# Champion Antimicrobial Stewardship as a Team

## Fight The Resistance Together!

Key Steps for a Multidisciplinary Antimicrobial Stewardship Team:

**1** Seek administrative backing and institutional support by articulating the benefits of a successful antimicrobial stewardship program.

**2** Actively engage all the major stakeholders: infectious disease specialists, hospitalists, clinical pharmacists, lab technicians, infection control, nursing, IT and Quality Improvement.

**3** Utilize the expertise of clinical pharmacists in antimicrobials as a valuable resource in addition to infectious disease specialists when available.

**4** Explore educational funding opportunities through national, regional, state or local resources for members of the team.

**5** Identify measures — baseline measures, process measures and outcome measures — to determine the effectiveness of stewardship interventions.

**6** Collect and analyze antimicrobial usage data from your institution and observe antimicrobial resistance trends in order to identify opportunities for improvement.

**7** Present a business plan for personnel reimbursement through highlighting potential cost savings, improved patient outcomes, core measures compliance and anticipated Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services penalties for hospitals lacking an antimicrobial stewardship program.

**8** Implement concrete steps to implement an antibiotic time-out policy, develop practices for reviewing antibiotic choices upon patient transfer, revise all Intensive Care Unit antibiotic prescriptions and review broad-spectrum antibiotic selection.

**9** Organize educational activities for hospital clinicians on antimicrobial stewardship.

References:
http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/healthcare/pdfs/core-elements.pdf.
*Clinical infectious diseases: An Official Publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America.* Jan 15 2007;44(2):159-177.
Griffith M, Postelnick M, Scheetz M. Antimicrobial stewardship programs: Methods of operation and suggested outcomes.
*Expert Review of Anti-infective Therapy.* Jan 2012;10(1):63-73.

For Additional References, Please Visit the Website.

**Fight The RESISTANCE**

www.FightTheResistance.org

**shm** Society of Hospital Medicine