

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases



# Enhancing Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs Serving Native American and Alaska Native Communities

**Axel A. Vazquez Deida, PharmD, MPH, BCIDP, AAHIVP**

Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer

Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion

Indian Health Service – National Pharmacy Council

Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Committee Webinar Series

June 21, 2023



## Disclosures

- The speaker has no financial relationship(s) or disclosures.
- The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

# Learning Objectives

At the end of this webinar, the learner will be able to:

1. Examine the link between antibiotic use and patient safety
2. Discuss CDC's Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship and Priorities for Core Element Implementation in the inpatient healthcare setting
3. Identify initial steps that healthcare facilities and clinicians can take to implement antibiotic stewardship interventions

**Pre-Assessment**

## Question

1. The Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship include:
  - a) Tracking
  - b) Accountability
  - c) Action
  - d) Only (b) and (c) are correct
  - e) All the above

## Question

2. The Priorities for Hospital Core Element implementation, which were released in 2022, are meant to replace the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs, which were last updated in 2019.
  - a) True
  - b) False

## Question

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation?
- a) Hospital leadership commitment
  - b) Tracking
  - c) Reporting
  - d) Education
  - e) All the above

# Examining the Link between Antibiotic Use and Patient Safety



# The Threat of Antibiotic Resistance in the United States



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## New National Estimate\*

Antibiotic-resistant bacteria and fungi cause at least an estimated:



**2,868,700**  
infections



**35,900**  
deaths



*Clostridioides difficile* is related to antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance:



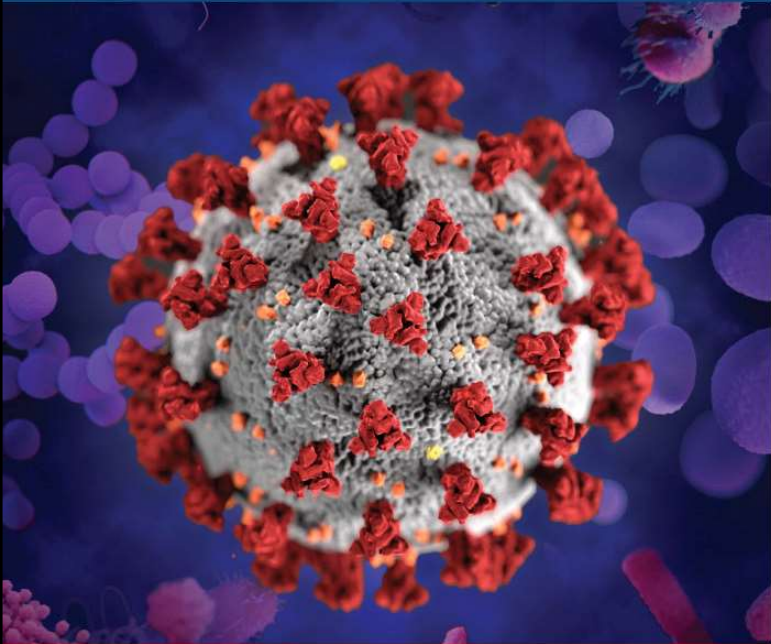
**223,900**  
cases



**12,800**  
deaths

# COVID-19 CREATED A PERFECT STORM

The U.S. lost progress combating antimicrobial resistance in 2020



**↑15%**

Antimicrobial-resistant infections and deaths increased in hospitals in 2020.

**~80%**

Patients hospitalized with COVID-19 who received an antibiotic March-October 2020.



Delayed or unavailable data, leading to resistant infections spreading undetected and untreated.

**INVEST IN  
PREVENTION.**

**Setbacks to fighting  
antimicrobial resistance  
can and must be temporary.**

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/covid19.html>

# Five Core Strategies to Combat the Threat of Antibiotic Resistant Infections



**Infection prevention and control:** Prevent infections and reduce the spread of germs



**Tracking and data:** Share data and improve data collection



**Antibiotic use and access:** Improve appropriate use of antibiotics, reduce unnecessary use (called antibiotic stewardship), and ensure improved access to antibiotics



**Vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics:** Invest in development and improved access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics for better prevention, treatment, and detection



**Environment and sanitation:** Keep antibiotics and antibiotic-resistant threats from entering the environment through actions like improving sanitation and improving access to safe water



# Five Core Strategies to Combat the Threat of Antibiotic Resistant Infections

## Antibiotic use and access:

- Improve **appropriate** use
- Reduce **unnecessary** use
- Ensure **improved access**



**Infection prevention and control:** Prevent infections and reduce the spread of germs



**Tracking and data:** Share data and improve data collection



**Antibiotic use and access:** Improve appropriate use of antibiotics, reduce unnecessary use (called antibiotic stewardship), and ensure improved access to antibiotics

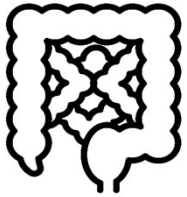


**Vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics:** Invest in development and improved access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics for better prevention, treatment, and detection

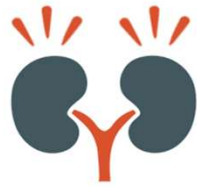


**Environment and sanitation:** Keep antibiotics and antibiotic-resistant threats from entering the environment through actions like improving sanitation and improving access to safe water

# Antibiotic Use Can Lead to Adverse Events



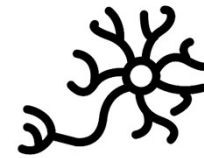
Gastrointestinal  
disturbances



Nephrotoxicity



Secondary  
infections  
(e.g., yeast infections,  
*Clostridioides difficile*)



Neurotoxicity



Allergic reactions  
including  
anaphylaxis

Shehab et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2008;47(6):735-43.  
Robertson et al. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2018;38(12):1184-1193.  
Brown et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2013;57(5):2326-2332.

# Antibiotic Use is the Most Important Modifiable Patient Risk Factor for *C. difficile* Infections



People are 7 to 10 times more likely to get *C. diff* infection while taking an antibiotic and during the month after.<sup>3</sup>



More than 80% of *C. diff* deaths occur in people 65 and older.

# Estimating Daily Antibiotic Harms

## Umbrella Review and Meta-Analysis

Public  
Health  
Ontario

Santé  
publique  
Ontario

 **35** Systematic Reviews

 **71** Short vs. Long Antibiotic Duration Trials

 **92%** studies evaluated respiratory tract and urinary tract infections

 **23,174** patients evaluated



### Adverse Events

N=20,345

**4%↑**

odds ratio/day



### Antibiotic Resistance

N=2,330

**3%↑\***

odds ratio/day



### Super-infections

N=5,776

**2%↓\***

odds ratio/day

### Each Additional Day Can Cause Harm

**5 vs 3**

Days



**9%↑** odds ratio

Of adverse events

**7 vs 3**

Days



**19%↑** odds ratio

Of adverse events

\* Non-statistically significant difference

Source: Curran J et al. Estimating daily antibiotic harms: An Umbrella Review with Individual Study Meta-analysis Clin Micro Infect. 2021

# Antibiotic Adverse Events Can Lead to *Emergency Department Visits*

**1 in 1,000** antibiotic prescriptions  
lead to an ED visit for an adverse event



**≈150,000** ED visits/year in U.S.



Shehab et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2008;47(6):735-43.  
Shehab et al. *JAMA*. 2016;316(20):2115-2125.  
Geller et al. *J Gen Intern Med*. 2018;33(7):1060-1068.



# Antibiotic Stewardship is About *Patient Safety* and *Delivering High-Quality Healthcare*

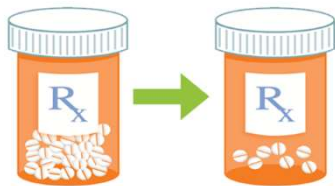
Avoiding unnecessary antibiotic use



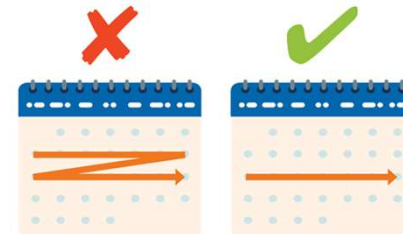
Right antibiotic



Right dose



Right duration



# CDC Released the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

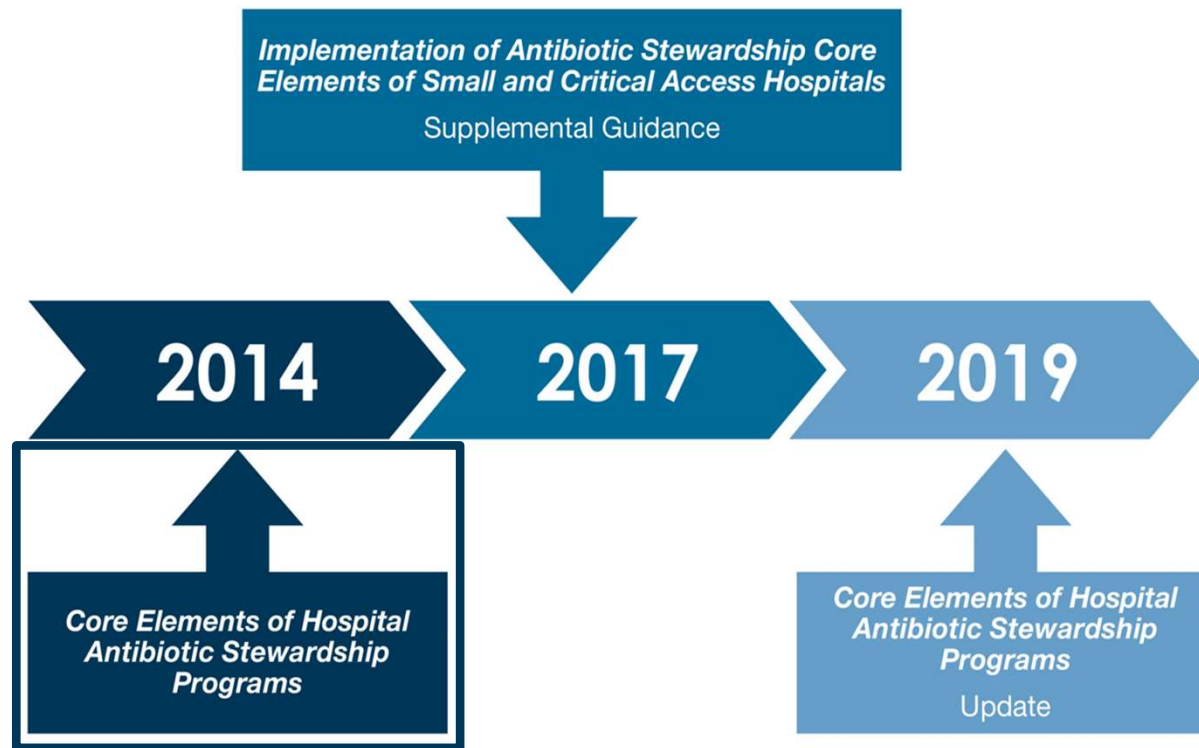


Figure. Timeline of Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

# CDC Released the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

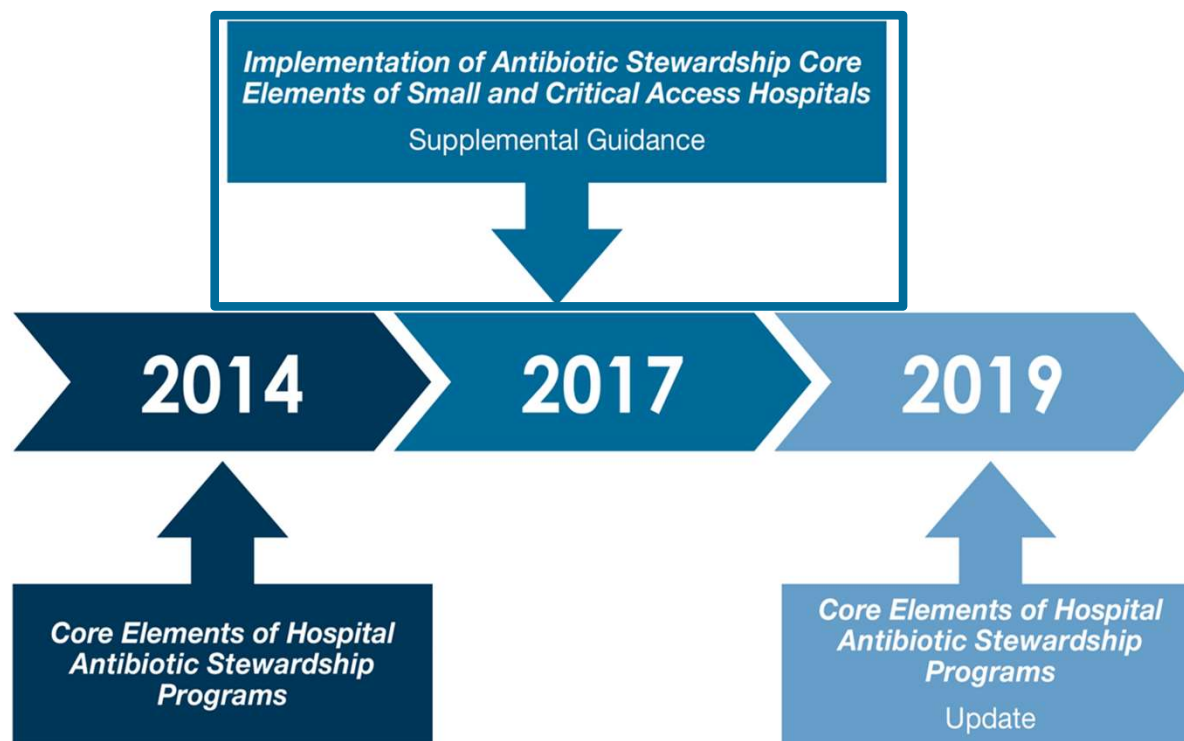


Figure. Timeline of Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

# CDC Released the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

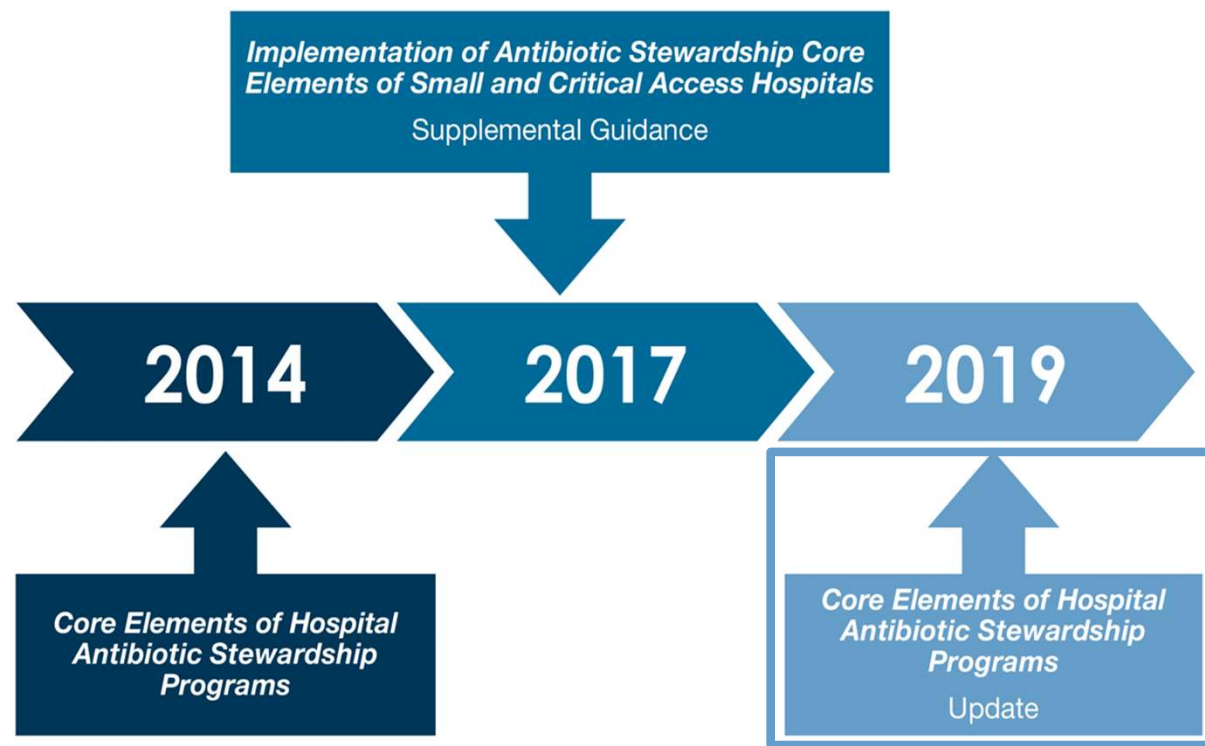


Figure. Timeline of Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs



## The Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs: 2019



Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
National Center for Emerging and  
Zoonotic Infectious Diseases  
Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion

## Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs



### Hospital Leadership Commitment

Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources.



