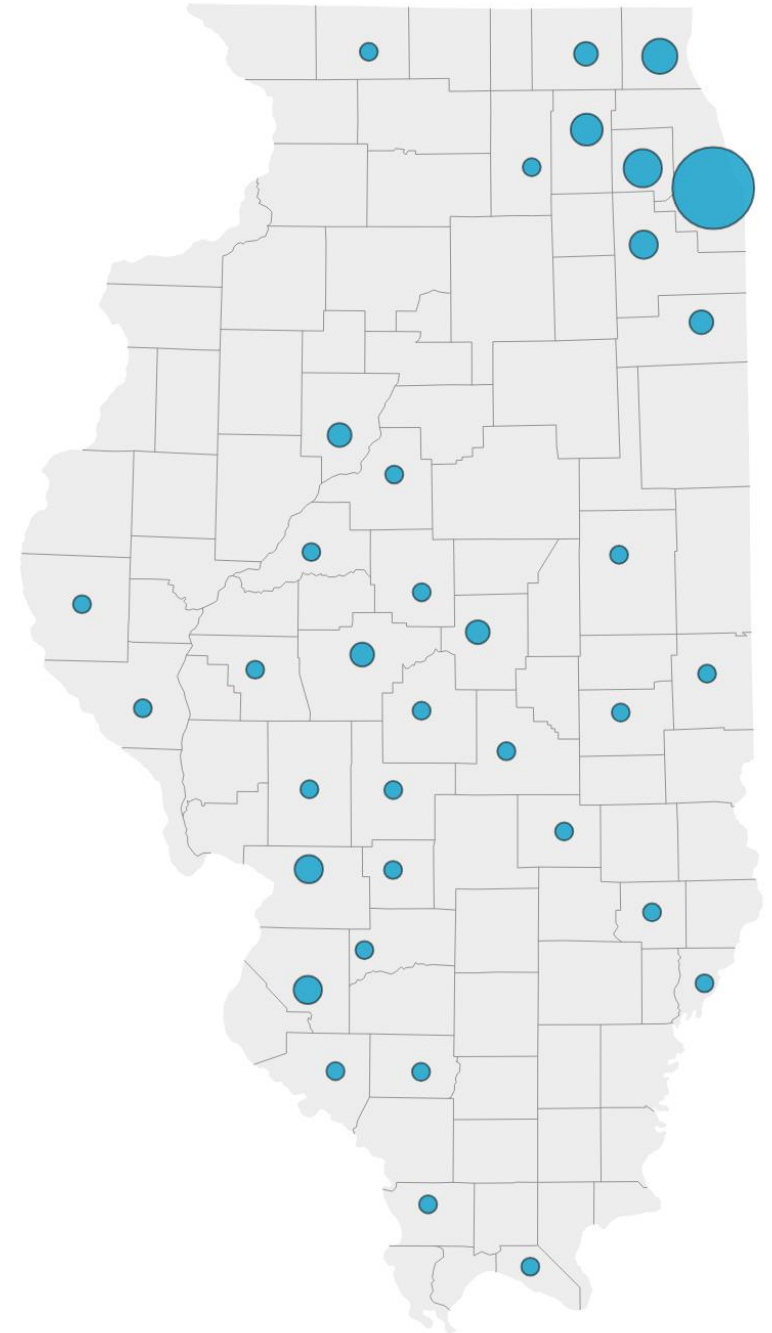
24

**COLLABORATION
DISTINCTIONS**



AWARDEES REPRESENTED:

- ✓ Every region of Illinois, spanning urban, suburban and rural areas
- ✓ Large academic medical centers, community hospitals, critical access hospitals, VA facilities, and specialty hospitals
- ✓ > 10 major health systems



Real-Time Program Growth

To Whom It May Concern,

Subject: **Appointment and Attestation for Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Leadership**

As Chief Executive Officer [REDACTED] I hereby attest to the formal assignment of responsibility for the leadership and oversight of our Antimicrobial Stewardship Program.

