



The Optimization of Antimicrobial Prescribing and Stewardship

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Message from the Guest Editor

The goal of this Special Issue is to collate evidence across clinical medicine sectors (e.g., primary care, secondary care, dentistry, and pharmacy) and across different disease areas and patient populations where programs aiming to optimize the prescription of antimicrobials have been evaluated. By bringing together research across different areas, it is our hope that learning opportunities regarding the design, evaluation, and implementation of such programs will be highlighted.

We welcome full-scale evaluations (randomized or non-randomized), as well as feasibility and pilot studies, that involve testing study procedures prior to a full-scale evaluation. We are interested in antimicrobial stewardship interventions that fit within at least one of the following classifications (important intervention bundles that cut across classifications are also of interest):

- Structural (e.g., the use of diagnostic tests to guide treatment)
- Persuasive (e.g., audit and feedback)
- Enabling (e.g., guidelines and education)
- Restrictive (e.g., external approval for certain treatments)





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciplines are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

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