### Accountability

Appoint a leader or co-leaders, such as a physician and pharmacist, responsible for program management and outcomes.



### Pharmacy Expertise (previously “Drug Expertise”):

Appoint a pharmacist, ideally as the co-leader of the stewardship program, to help lead implementation efforts to improve antibiotic use.



### Action

Implement interventions, such as prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization, to improve antibiotic use.



### Tracking

Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions, and other important outcomes, like *C. difficile* infections and resistance patterns.



### Reporting

Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and hospital leadership.



### Education

Educate prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and patients about adverse reactions from antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, and optimal prescribing.

# The Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs



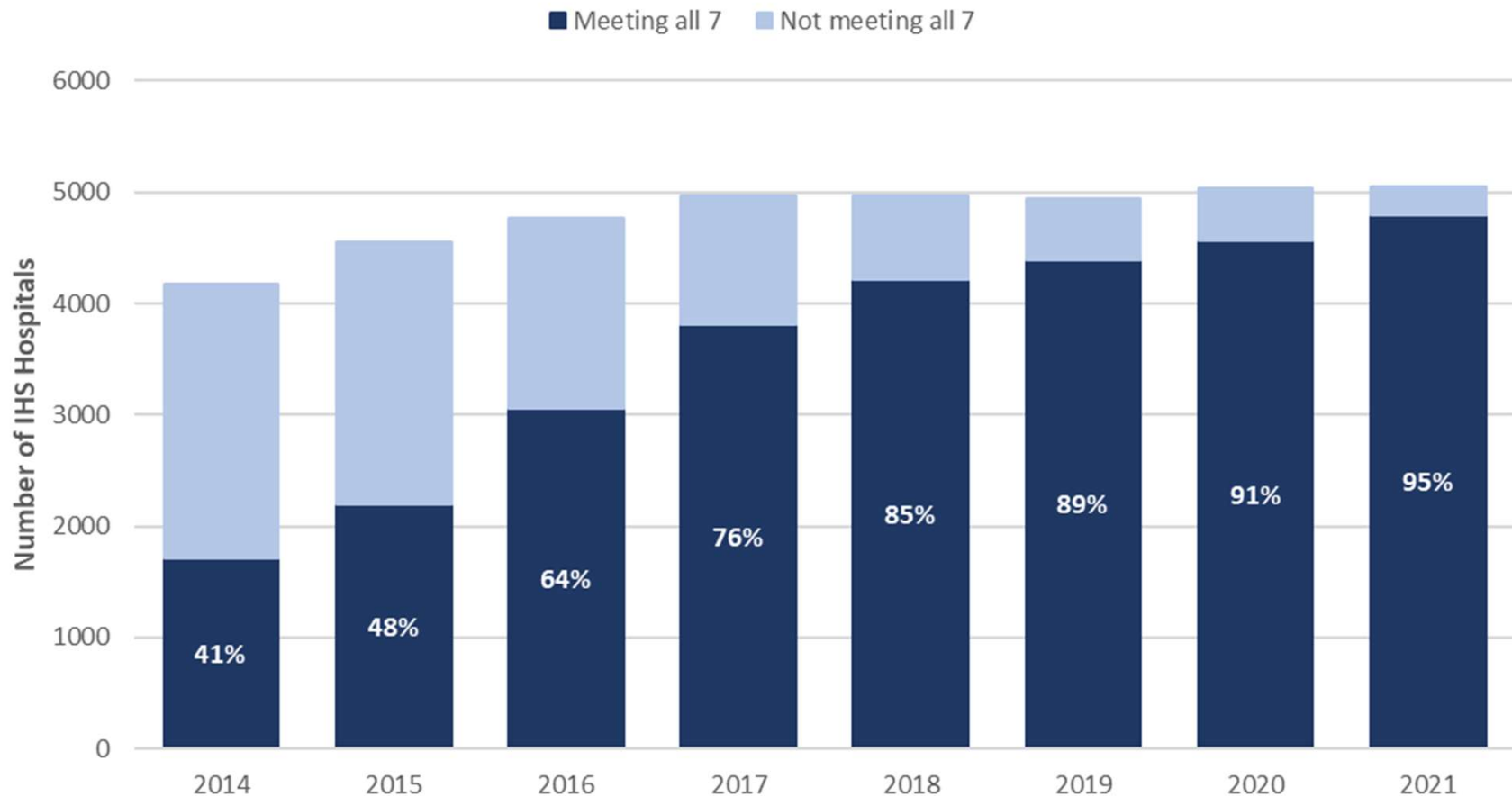
# **Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs at the Indian Health Service**

# Assessment

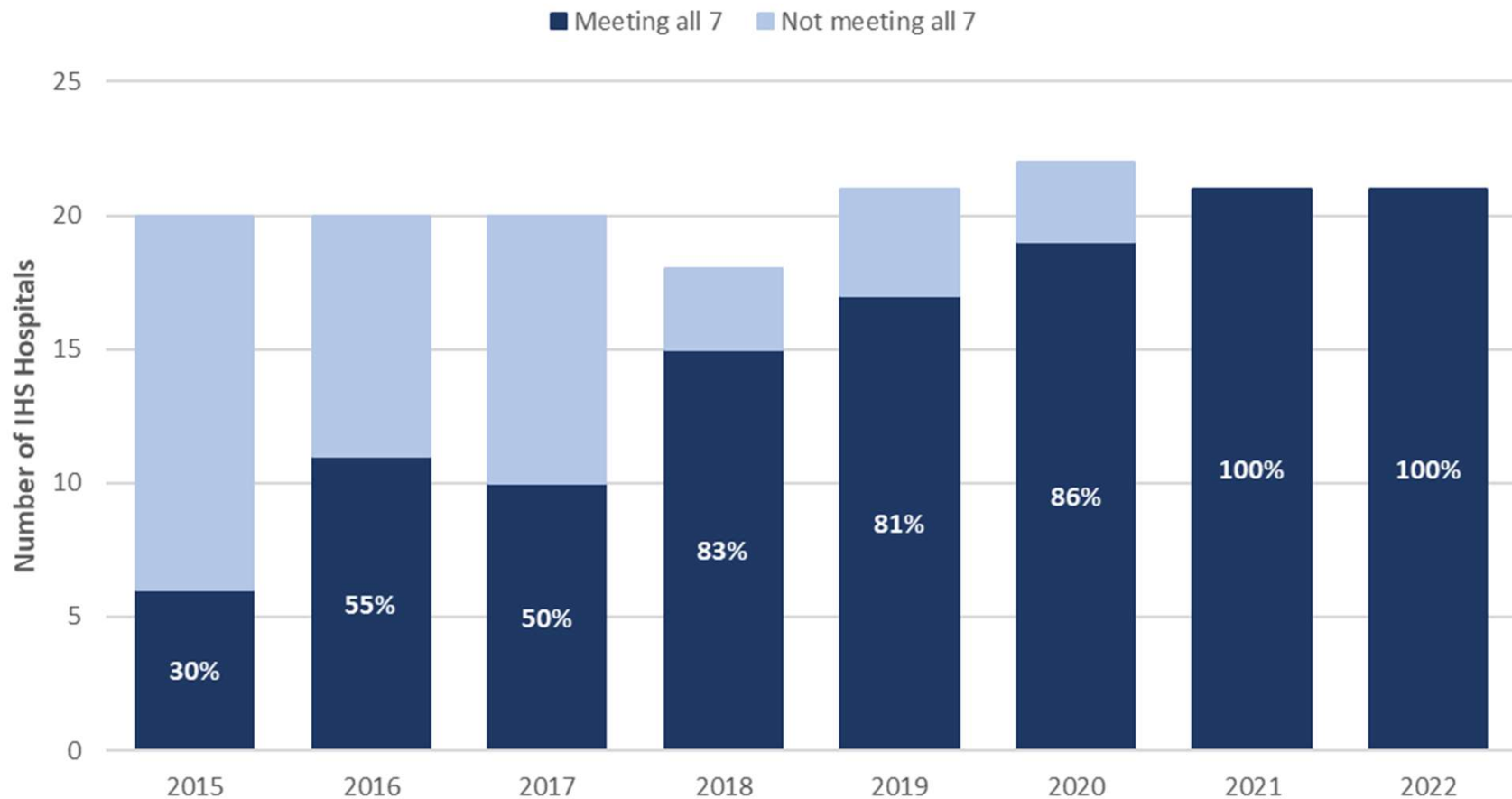
- Indian Health Service acute care facilities that submitted the NHSN Patient Safety Component – Annual Hospital Survey
- Questions from the Annual Hospital Survey were mapped
- Descriptive statistics
  - Proportion of hospitals that self-reported implementation of core elements



# NHSN Annual Hospital Surveys 2014–2021: Number and Percent of *U.S. Hospitals* Meeting All 7 Core Elements



# NHSN Annual Hospital Surveys 2015–2022: Number and Percent of *IHS Hospitals* Meeting All 7 Core Elements



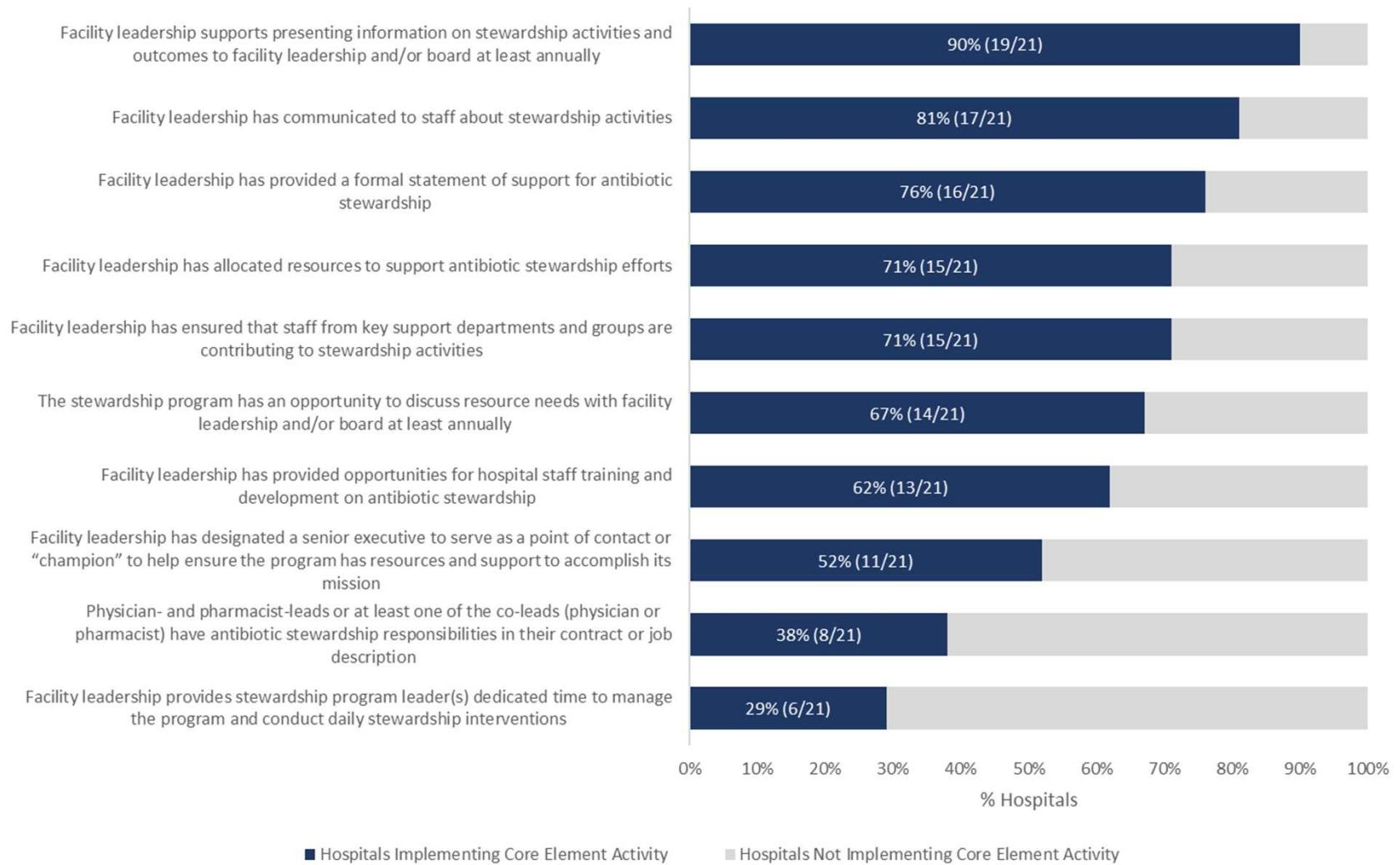
## *Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs*



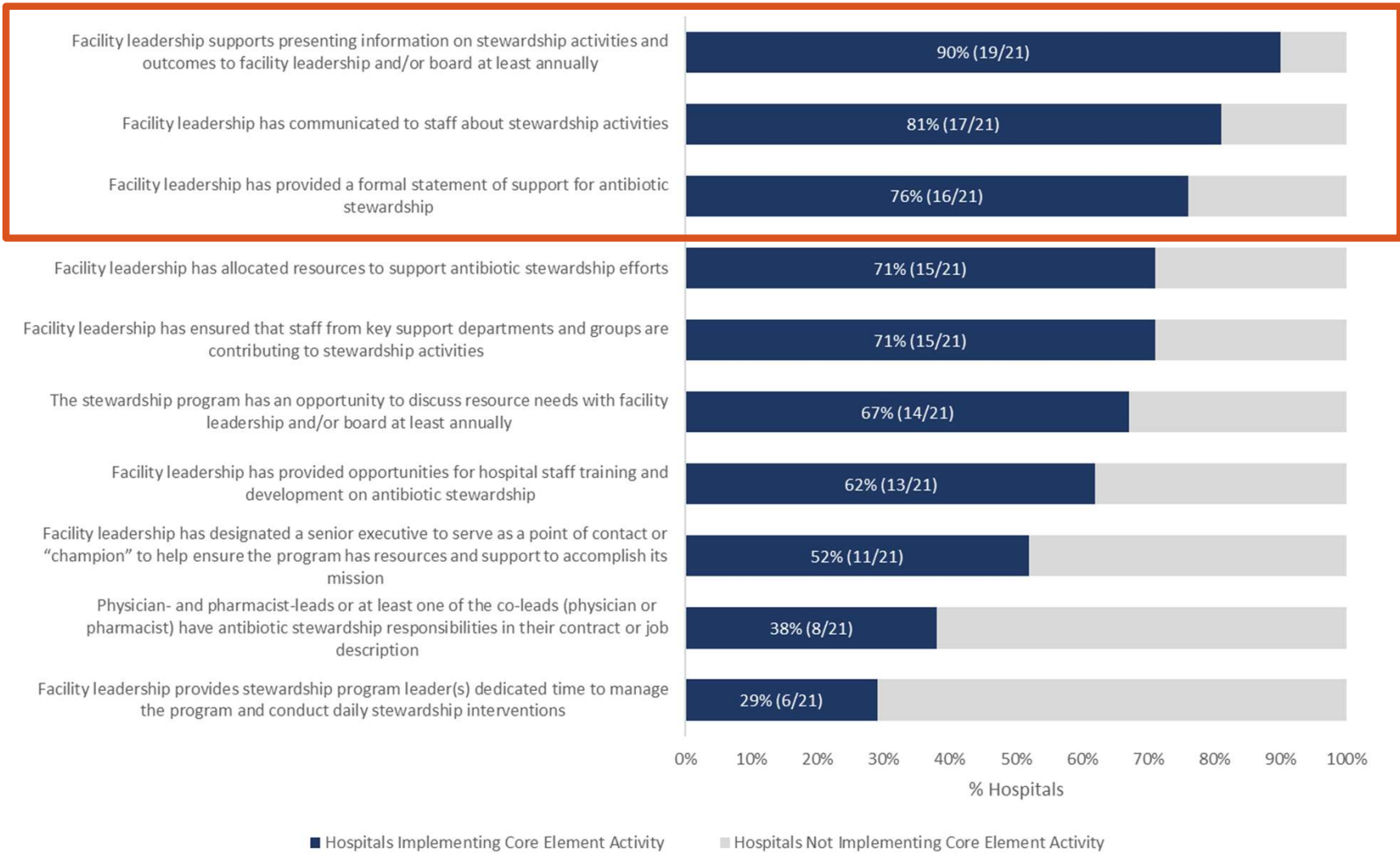
### **Hospital Leadership Commitment**

Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources.