AMS Goals for FY 2026

[REDACTED] increase/maintain rate of appropriate Rx interventions

[REDACTED] Improve documentation of data reporting to qualify for IDPH Gold Honor Roll status

As part of an effort to improve our Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) transparency at [REDACTED] I wanted to pass along the following information as it relates to our local antimicrobial use. This is routinely shared at the Infection Control and Prevention Committee meetings, but I wanted to pass the information to the [REDACTED] hospitalists and leadership. I believe this data will help tie in with our increased efforts to curb hospital-onset *C. diff* by highlighting our current usage patterns and opportunities. This will also help provide information directly to the prescribers on local antimicrobial use at the unit and hospital level. I have attached the [REDACTED] Antimicrobial Stewardship Data Dashboard and will provide a summary down below.

IDPH Acute Care Honor Roll

- Application opens April 1st. Will apply for gold status and include [REDACTED] collaboration.

Good afternoon,

Attached is the first provider-level antibiotic utilization report. This was developed in response to the local antimicrobial stewardship committee initiative approved in December 2025. This was identified as an opportunity to improve our stewardship efforts upon our prior application to the IDPH Antimicrobial Stewardship Honor Roll.

Please note this is a high-level review of prescribing patterns for the entire calendar year of 2025 and did not evaluate appropriateness or opportunities of specific orders.

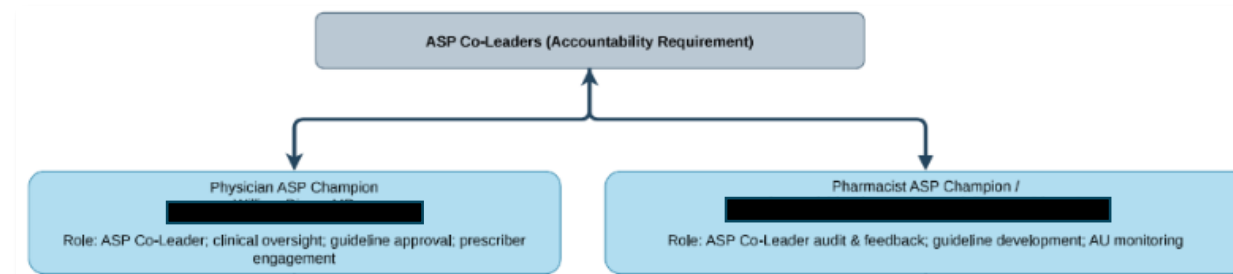
Good morning,

Please share with the rest of the Hospitalist/Medical staff who see patients on [REDACTED]

I am providing the most recent antibiotic utilization reports and antibiogram data for the [REDACTED] for the reporting period of **March 2025 - Feb 2026**. The purpose of these reports is to support antimicrobial stewardship efforts, ensure appropriate antibiotic use, and identify opportunities for optimization.

Good afternoon,

I have been tasked with filing for the IDPH AMS Honor Roll Certification Application. Part of the files that I have to share with them are adherence to treatment recommendations for a condition. So, I compiled the data we receive about CAP IV to PO conversion from the pharmacists side. In the attached report you will see



Awarded "Silver" Honor Roll Status

- ☒ Leadership
- ☒ Accountability
- ☒ Drug Expertise
- ☒ Action
- ☒ Tracking
- ☐ Reporting

Gold WITH Collaboration Distinction



- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
- Carle Health Methodist
- Carle Health Pekin
- Carle Health Proctor
- Edward Hines Jr VA Hospital
- Evanston Hospital
- Glenbrook Hospital
- Highland Park Hospital
- Memorial Hospital Belleville-Shiloh
- Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital
- Northwestern Medicine Palos Hospital
- Northwestern Memorial Hospital
- Silver Cross Hospital
- Skokie Hospital
- Swedish Hospital
- UChicago Medicine



ILLINOIS HOSPITAL REPORT CARD



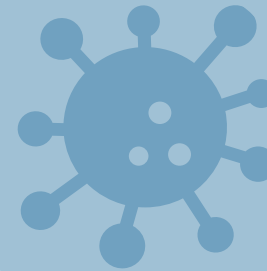
LONG-TERM CARE ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP

Long-Term Care Commitment to Excellence in Infection Prevention

Aims to acknowledge skilled/intermediate long-term care facilities (LTCF) that exhibit a strong dedication to formal, documented, and ongoing efforts in preventing healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and antimicrobial resistance (AR).