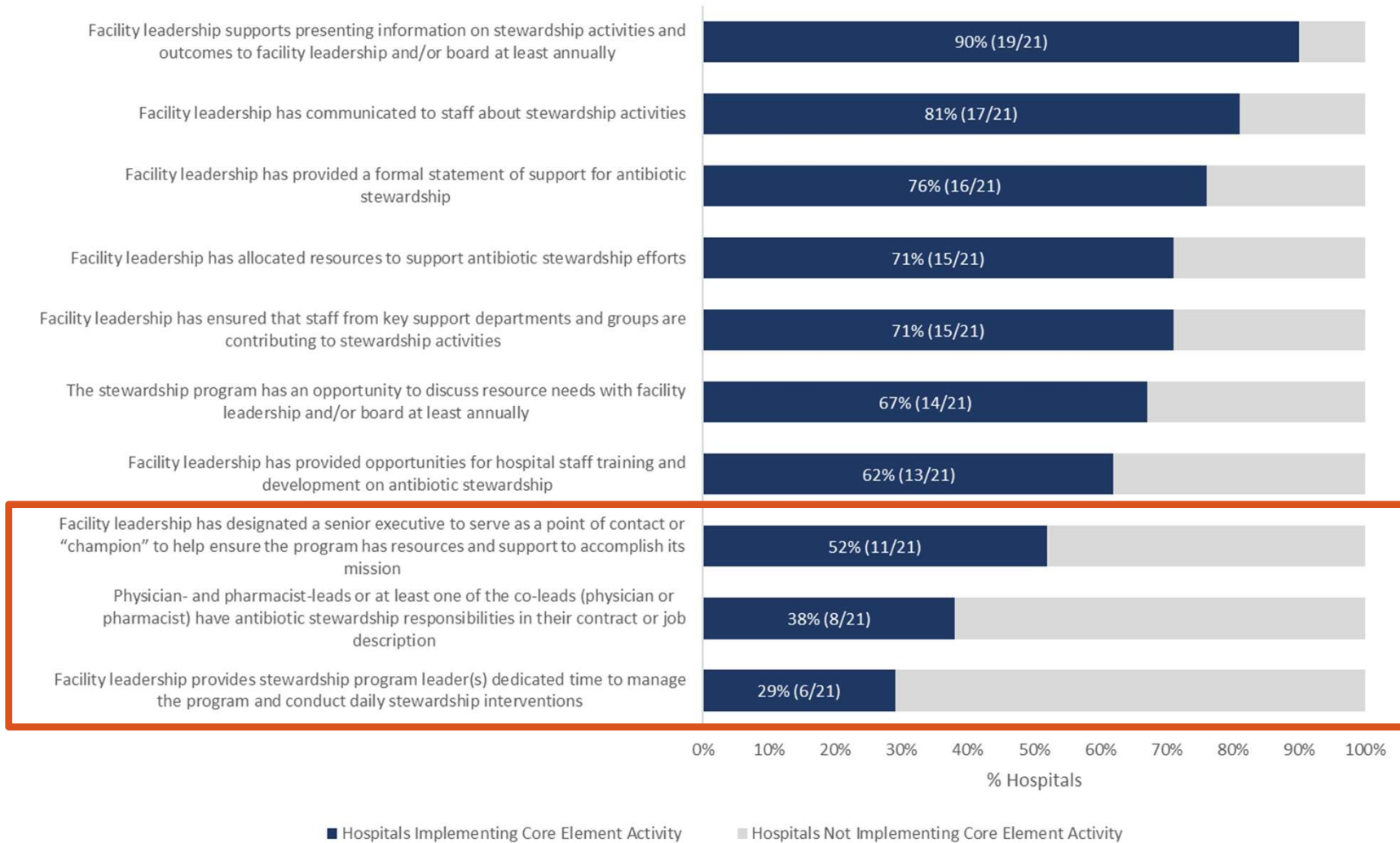
## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Leadership Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Leadership Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Leadership Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## ***Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs***



### **Accountability**

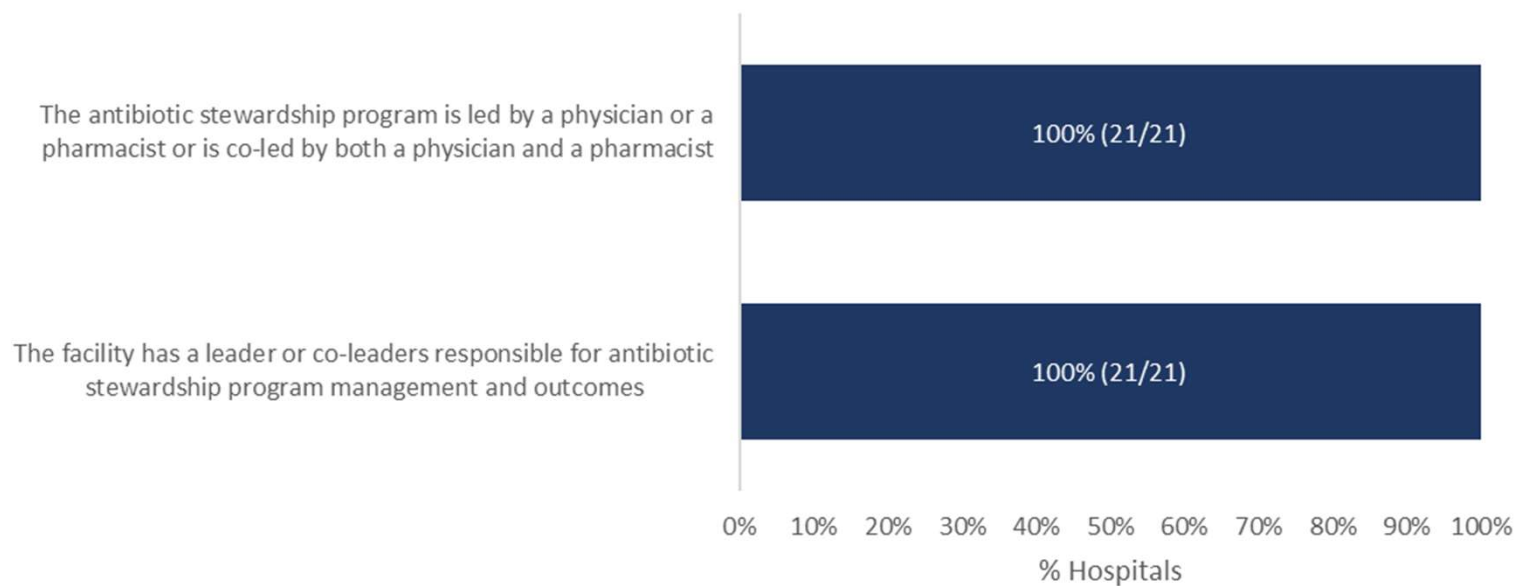
Appoint a leader or co-leaders, such as a physician and pharmacist, responsible for program management and outcomes.



### **Pharmacy Expertise (previously “Drug Expertise”):**

Appoint a pharmacist, ideally as the co-leader of the stewardship program, to help lead implementation efforts to improve antibiotic use.

## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Accountability & Pharmacy Expertise Core Elements Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022





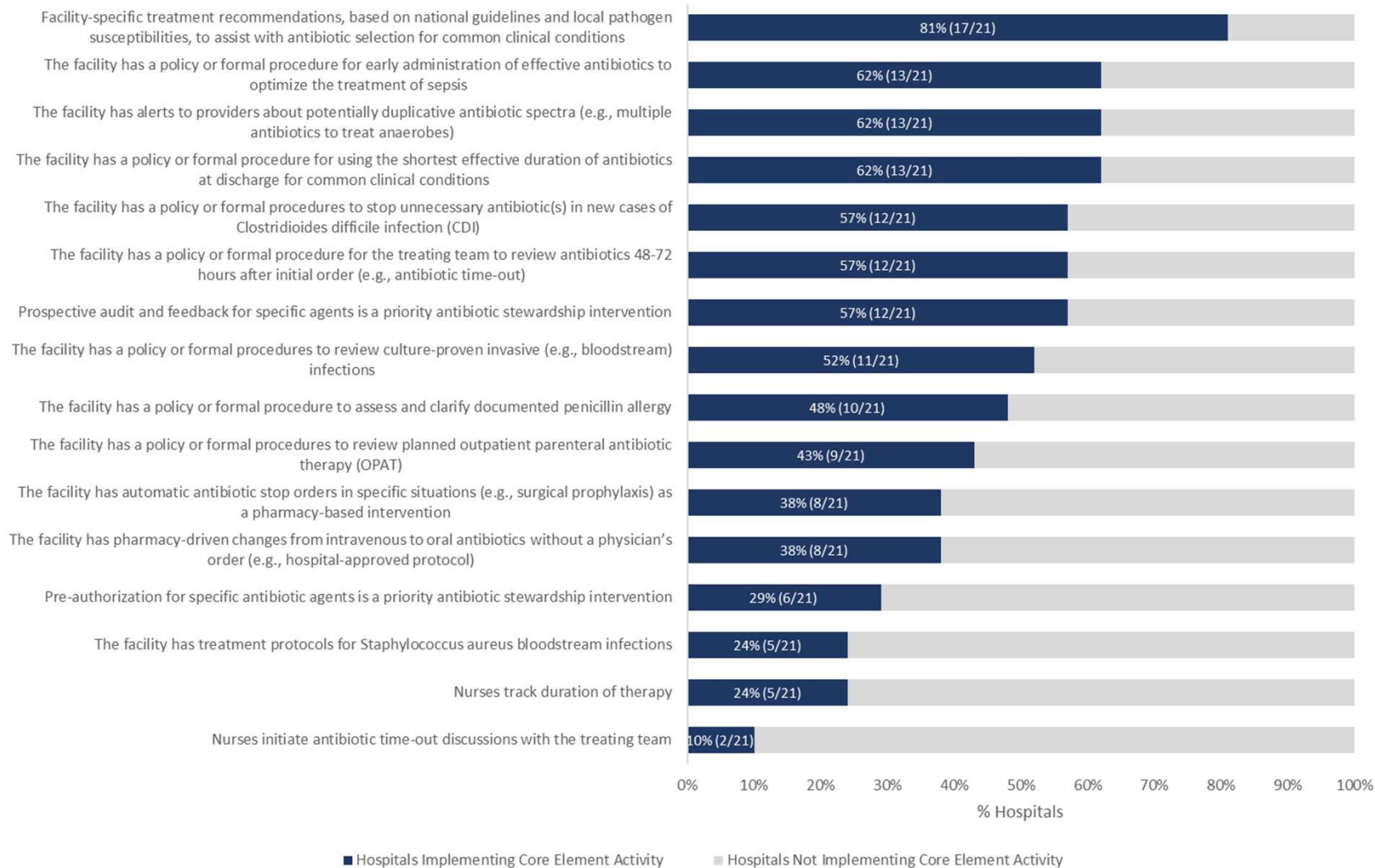
## *Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs*



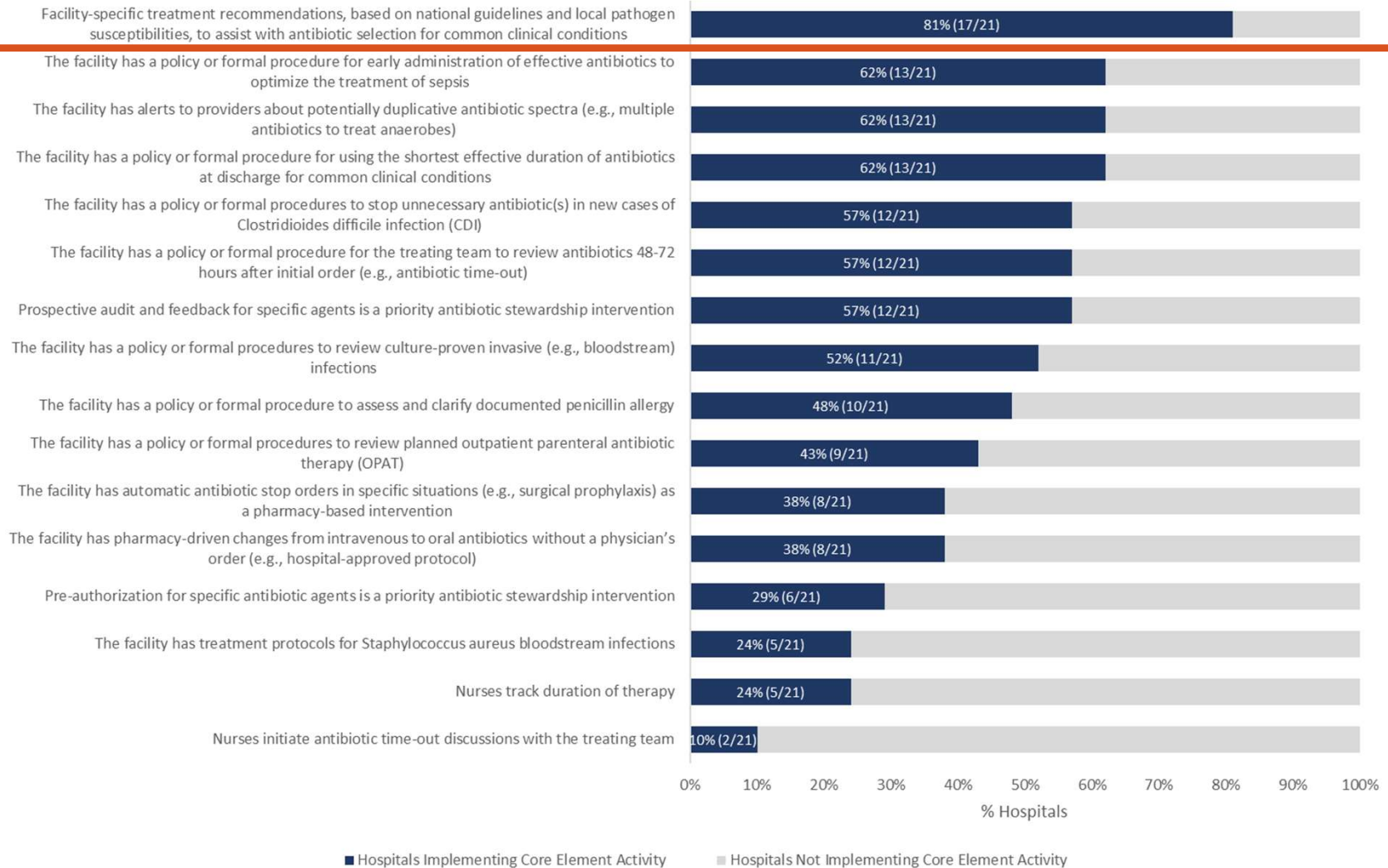
### **Action**

Implement interventions, such as prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization, to improve antibiotic use.

## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Action Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



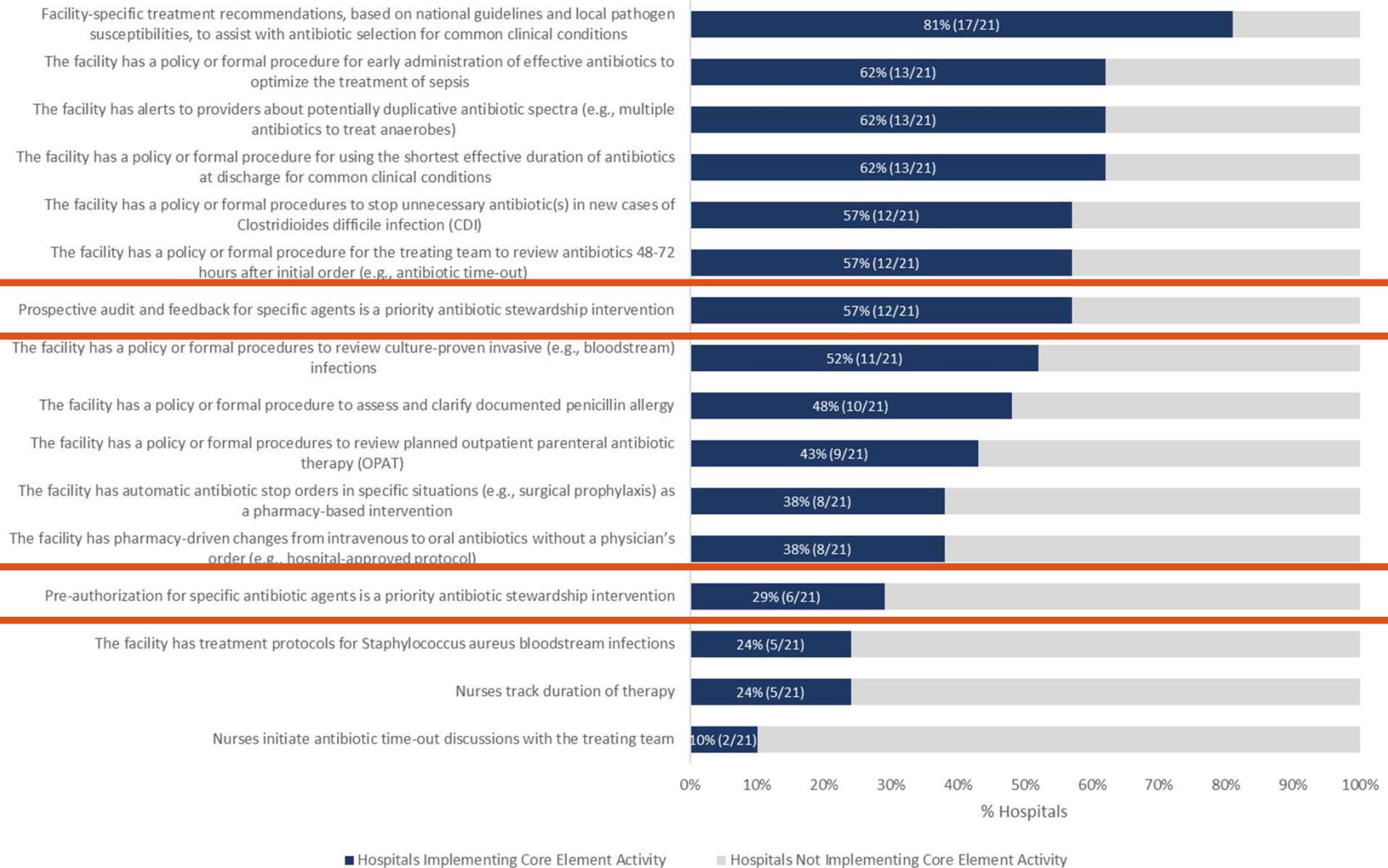
## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Action Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



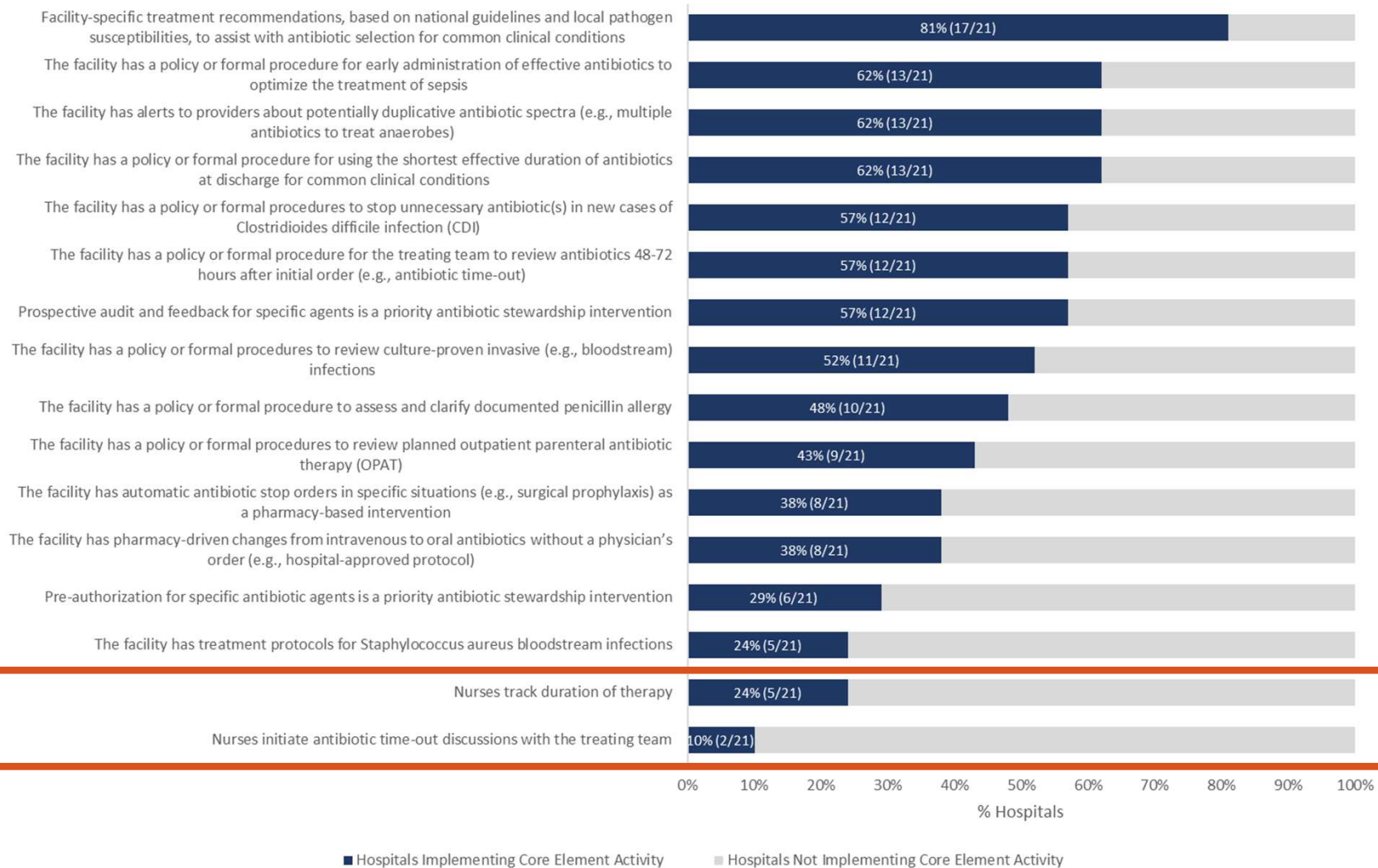
## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Action Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Action Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Action Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022





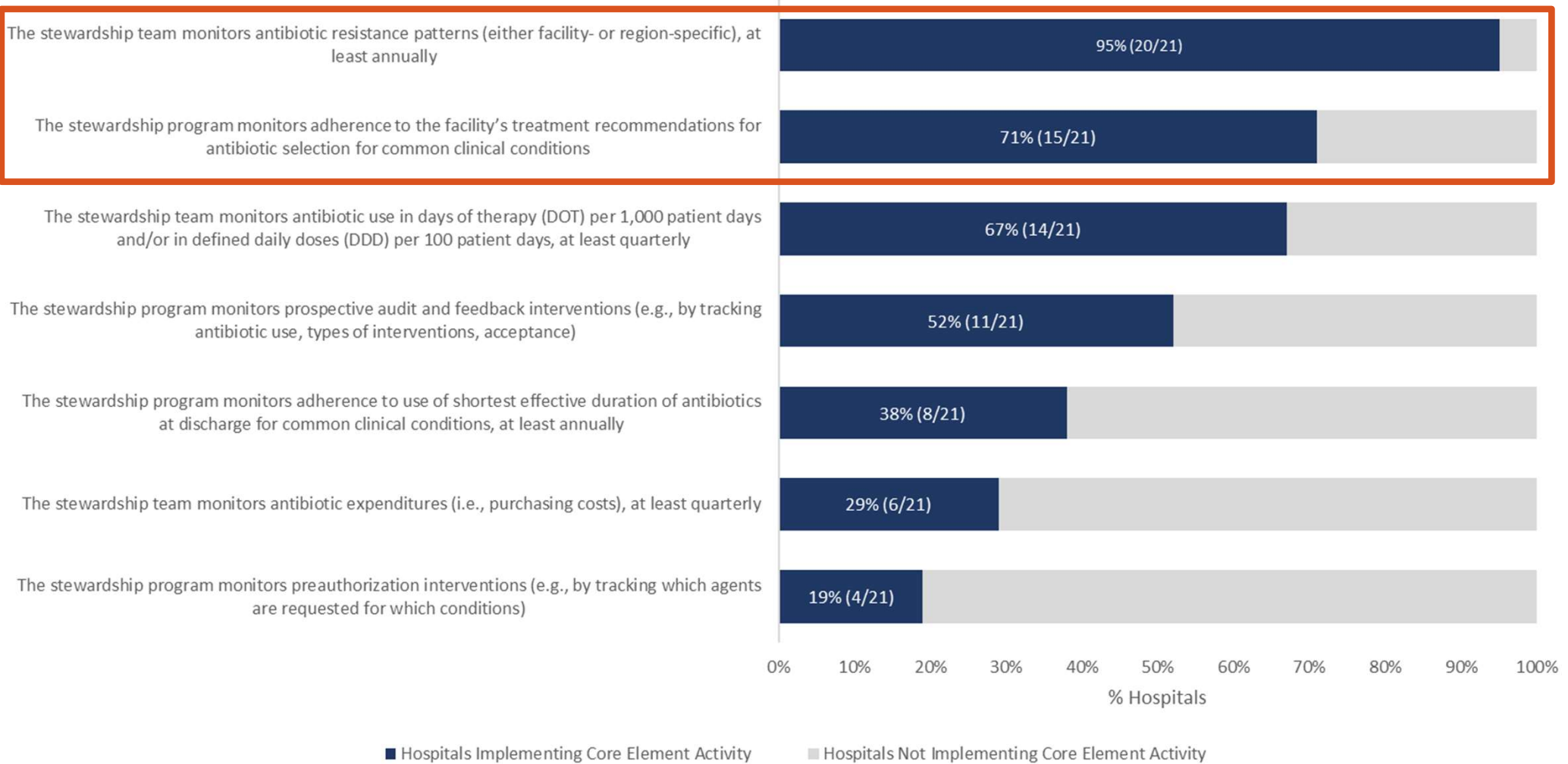
## ***Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs***



### **Tracking**

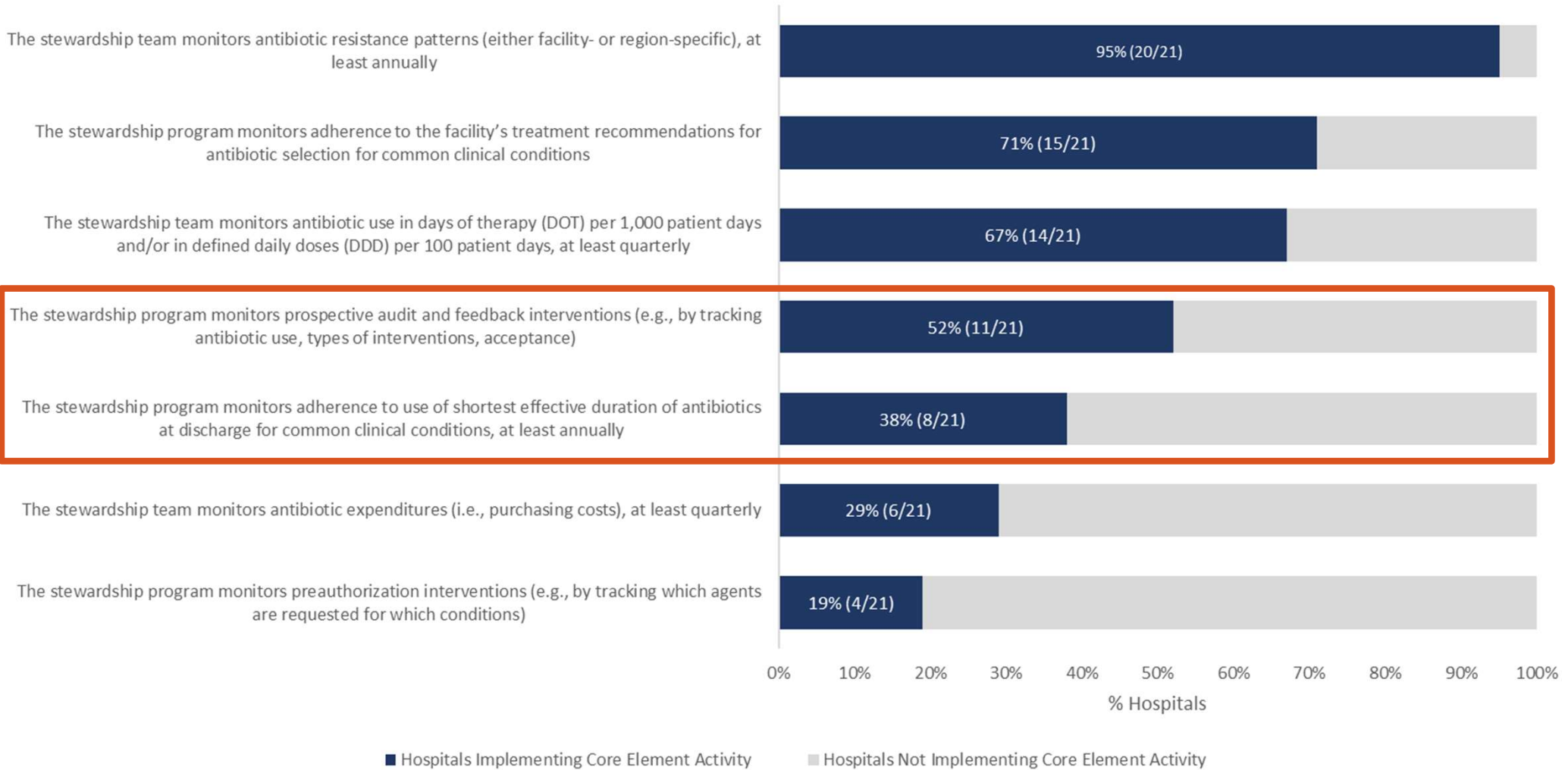
Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions, and other important outcomes, like *C. difficile* infections and resistance patterns.

## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Tracking Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022





## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Tracking Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



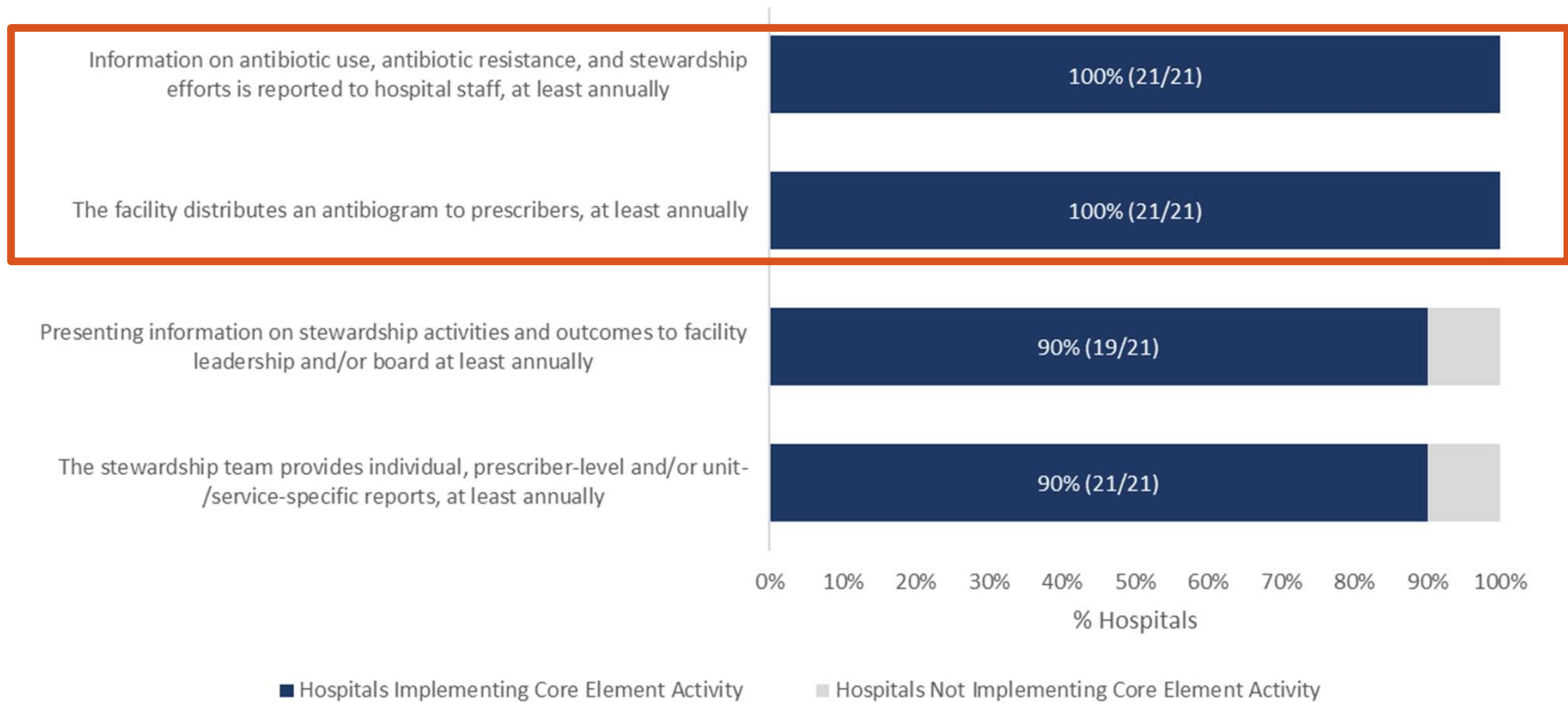
## *Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs*



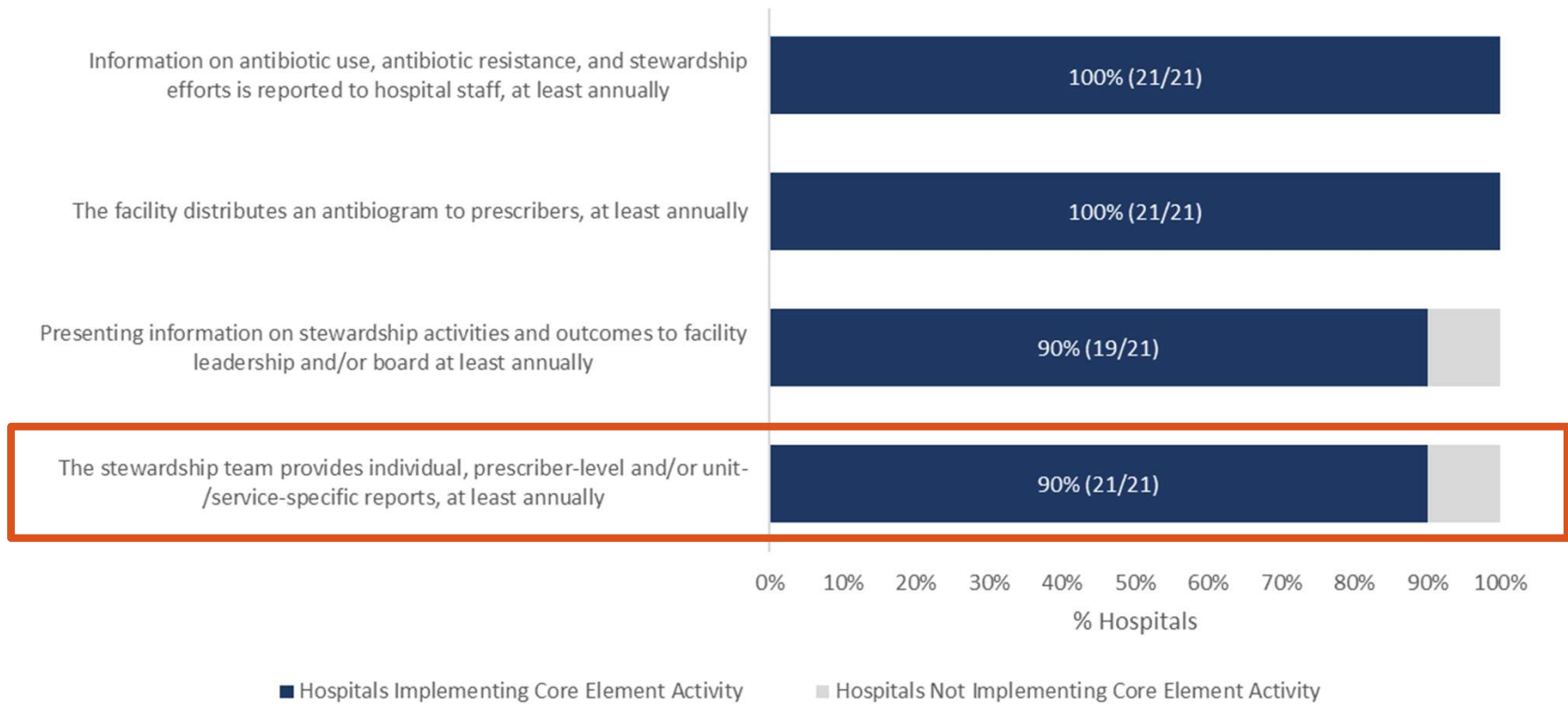
### **Reporting**

Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and hospital leadership.

## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Reporting Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Reporting Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



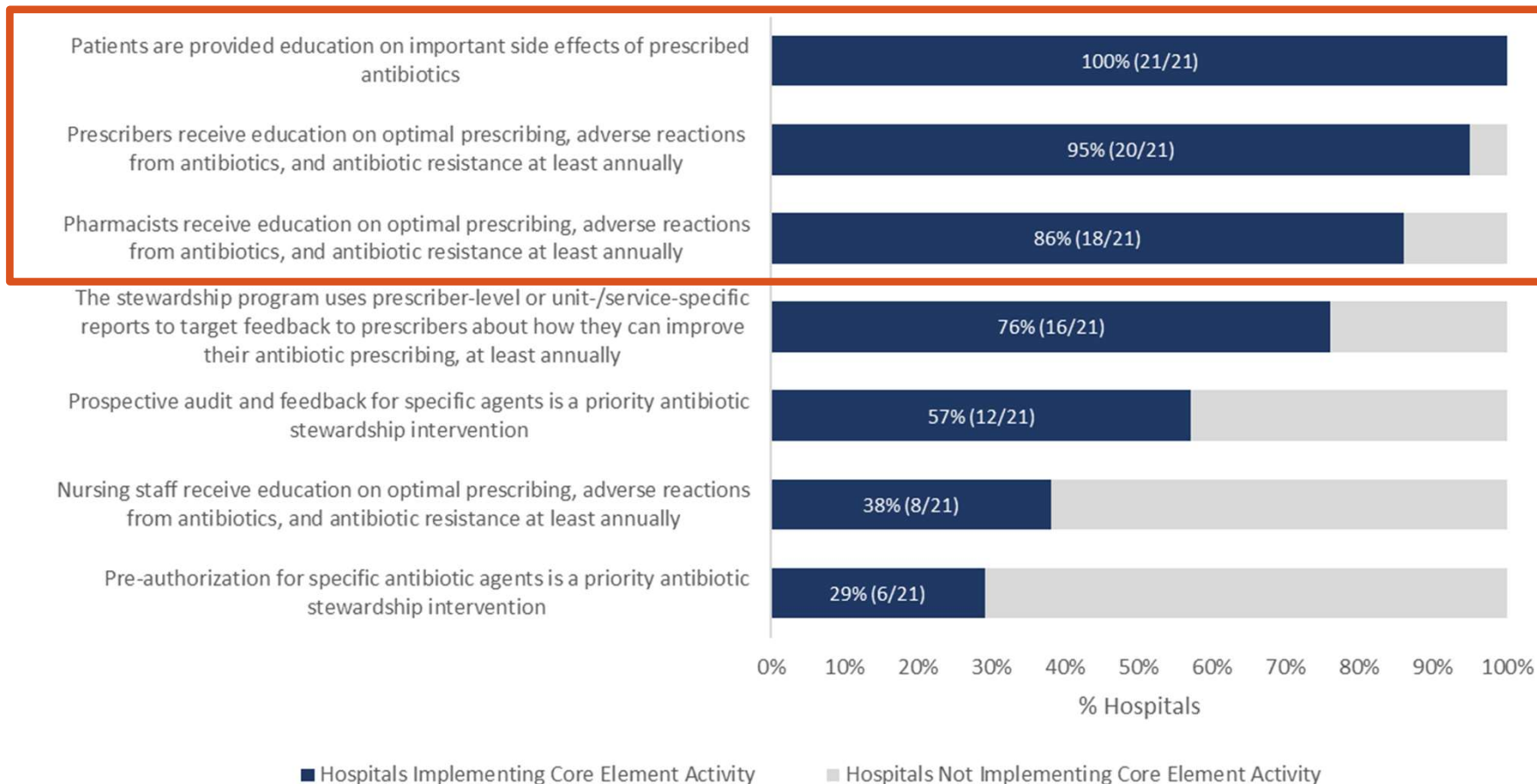
## *Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs*



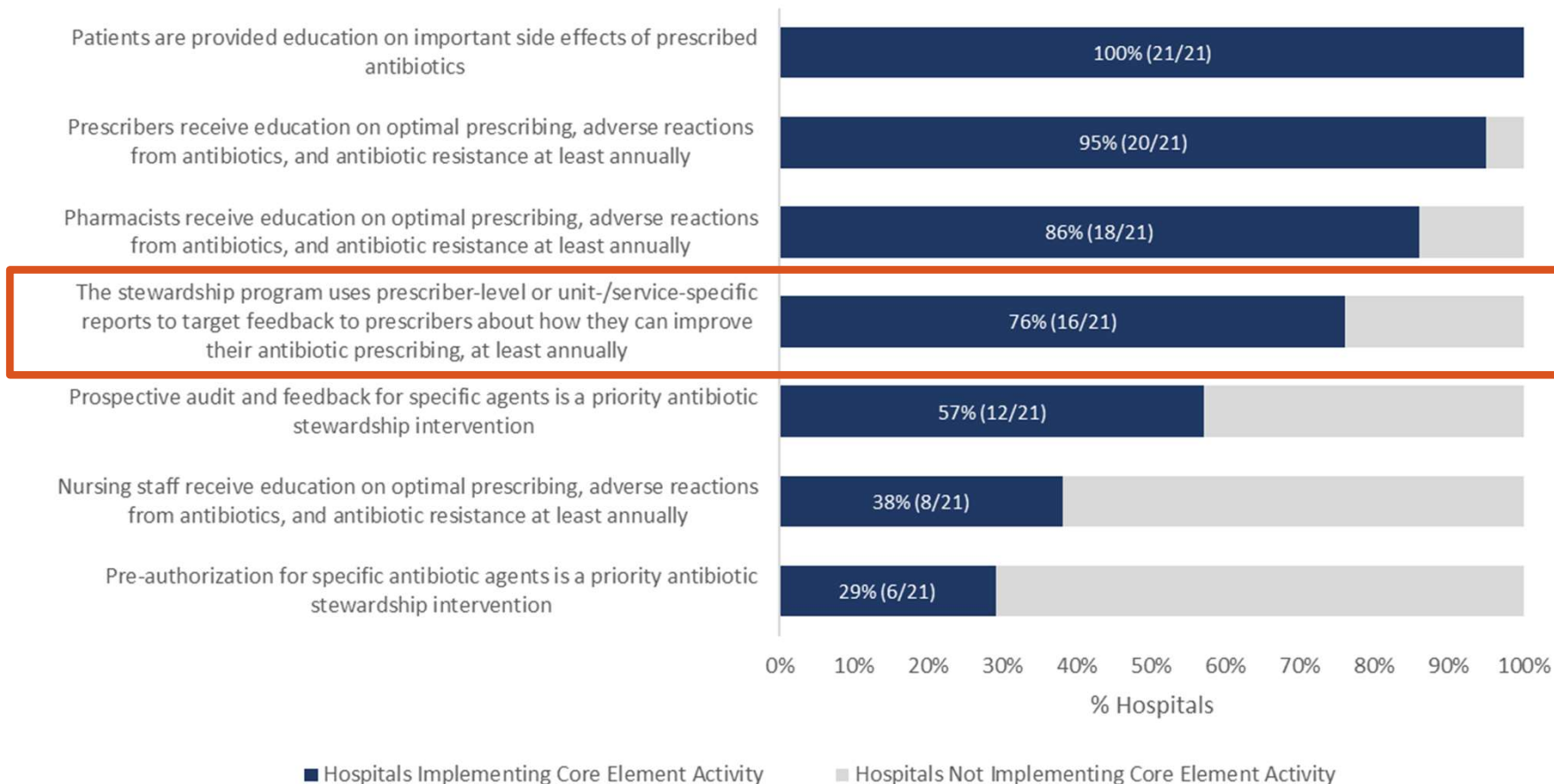
### **Education**

Educate prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and patients about adverse reactions from antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, and optimal prescribing.

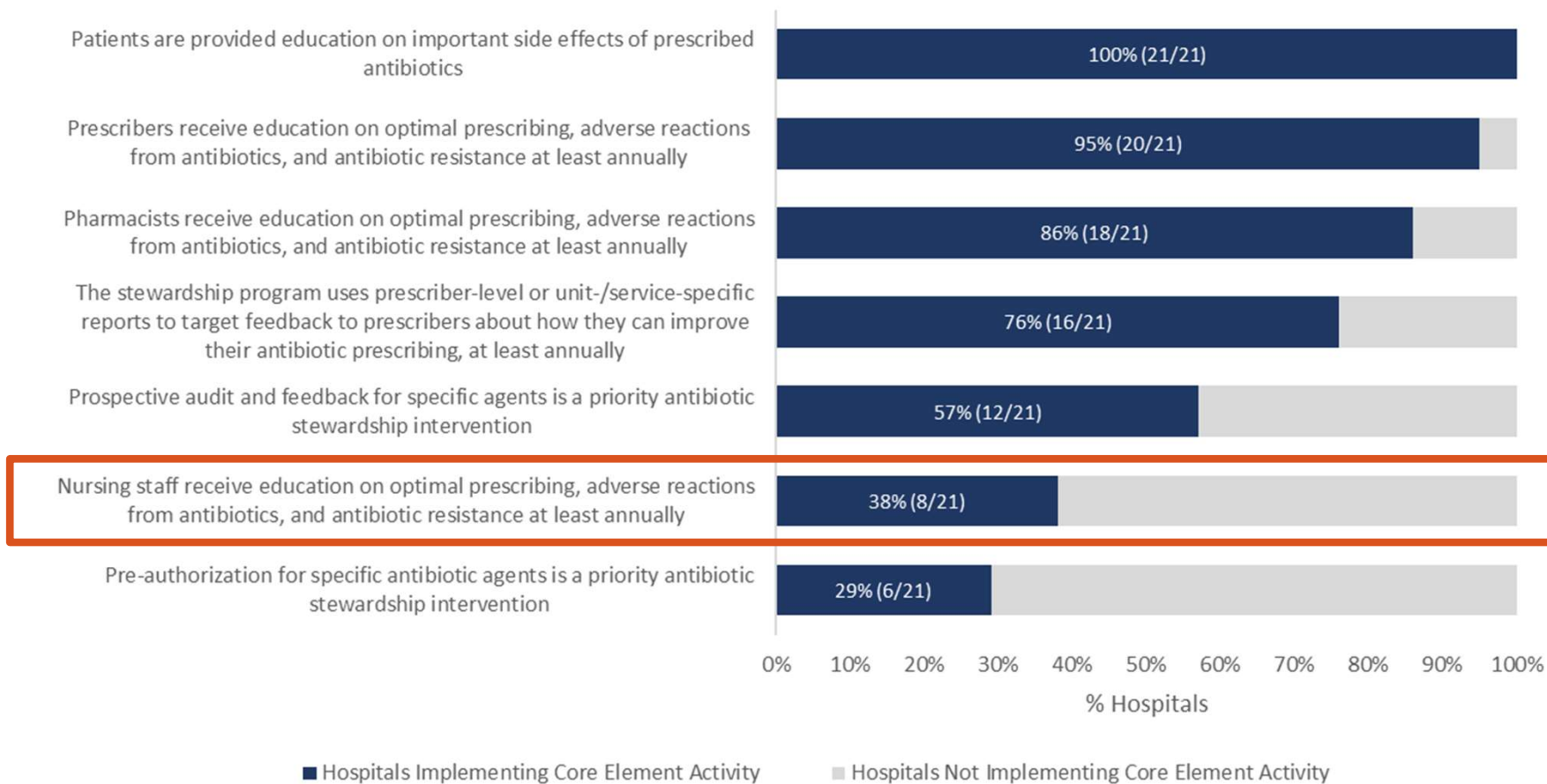
## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Education Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Education Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship - Education Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022