Infection
Prevention
& Control



HAI/AR
Prevention



Antimicrobial
Stewardship



Educational Webinars



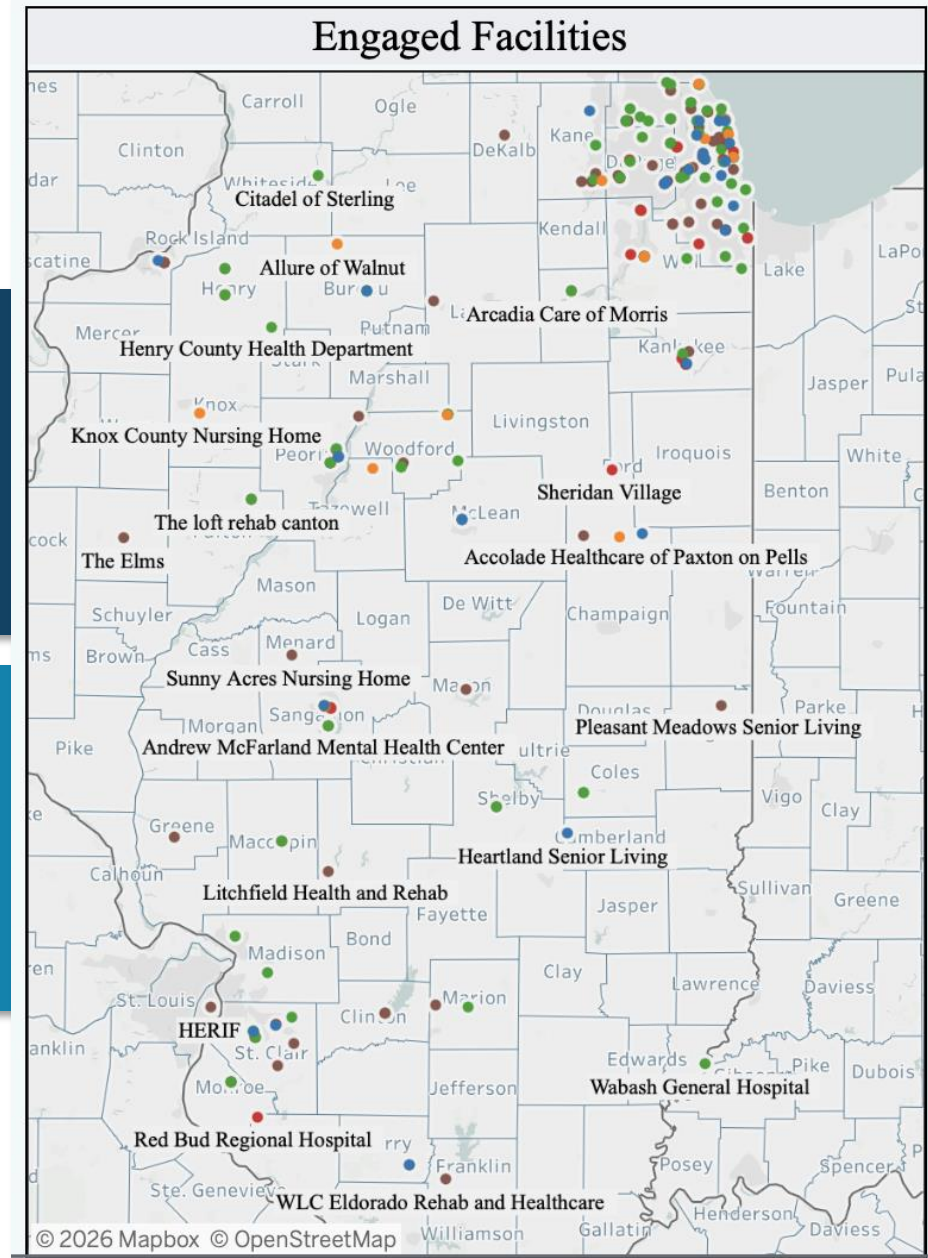
Regional Workshops



1:1 Consults



PALASE Collaborative



Care
pants



Educational Webinars



Regional Workshops



1:1 Consults



PALASE Collaborative

2026-2027 Webinar Schedule

November 4, 2026

December 2, 2026

January 6, 2027

February 3, 2027

March 3, 2027

April 7, 2027

May 5, 2027

June 2, 2027

Complete the
Webinar Topic
Survey!