# **How Can We Continue to Strengthen Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs?**



# Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation



# CDC Released *Priorities* to Enhance the Quality and Impact of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

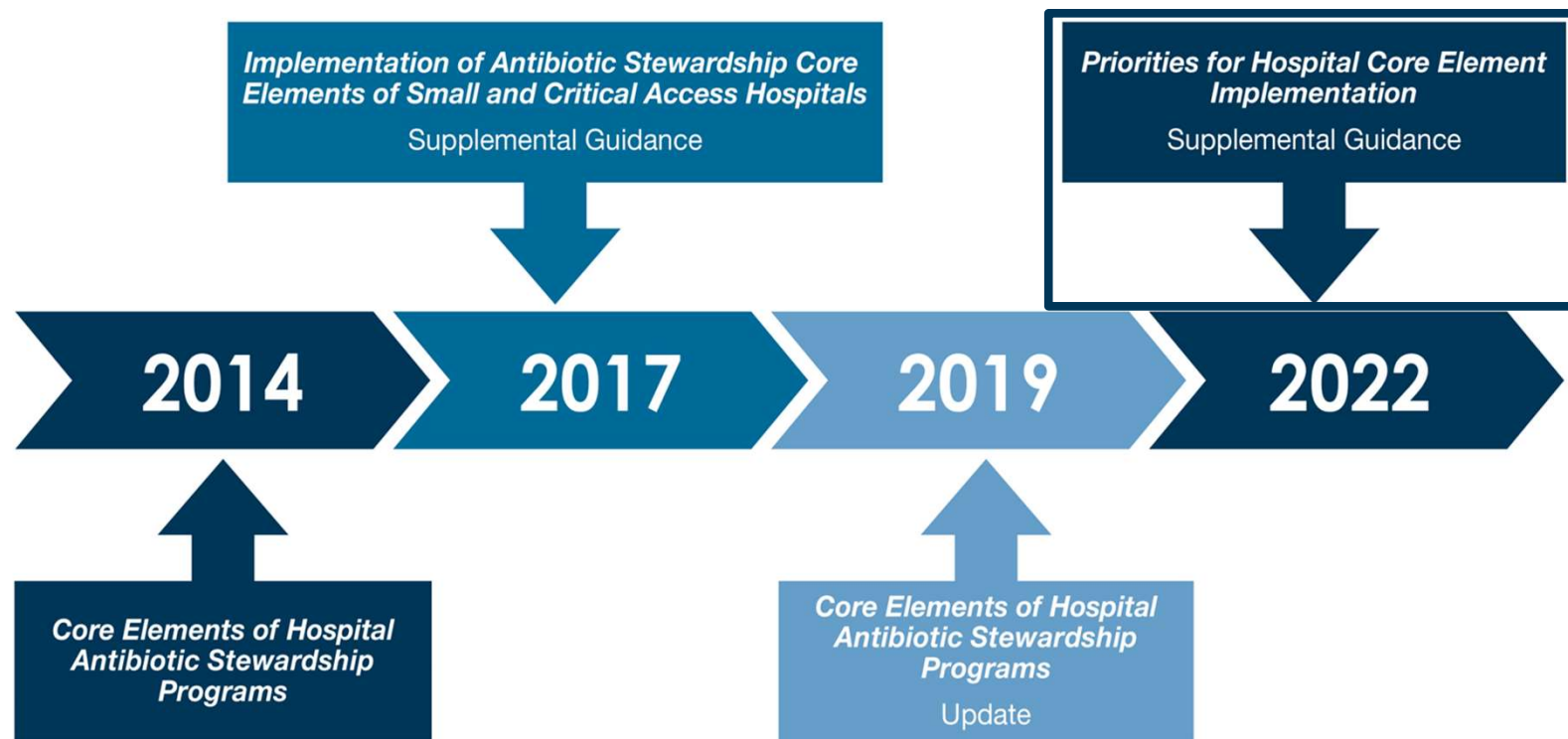


Figure. Timeline of Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs

# Priorities Are Derived from the Hospital Core Elements

- Highlight a **subset** of effective stewardship implementation approaches supported by evidence and/or recommended by stewardship experts

Hospital Core Elements	Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation
<b>Hospital Leadership Commitment</b>  Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources.	Antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have antibiotic stewardship responsibilities in their contract, job description, or performance review.
<b>Accountability</b>  Appoint a leader or co-leaders, such as a physician and pharmacist, responsible for program management and outcomes.	Antibiotic stewardship program is co-led by a physician and pharmacist.*
<b>Pharmacy/Stewardship Expertise</b>  Appoint a pharmacist, ideally as the co-leader of the stewardship program, to help lead implementation efforts to improve antibiotic use.	Antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have completed infectious diseases specialty training, a certificate program, or other training on antibiotic stewardship.
<b>Action</b>  Implement interventions, such as prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization, to improve antibiotic use.	Antibiotic stewardship program has facility-specific treatment recommendations for common clinical condition(s) and performs prospective audit/feedback or preauthorization.
<b>Tracking</b>  Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions, and other important outcomes, like <i>C. difficile</i> infections and resistance patterns.	Hospital submits antibiotic use data to the NHSN Antimicrobial Use Option.
<b>Reporting</b>  Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and hospital leadership.	Antibiotic use reports are provided at least annually to target feedback to prescribers. In addition, the antibiotic stewardship program monitors adherence to facility-specific treatment recommendations for at least one common clinical condition.
<b>Education</b>  Educate prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and patients about adverse reactions from antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, and optimal prescribing.	No implementation priority identified.

\* For critical access hospitals (CAHs), this criterion can be met if the hospital has a physician leader with a pharmacist involved in stewardship (recognizing that some CAHs do not have pharmacists on staff, so co-leadership is not possible).

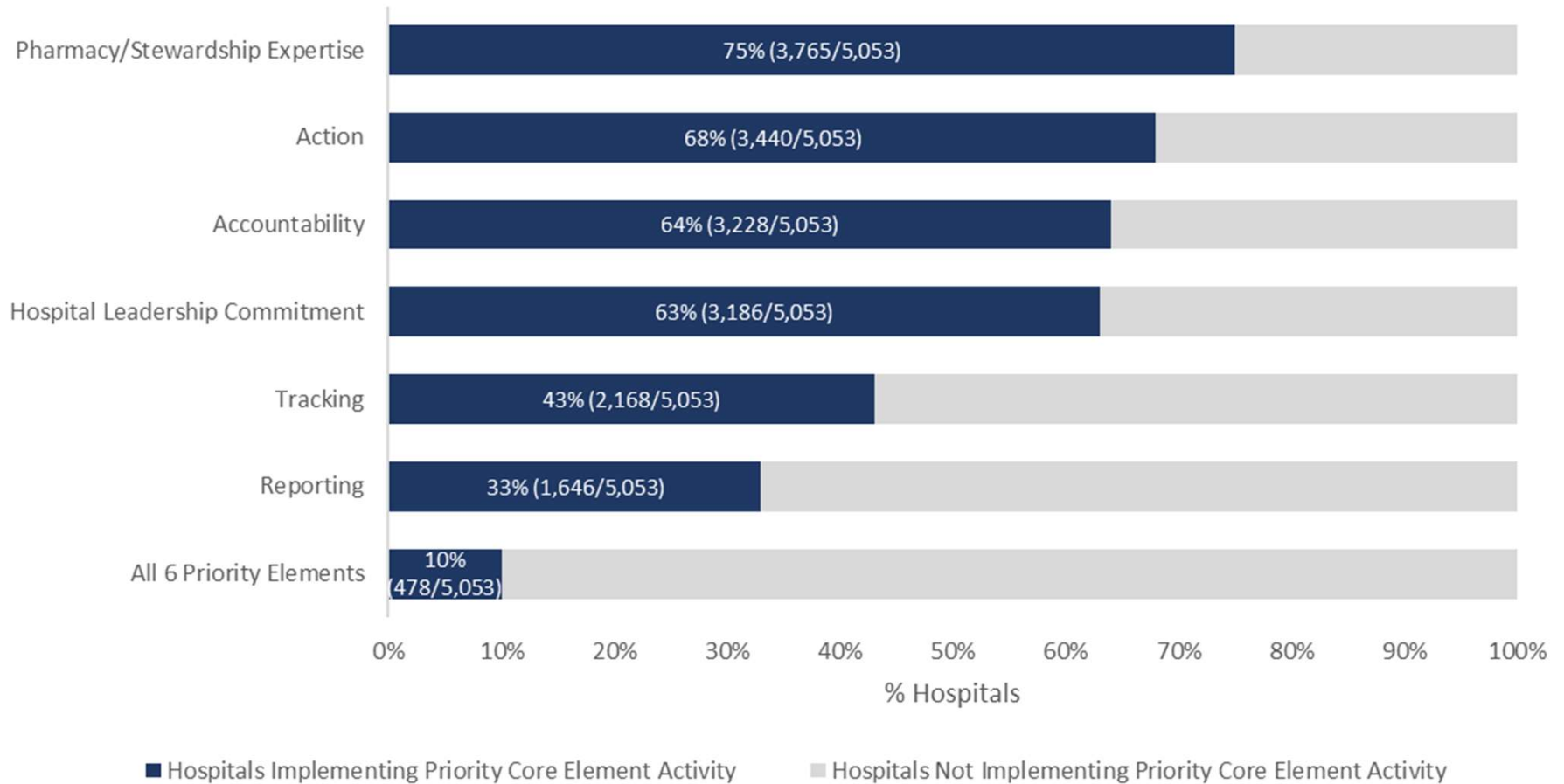
# Priorities Are Derived from the Hospital Core Elements

- Highlight a subset of effective stewardship implementation approaches supported by evidence and/or recommended by stewardship experts
- Provide hospital leadership and antibiotic stewards opportunities to **expand** their antibiotic stewardship programs

Hospital Core Elements	Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation
<b>Hospital Leadership Commitment</b>  Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources.	Antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have antibiotic stewardship responsibilities in their contract, job description, or performance review.
<b>Accountability</b>  Appoint a leader or co-leaders, such as a physician and pharmacist, responsible for program management and outcomes.	Antibiotic stewardship program is co-led by a physician and pharmacist.*
<b>Pharmacy/Stewardship Expertise</b>  Appoint a pharmacist, ideally as the co-leader of the stewardship program, to help lead implementation efforts to improve antibiotic use.	Antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have completed infectious diseases specialty training, a certificate program, or other training on antibiotic stewardship.
<b>Action</b>  Implement interventions, such as prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization, to improve antibiotic use.	Antibiotic stewardship program has facility-specific treatment recommendations for common clinical condition(s) and performs prospective audit/feedback or preauthorization.
<b>Tracking</b>  Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions, and other important outcomes, like <i>C. difficile</i> infections and resistance patterns.	Hospital submits antibiotic use data to the NHSN Antimicrobial Use Option.
<b>Reporting</b>  Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and hospital leadership.	Antibiotic use reports are provided at least annually to target feedback to prescribers. In addition, the antibiotic stewardship program monitors adherence to facility-specific treatment recommendations for at least one common clinical condition.
<b>Education</b>  Educate prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and patients about adverse reactions from antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, and optimal prescribing.	No implementation priority identified.

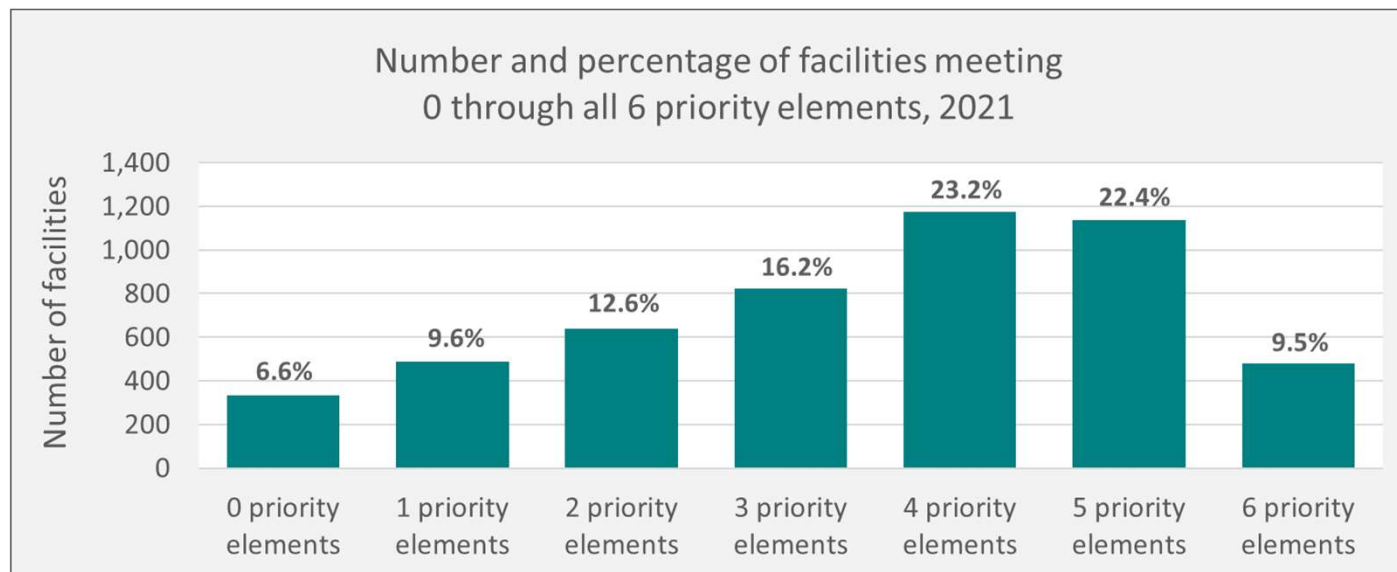
\* For critical access hospitals (CAHs), this criterion can be met if the hospital has a physician leader with a pharmacist involved in stewardship (recognizing that some CAHs do not have pharmacists on staff, so co-leadership is not possible).

## Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Implementation by Priority Core Element, United States, 2021

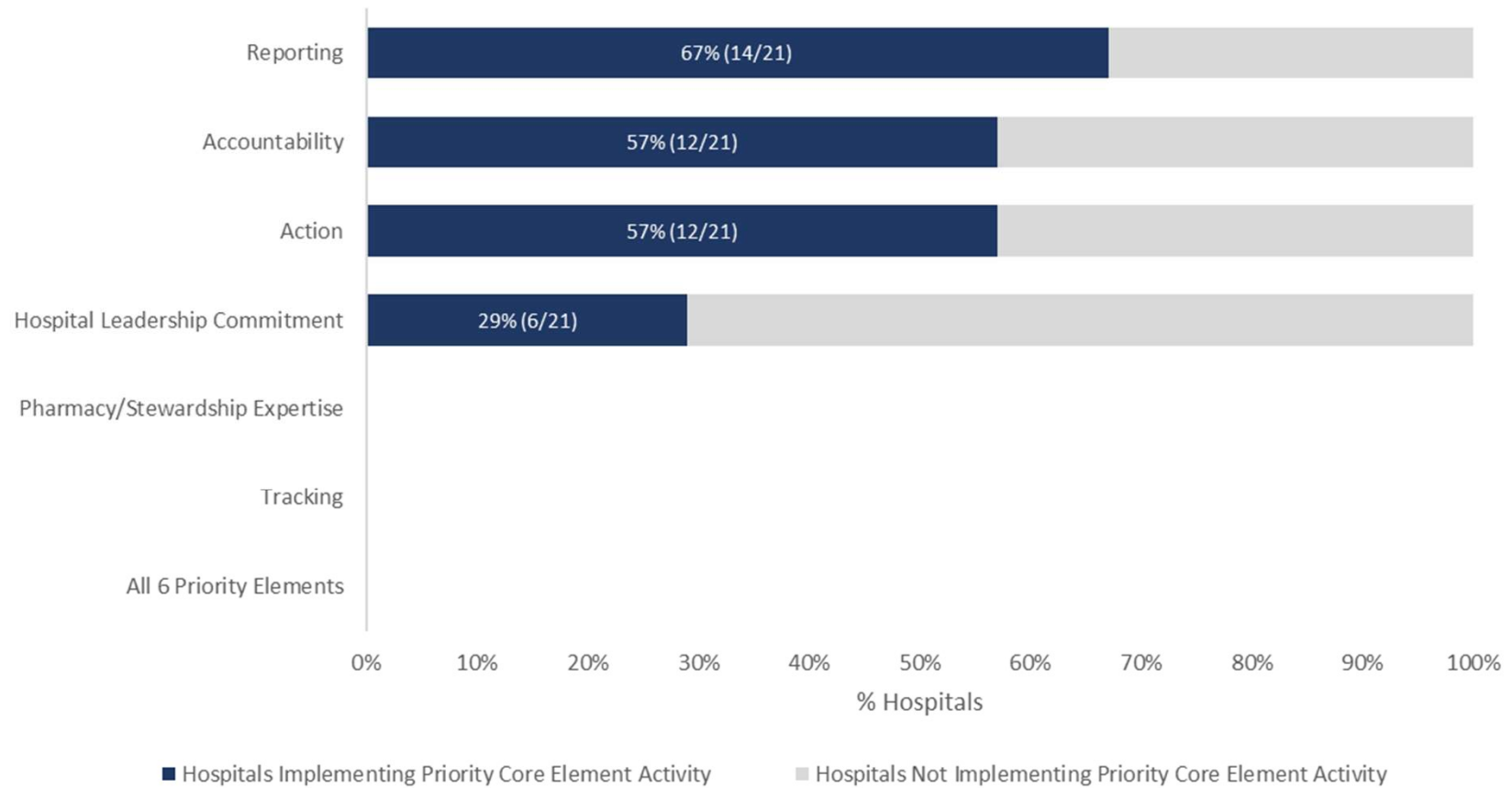


# Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

- 479 (9.5%) hospitals met all 6 priority elements in 2021
- 2,308 (45.6%) hospitals met 4 or 5 of the priority elements in 2021



## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Implementation by Priority Core Element, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2022



Pharmacy/Stewardship Expertise and Tracking priorities could not be assessed in the 2022 NHSN Annual Hospital Survey data



## Hospital Core Elements

### Hospital Leadership Commitment




Dedicate necessary human, financial, and information technology resources.

## Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

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

**Hospital Core Elements**

**Accountability**

 Appoint a leader or co-leaders, such as a physician and pharmacist, responsible for program management and outcomes.

**Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation**

Antibiotic stewardship program is co-led by a physician and pharmacist.\*

\*For critical access hospitals (CAHs), accountability can be met if the hospital has a physician leader with a pharmacist involved in stewardship

## Hospital Core Elements

### Pharmacy/Stewardship Expertise



Appoint a pharmacist, ideally as the co-leader of the stewardship program, to help lead implementation efforts to improve antibiotic use.

## Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

Antibiotic stewardship physician and/or pharmacist leader(s) have completed infectious diseases specialty training, a certificate program, or other training on antibiotic stewardship.

## Hospital Core Elements

### Action



Implement interventions, such as prospective audit and feedback or preauthorization, to improve antibiotic use.

## Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

Antibiotic stewardship program has facility-specific treatment recommendations for common clinical condition(s) and performs prospective audit/feedback or preauthorization.

## Hospital Core Elements

### Tracking



Monitor antibiotic prescribing, impact of interventions, and other important outcomes, like *C. difficile* infections and resistance patterns.

## Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

Hospital submits antibiotic use data to the NHSN Antimicrobial Use Option.

## Hospital Core Elements

### Reporting

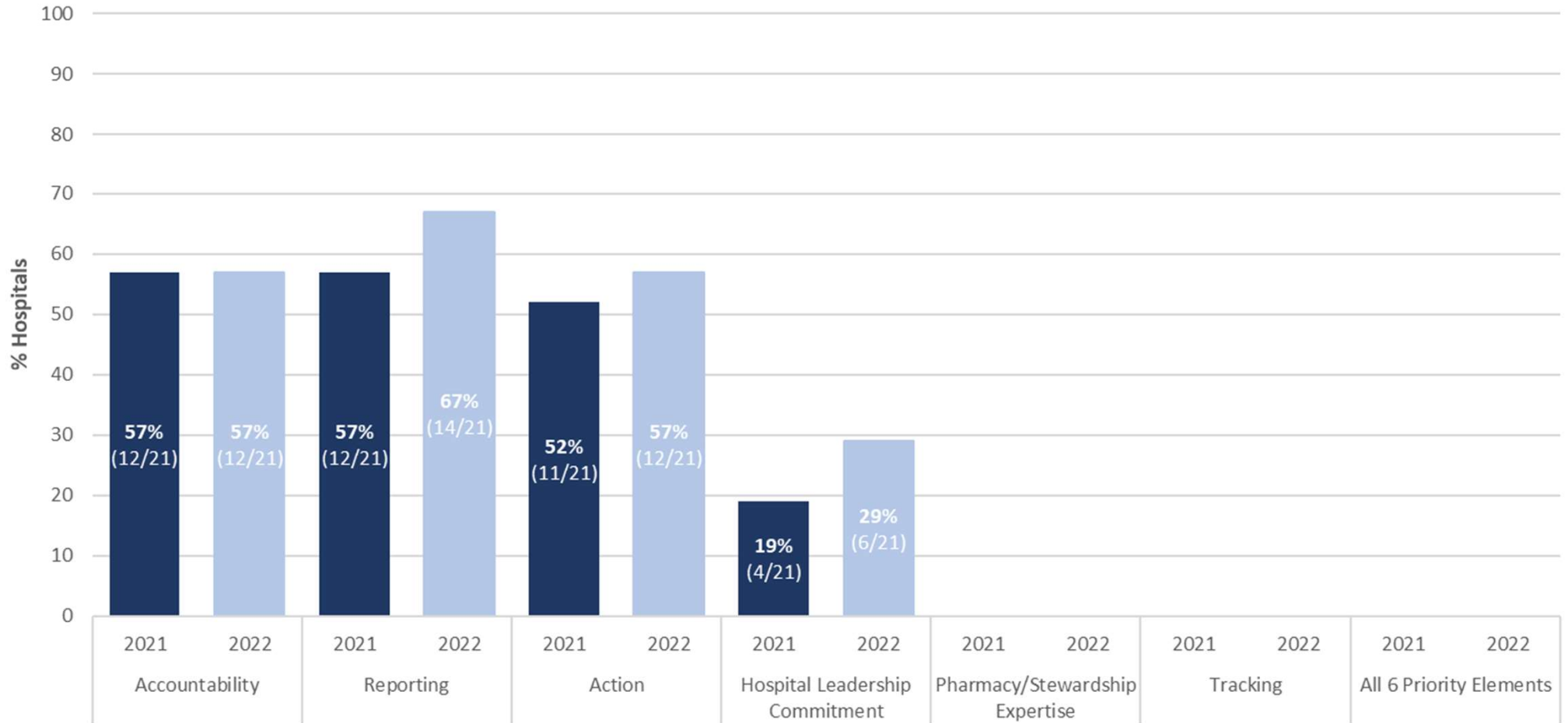


Regularly report information on antibiotic use and resistance to prescribers, pharmacists, nurses, and hospital leadership.

## Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

Antibiotic use reports are provided at least annually to target feedback to prescribers. In addition, the antibiotic stewardship program monitors adherence to facility-specific treatment recommendations for at least one common clinical condition.

## IHS Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Priority Core Element Implementation, NHSN Patient Safety Component - Annual Hospital Survey, 2021-2022



# Resources for Implementing Antibiotic Stewardship Activities




# Inappropriate Antibiotic Prescribing is Common in Hospitals

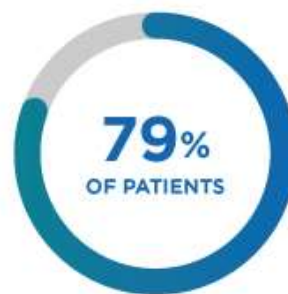
**NEW CDC DATA**

MORE THAN HALF OF ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING FOR SELECTED EVENTS IN HOSPITALS WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH RECOMMENDED PRESCRIBING PRACTICES





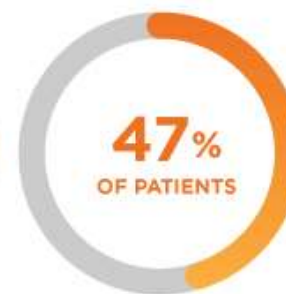
## ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING WAS NOT SUPPORTED IN:



with community-acquired pneumonia



with urinary tract infections



prescribed fluoroquinolone treatment



prescribed intravenous vancomycin antibiotic

Infection	Diagnostic Considerations	Empiric Therapy	Definitive Therapy Tailor to culture results and define duration, including discharge prescription
<p><b>Urinary tract infection (UTI)</b></p>	<p>Implement criteria for ordering urine cultures to ensure that positive cultures are more likely to represent infection than bladder colonization.</p> <p><b>Examples include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order a urine culture only if the patient has signs and symptoms consistent with UTI such as urgency, frequency, dysuria, suprapubic pain, flank pain, pelvic discomfort or acute hematuria.</li> <li>• For patients with urinary catheters, avoid obtaining urine cultures based solely on cloudy appearance or foul smell in the absence of signs and symptoms of UTI. Non-specific signs and symptoms such as delirium, nausea and vomiting should be interpreted with caution as, by themselves, they have a low specificity for UTI.</li> </ul>	<p>Avoid empiric use of antipseudomonal beta-lactams and/or MRSA agents unless clinically indicated.</p>	<p>Use the shortest duration of antibiotic therapy that is clinically appropriate.</p>

Infection	Diagnostic Considerations	Empiric Therapy	Definitive Therapy <small>Tailor to culture results and define duration, including discharge prescription</small>
<b>Skin and soft tissue infection</b>	Develop diagnostic criteria to distinguish purulent and non-purulent infections and severity of illness (i.e., mild, moderate and severe) so that skin and soft tissue infections can be managed appropriately according to guidelines.	Avoid empiric use of antipseudomonal beta-lactams and/or anti-anaerobic agents unless clinically indicated. Use of therapy specific for MRSA may not be necessary in uncomplicated non-purulent cellulitis.	Guidelines suggest that most cases of uncomplicated bacterial cellulitis can be treated for 5 days if the patient has a timely clinical response.

Infection	Diagnostic Considerations	Empiric Therapy	Definitive Therapy Tailor to culture results and define duration, including discharge prescription
<b>Community-acquired pneumonia</b>	Review cases after initiation of therapy to confirm pneumonia diagnosis versus non-infectious etiology.	Avoid empiric use of antipseudomonal beta-lactams and/or MRSA agents unless clinically indicated.	<p>Guidelines suggest that in adults, most cases of uncomplicated pneumonia can be treated for 5 days when a patient has a timely clinical response.</p> <p>Data also suggest that negative results of MRSA nasal colonization testing can help guide decisions to discontinue empiric therapy for MRSA pneumonia.</p>

Metlay et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*. 2019;200(7):e45-e67.  
 McCabe et al. *Arch Intern Med*. 2009;169(16):1525-1531.  
 Murray et al. *J Antimicrob Chemother*. 2014;69(2):515-518.  
 Parente et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2018;67(1):1-7.

## Antibiotic Prescribing and Use

CDC > Antibiotic Use > Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship > Hospital

### Antibiotic Use

About Antibiotic Use +

Patient Resources and Education +

Healthcare Professional Resources and Training +

Health Department Resources

Improving Antibiotic Use +

Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship -

Hospital -

Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation

Implementation Resources for Hospitals

Small and Critical Access Hospitals

Outpatient +

# Implementation Resources for Hospitals

[Print](#)

## Pharmacy Expertise

- [5 Ways Hospital Pharmacists can \*Be Antibiotics Aware\*](#)

## Action

- [Implementing an Antibiotic Stewardship Program: Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America](#)  [PDF - 27 pages] 
- [Urine Culture Stewardship in Hospitalized Patients](#)
- [Healthcare Professionals: \*Be Antibiotics Aware\* - At Hospital Discharge \(\*Print Only\*\)](#)  [PDF - 1 page]
- [Antimicrobial Stewardship Transition of Care \(Henry Ford Health System\)](#) 
- [Toolkit to Enhance Nursing and Antibiotic Stewardship Partnership \(The Johns Hopkins Hospital Department of Antimicrobial Stewardship\)](#) 
- [Redefining the Antibiotic Stewardship Team: Recommendations from the American Nurses Association/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Workgroup on the Role of Registered Nurses in Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Practices](#) [PDF - 14 pages]. 
- [AHRQ Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use](#) 

### On This Page

Pharmacy Expertise

Action

Tracking and Reporting

Education

More Resources



# 5 WAYS HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS CAN BE ANTIBIOTICS AWARE



## 1. Verify Penicillin Allergy

- Although 10% of the population in the United States reports a penicillin allergy, less than 1% of the population is truly penicillin allergic.<sup>1</sup>
- When possible, obtain a more detailed history of the penicillin reaction and review previously prescribed antibiotics. Alert the provider of your findings if you think the patient can tolerate a beta-lactam antibiotic, when appropriate.



## 2. Avoid Duplicative Anaerobic Coverage

- Duplicative anaerobic coverage, such as piperacillin/tazobactam and metronidazole, is unnecessary in most cases.<sup>2</sup>
- When the pharmacy receives antibiotic orders for two or more agents with anaerobic activity, alert the provider that the antibiotics have overlapping spectra of activity.



## 3. Reassess Antibiotic Therapy

- Review the patient's microbiology results (e.g., rapid diagnostic tests and clinically relevant cultures).<sup>3</sup>
- Prompt the provider to consider **stopping** or **tailoring** antibiotic therapy as appropriate.



## 4. Avoid Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

- Patients with asymptomatic bacteriuria should not be treated with antibiotics in most cases.<sup>4</sup>
- Consider the importance of signs and symptoms consistent with urinary tract infection (UTI) when reviewing positive urine cultures and/or making treatment recommendations.



## 5. Use the Shortest Effective Antibiotic Duration

- Guidelines for treatment duration are available for common infectious diseases such as pneumonia, UTI, and skin and soft tissue infection.<sup>5,6,7</sup>
- Alert the provider if the total days of inpatient and post-discharge antibiotic therapy exceeds the recommended duration.

# 5 Ways Hospital Pharmacists Can Be Antibiotics Aware

The scenarios and recommendations are applicable to most immunocompetent adult patients. Prior to making interventions, always assess the individual patient and use your clinical judgment. Follow your institution's treatment guidelines when applicable.



[www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use)

**References:**

1. Yu B. Really a Penicillin Allergy? Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor\\_1626372074279](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor_1626372074279)
2. Department of Antibiotic Stewardship, Core University of Iowa and Ohio State University. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor\\_1626372074279](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor_1626372074279)
3. Core University of Iowa and Ohio State University. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor\\_1626372074279](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-use-training-materials.html#anchor_1626372074279)
4. Smith R, Gupta S, Bhatia S, et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria. 2016 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;63(10):1245-1252. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciw001>
5. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. ASHP Guidelines on the Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia. Clin Infect Dis. 2019;68(10):1485-1492. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciy001>
6. Infectious Diseases Society of America. IDSA Guidelines for the Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia in Adults. Clin Infect Dis. 2019;68(10):1485-1492. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciy001>
7. Society of American and the European Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. Clin Infect Dis. 2015;61(10):1485-1492. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/civ001>

[https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/materials.html#anchor\\_1626372074279](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/materials.html#anchor_1626372074279)





HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS:  
*BE ANTIBIOTICS AWARE*

## Use the Shortest Effective Antibiotic Duration



### SCENARIO

You are performing medication reconciliation and reviewing discharge antibiotic orders for a patient.

Antibiotic stewardship programs are targeting interventions to reduce unnecessarily long durations of antibiotic treatment. In adult patients who have a timely clinical response, guidelines suggest the following durations for uncomplicated cases of these infections:

- **Community-Acquired Pneumonia:** Five days<sup>1</sup>
- **Hospital-Acquired Pneumonia:** Seven days<sup>2</sup>
- **Non-purulent Cellulitis:** Five days<sup>3</sup>

#### Pharmacists can help optimize antibiotic duration by:



1. Adding the total number of days of uninterrupted inpatient antibiotic therapy to planned post-discharge antibiotic duration.