PALASE Collaborative

Partnering Acute and Long-Term Care to Advance Stewardship Efforts

A structured, cross-setting collaborative that pairs long-term care facilities with a local acute care hospital to extend stewardship expertise and support implementation of antimicrobial stewardship programs in long-term care settings.

Key Feature: Each dyad is supported by an infectious diseases/antimicrobial stewardship subject matter expert:

- Guides discussions and provides technical support
- Ensures that stewardship strategies are relevant and actionable within the local healthcare network

01

Partnership between long-term care facilities and local acute care hospital stewardship teams

02

Ongoing structured support from subject matter experts

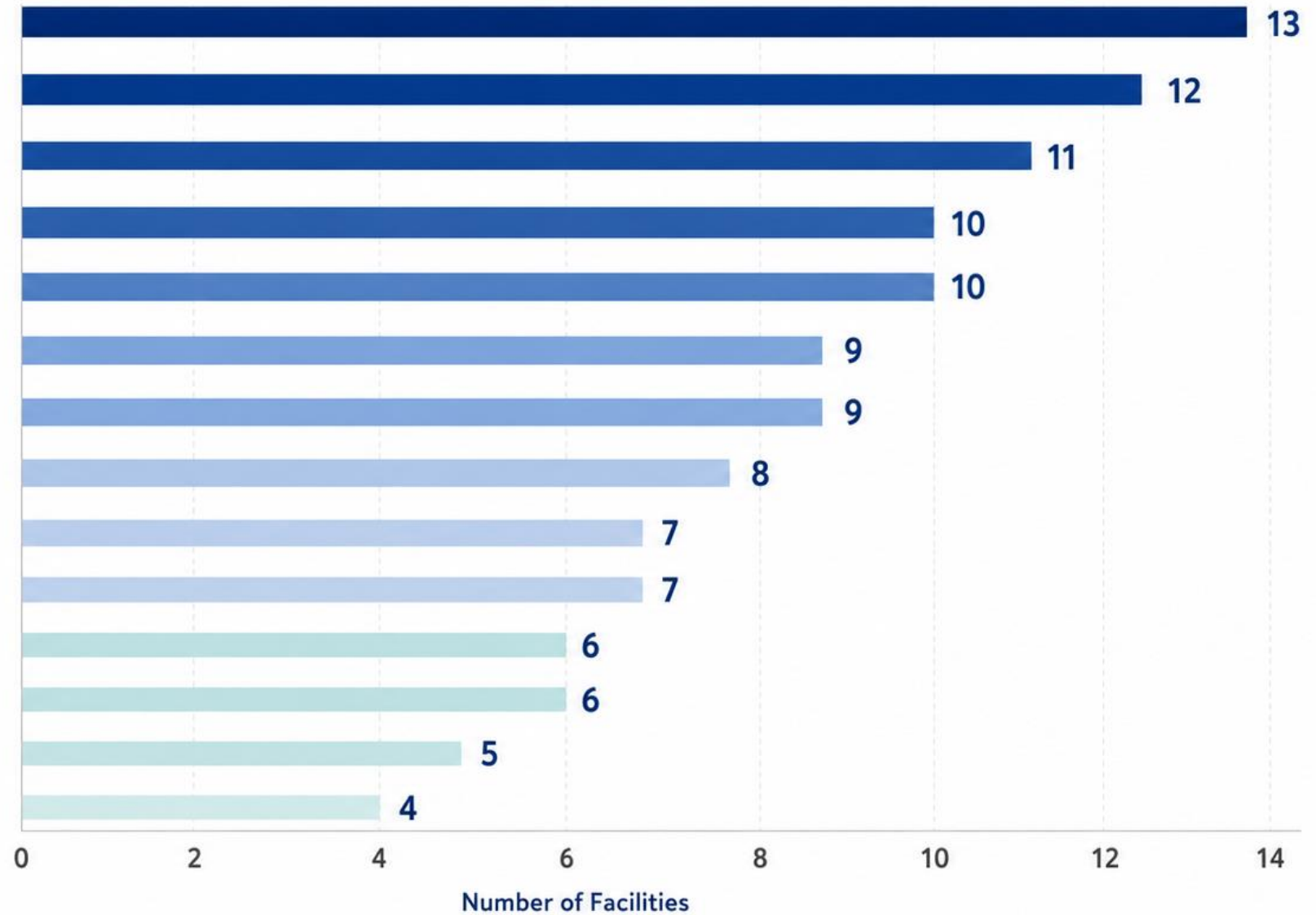
03

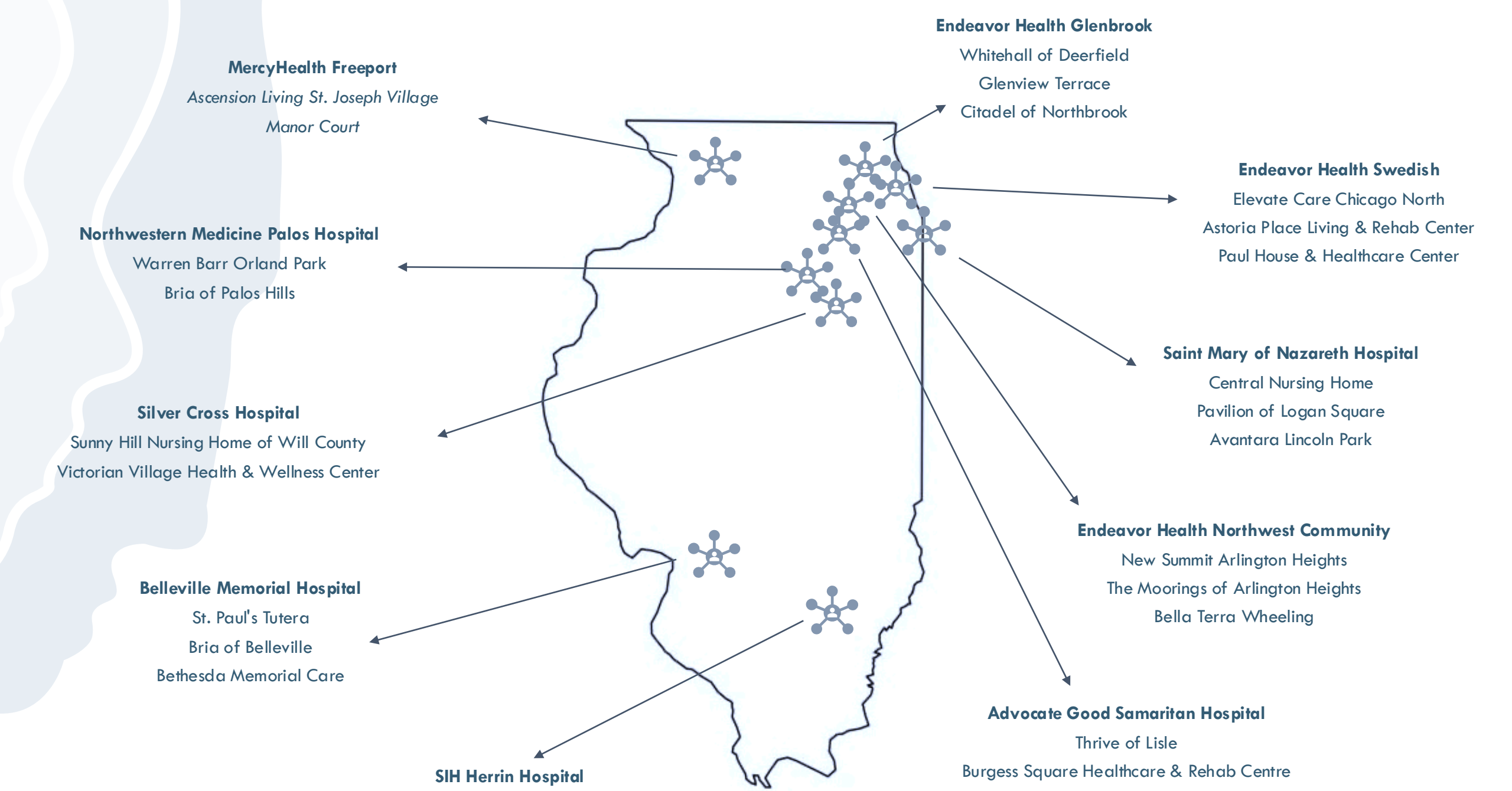
Improve cross-setting coordination and communication

04

Shared learning aligns stewardship practices across the community

Staff/Nurse Education
Reporting to Leadership
Antibiotic Timeout
Provider Education
Loeb/McGeer Criteria Use
Staff-Provider Communication
Diagnostic Guidelines
Discharge-Admission Communication
Usage/Outcomes Tracking
Patient/Family Education
EMR case tracking
Antibiogram
Electronic case tracking (outside of EMR)
Provider Commitment Letter



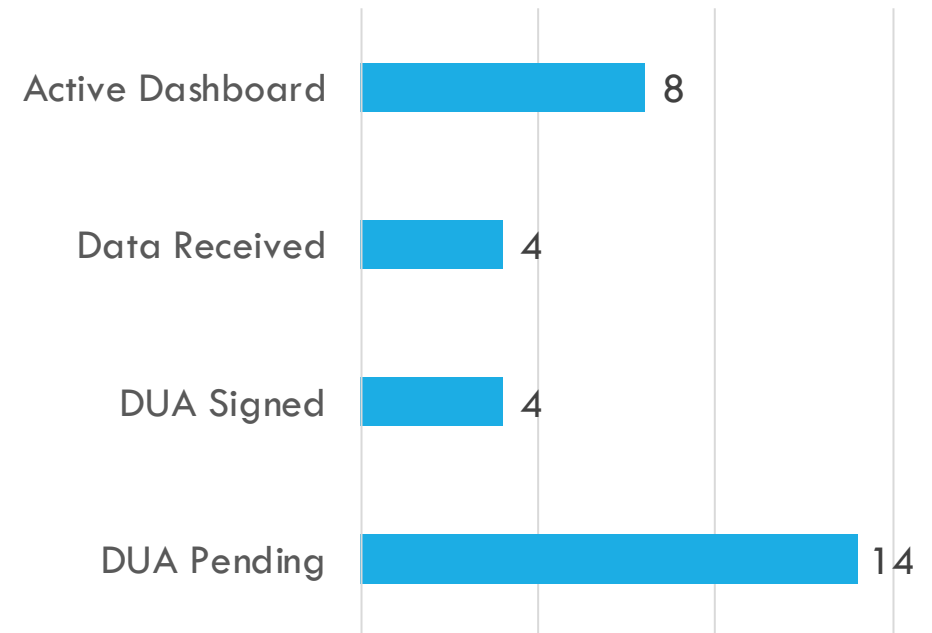




COLLABORATION TO HARMONIZE ANTIMICROBIAL REGISTRY MEASURES

Collaboration to Harmonize Antimicrobial Registry Measures (CHARM)

- CHARM partners with health systems to collect **outpatient antimicrobial use** data and deliver timely, standardized, and **user-friendly dashboards**
 - Identify **stewardship opportunities** & measure the **impact** of interventions
 - Receive access to anonymized aggregate data for **benchmarking** performance against peer institutions
 - Fulfill **regulatory standards** for outpatient antimicrobial stewardship



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Public Health partnership
allows facility
participation at no cost.

Register for our
next Community of
Practice Call on
September 23rd





November 18-24, 2026

U.S. ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK

U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week

November 18-24, 2026

Gubernatorial Proclamation



Press Release



Antimicrobial Stewardship Webinar Series



Antimicrobial Stewardship Champion Call



Governor's Video Message



Spotlight on Antimicrobial Stewardship



Antimicrobial Stewardship Honor Roll Awards





PARTNERSHIPS & LOCAL EFFORTS

BCIDP Recertification Credit

Collaboration with the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP)



Updates in the Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia

*Erin Weslander, PharmD, BCIDP
Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Chicago, IL*



Updates in the Management of Complicated Urinary Tract Infections

*Caleb Rux, PharmD, BCIDP
Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL*

For the first time, attendees will have the opportunity to claim up to **2 hours** of BCIDP recertification credit through SIDP.

BCIDP credits require a separate fee in addition to meeting registration.

Credits may be purchased and claimed through SIDP.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Chicago Department of Public Health & Northwestern Medicine



Volunteers will have the opportunity to participate in engaging activities helping educate the public about:

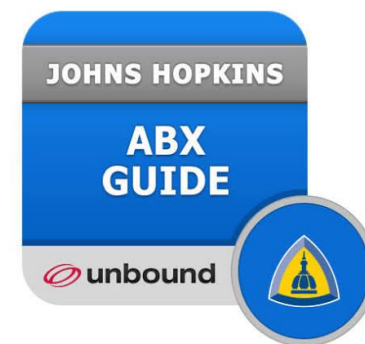
- Infection prevention and hand hygiene
- Appropriate antibiotic use
- The difference between viral and bacterial infections
- Antimicrobial resistance and why it matters



Complete the [Volunteer Interest Form](#) to be added to the outreach volunteer list and learn about upcoming opportunities!



Opportunity for Chicago Acute Care Hospitals Access to the Johns Hopkins ABX Guide



Support Evidence-Based Antibiotic Decision-Making at the Point of Care

- Through a partnership with **Johns Hopkins Medicine**, the Chicago Department of Public Health is offering **one year of complimentary access** to the **Johns Hopkins ABX Guide** for eligible Chicago acute care hospitals.

What is the ABX Guide?

A trusted clinical decision-support resource that provides:

- Evidence-based antimicrobial treatment recommendations
- Pathogen- and syndrome-specific guidance
- Antibiotic dosing and prescribing information
- Drug interaction and adverse effect information
- Convenient access at the point of care via web and mobile app

Scan to Apply!



Application Link:

<https://forms.gle/Fg6SRgYNFqY2nXbKA>



Strengthen Your Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

New Antimicrobial Stewardship ICAR For Long Term Care

- The Chicago Department of Public Health is offering **voluntary Antimicrobial Stewardship ICAR Assessments** to help long-term care facilities evaluate and strengthen their antimicrobial stewardship programs.
- **What You'll Receive**
 - Comprehensive assessment of your stewardship program
 - Identification of strengths and opportunities for improvement
 - Individualized recommendations based on national best practices
 - Technical assistance from antimicrobial stewardship expert
 - Resources to support compliance with stewardship expectations and quality improvement initiatives
- **Interested?**
 - Contact the CDPH Antimicrobial Stewardship Team or CDPH Infection Control Team



Disease Control & Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference

Join the Chicago Department of Public Health's Disease Control Bureau for the joint Antimicrobial Stewardship and 28th Annual Disease Control Conference. This free one-day continuing education program will feature state and local public health leaders, along with subject matter experts in disease control and antimicrobial stewardship, who will address pressing topics of both local and national significance.

Participants will discover strategies to enhance their organization's capacity to effectively combat antimicrobial resistance, with insights from healthcare experts. Furthermore, the conference will provide valuable information on current disease control measures and best practices aimed at safeguarding public health.

Wednesday
November 18th, 2026
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Malcolm X College
1900 West Jackson Blvd.
Free validated parking is available at
Malcolm X College garage.

Agenda Items:

- ★ Describe Trends in Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases
- ★ Provide Tools and Strategies for Engaging Support in Stewardship Efforts
- ★ Strengthen Antimicrobial Stewardship Knowledge and Skills
- ★ Discuss Strategies for Cross-Sector Collaboration to Address Public Health Challenges

Continuing Education Credits, including CME, RACE, CPE, and CNE, will be available for attendees.

For more information, and to register, please visit our conference website or scan the QR code

[Disease Control & Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference](#)



How Can You Get Involved?

Make the Connection

Connect with our IDPH Antimicrobial Stewardship Team!

Sign up for IDPH Antimicrobial Stewardship communications!

Collaborate on Initiatives

Join or support statewide stewardship initiatives

Partner on surveillance, benchmarking, and quality improvement

Use Available Resources

Sign up for PALASE or CHARM

Request technical assistance or a 1:1 consult

Share your Experience

Share successful stewardship initiatives

Mentor or connect with peer organizations

Amplify Education & Messaging

Serve as a subject matter expert or speaker for webinars or trainings

Participate in U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week or other community outreach events

Strengthening Antimicrobial Stewardship Across Illinois: Our Statewide Strategy

July 16th, 2026

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