2. Alerting the provider if the total duration of inpatient and post-discharge antibiotic therapy exceeds the recommended duration according to treatment guidelines.



3. Discussing optimizing the duration of post-discharge antibiotic therapy with the provider if the patient had an uncomplicated clinical course and has responded appropriately to treatment.

The scenarios and recommendations discussed are applicable to most immunocompetent adult patients. Prior to making interventions, always assess the individual patient and use your clinical judgment. Follow your institution's treatment guidelines when applicable.

# 5 Ways Hospital Pharmacists Can Be Antibiotics Aware: *Use the Shortest Effective Antibiotic Duration*

[https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/materials.html#anchor\\_1626372074279](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/materials.html#anchor_1626372074279)

# Improving Antibiotic Use at Hospital Discharge



**HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS:  
BE ANTIBIOTICS AWARE**

## At Hospital Discharge



### 1 Use the most targeted and safe antibiotic<sup>1,2</sup>

- If a penicillin allergy is listed in the medical record, determine whether the patient is truly allergic.
- If the patient is to be discharged on a fluoroquinolone, consider a safer alternative when appropriate.
- If planning outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy, consider review by the antibiotic stewardship program or infectious disease consultation service.



### 2 Use the shortest effective antibiotic duration<sup>1,3,4</sup>

- Account for inpatient antibiotic days when considering the duration of a post-discharge prescription.
- Examples of total treatment duration for common infections:
  - Community-acquired pneumonia: 5 days<sup>5</sup>
  - Hospital-acquired pneumonia: 7 days<sup>6</sup>
  - Non-purulent cellulitis: 5 days<sup>7</sup>



### 3 Document and communicate a structured and timely discharge summary<sup>8</sup>

Information communicated across transitions of care may include:

- Diagnosis and treatment plan
- Antibiotic therapy
- List inpatient antibiotic(s) and total number of days received in the hospital.
- Specify if antibiotic therapy was completed in the hospital or if continued therapy post-discharge is needed.
- For a post-discharge prescription, list the planned antibiotic, dose, and end date.
- Results of relevant diagnostic tests (including pending tests)
- Instructions for follow-up medical care, including contact information for additional questions



### 4 Educate patients and caregivers<sup>1</sup>

- Indication and planned antibiotic course
- Instructions for follow-up medical care
- Signs and symptoms of worsening infection, and sepsis.
- Signs and symptoms of antibiotic-associated adverse events, including *Clostridioides difficile* infection



This document is meant to provide general guidance and does not apply to all clinical scenarios. Always assess the individual patient, use your clinical judgment, and follow your institution's treatment guidelines and protocols when applicable.

**REFERENCES**

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Antibiotic stewardship program. <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/antibiotic-stewardship/>
2. Penicillin allergy. <https://www.fda.gov/oc/ohrt/penicillin-allergy/>
3. Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America. <https://www.shea-online.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>
4. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ahfs.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>
5. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ahfs.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>
6. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ahfs.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>
7. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ahfs.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>
8. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ahfs.org/antibiotic-stewardship/>



[www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use)

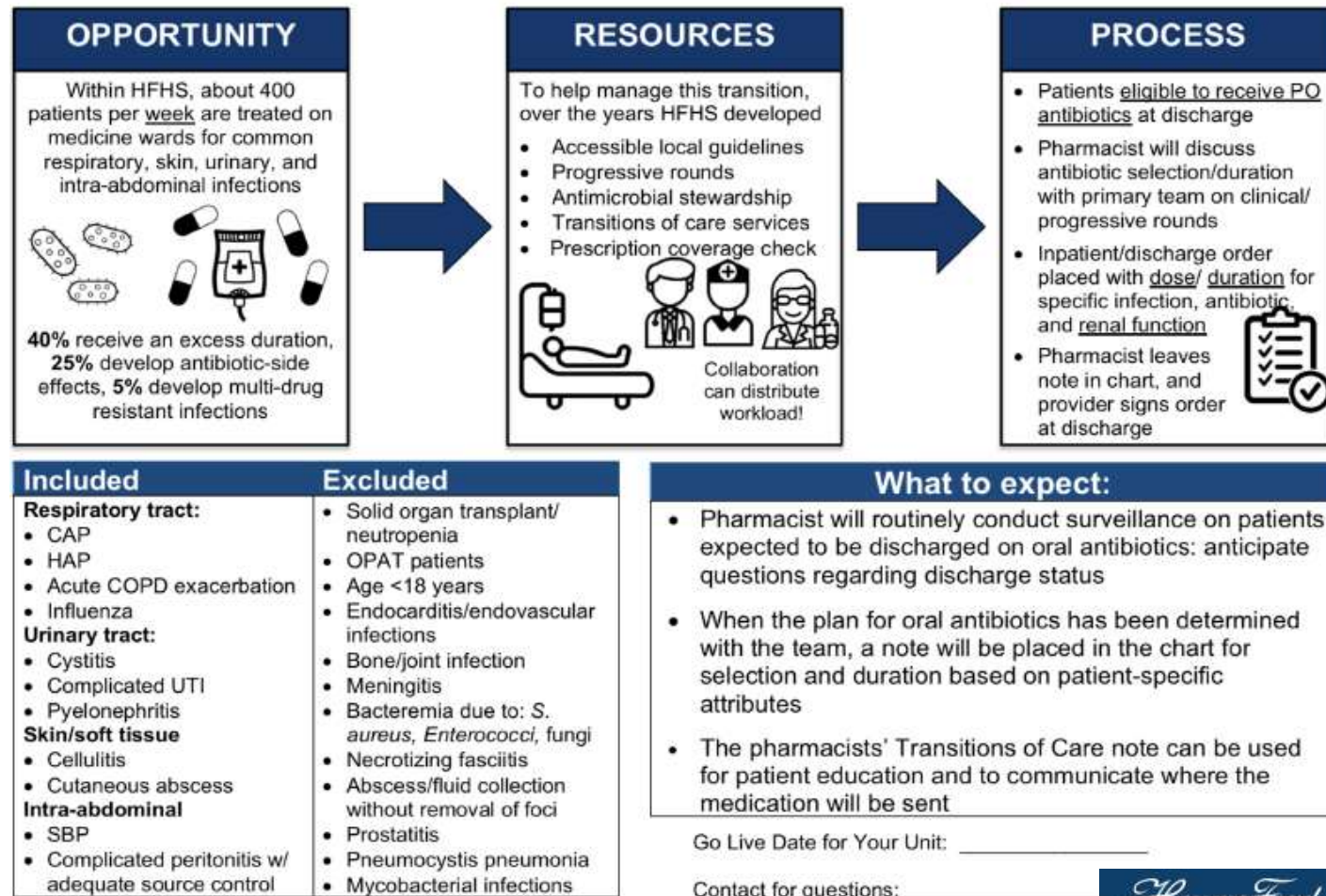
CS20087



Improving antibiotic use at **hospital discharge** through a pharmacist-led transition-of-care intervention

## Pre-Intervention Handout for Physicians and Nurses

### Antimicrobial Stewardship Transitions of Care Overview



# Antimicrobial Stewardship Resource Bundles *New*

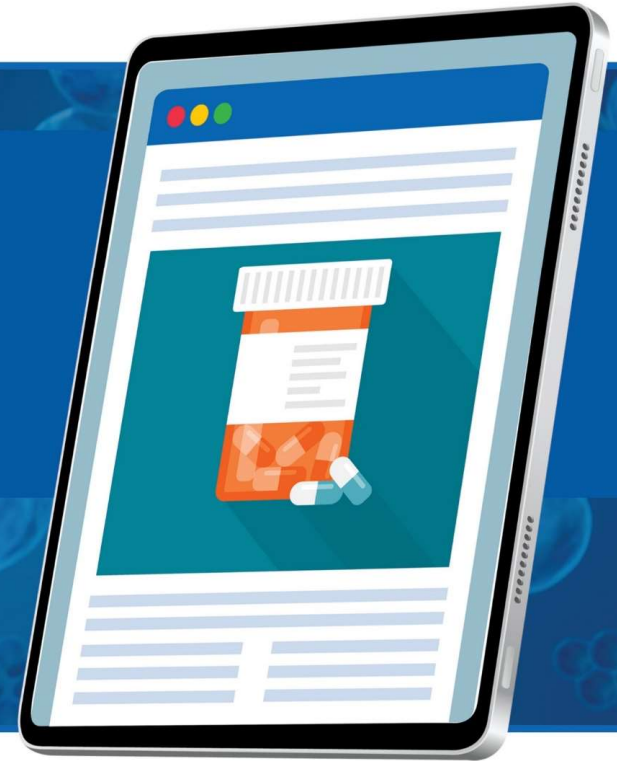
SETTING	AUDIENCE	RESOURCES
Transitions of Care	<b>Healthcare Professionals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Physicians</i></li> <li>• <i>Nurse Practitioners</i></li> <li>• <i>Physician Associates</i></li> <li>• <i>Pharmacists</i></li> </ul>	⇒ <b>Online Training Module(s):</b> <a href="#">Antibiotic Stewardship in Hospitals</a>  ⇒ <b>Tools and Guidance:</b> <a href="#">Be Antibiotics Aware at Hospital Discharge</a> <a href="#">Antimicrobial Stewardship Transition of Care (Henry Ford Health System)</a>
	<b>Pharmacists</b>	⇒ <b>Tools and Guidance:</b> <a href="#">Use the Shortest Effective Antibiotic Duration</a>

Draft; subject to change

# CDC Training with Over 8 Hours of Free CE Credits



## UPDATED CDC Training on Antibiotic Stewardship



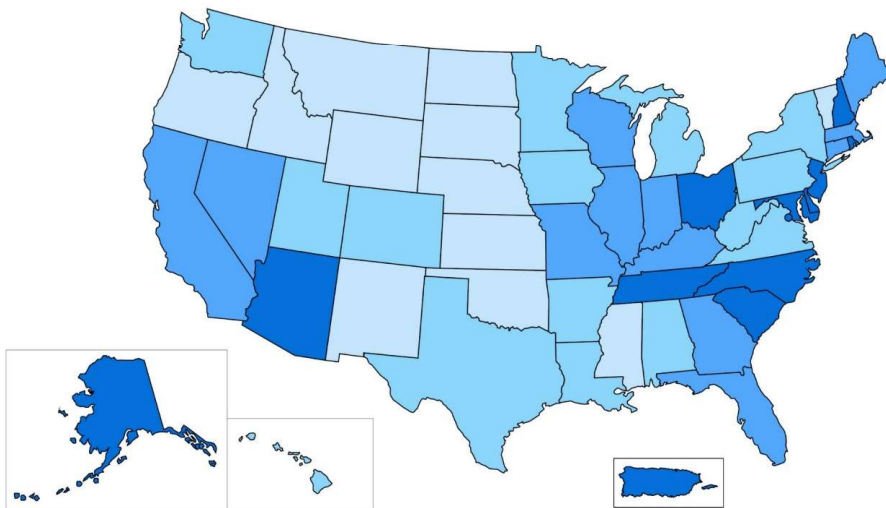
CS336932-A

To access the training and free continuing education credits, visit [www.train.org/cdctrain/training\\_plan/3697](http://www.train.org/cdctrain/training_plan/3697).

# Antibiotic Resistance & Patient Safety Portal



**BE  
ANTIBIOTICS  
AWARE**  
SMART USE, BEST CARE



Explore and Visualize Data on  
Antibiotic Use and Stewardship

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.



CS335177-A



# U.S. ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK

November 18–24, 2023

[www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use)



**BE  
ANTIBIOTICS  
AWARE**

SMART USE, BEST CARE



CS338246-A

# All Healthcare Professionals can *Be Antibiotics Aware*



**BE  
ANTIBIOTICS  
AWARE**

SMART USE, BEST CARE



For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use).



CS335343-A

## Summary

- Antibiotic stewardship is important to address the problem of antibiotic resistance and optimize patient safety
- All IHS facilities that submitted the 2021 and 2022 NHSN Annual Hospital Survey met the seven Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship
- CDC released the six Priorities for Hospital Core Element implementation to help enhance the quality and impact of existing antibiotic stewardship programs
- The Core Elements and the Priorities can serve as a resource to support the implementation of antibiotic stewardship interventions

**Post-Assessment**



## Question

1. The Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship include:
  - a) Tracking
  - b) Accountability
  - c) Action
  - d) Only (b) and (c) are correct
  - e) All the above

## Question

1. The Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship include:
  - a) Tracking
  - b) Accountability
  - c) Action
  - d) Only (b) and (c) are correct
  - e) All the above

## Question

2. The Priorities for Hospital Core Element implementation, which were released in 2022, are meant to replace the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs, which were last updated in 2019.
  - a) True
  - b) False

## Question

2. The Priorities for Hospital Core Element implementation, which were released in 2022, are meant to replace the Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs, which were last updated in 2019.
- a) True
  - b) False

## Question

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation?
- a) Hospital leadership commitment
  - b) Tracking
  - c) Reporting
  - d) Education
  - e) All the above

## Question

3. Which of the following is NOT one of the Priorities for Hospital Core Element Implementation?
- a) Hospital leadership commitment
  - b) Tracking
  - c) Reporting
  - d) Education
  - e) All the above



[www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use)

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

AVazquez-Deida@cdc.gov  
AntibioticUse@cdc.gov

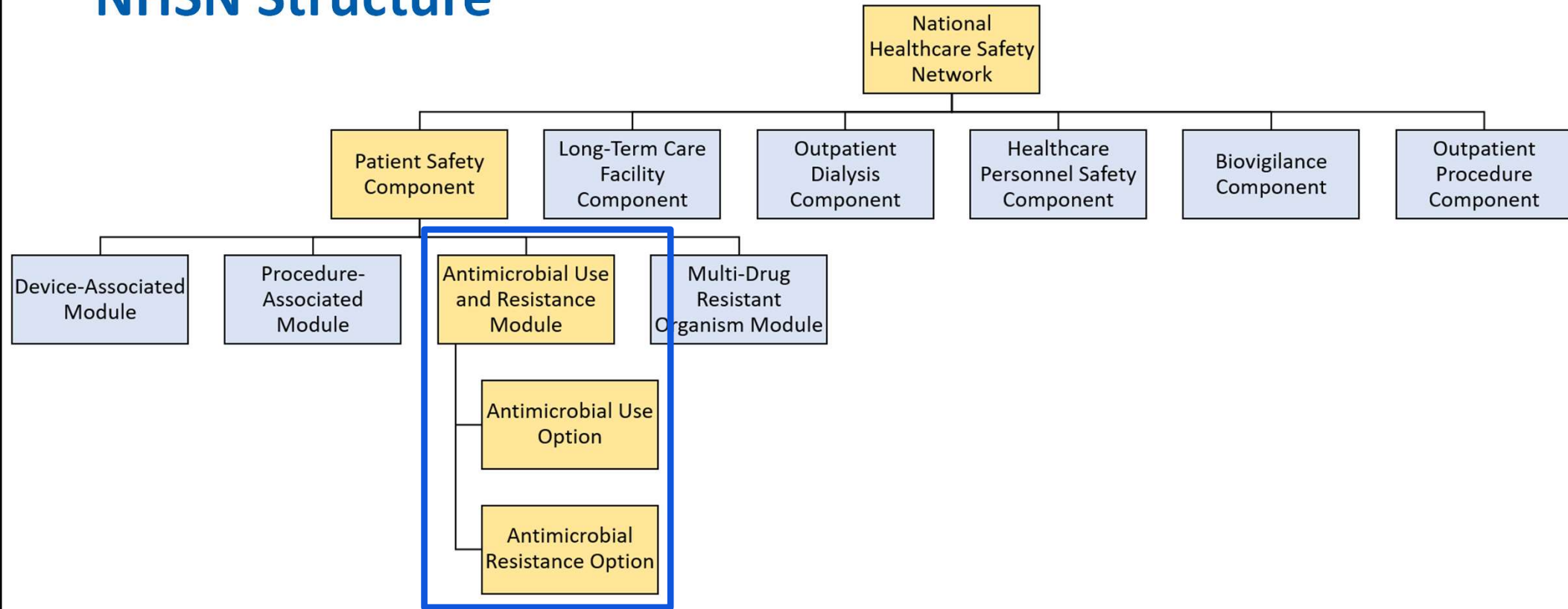
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



# Supplemental Slides



# NHSN Structure




# Requirements for AU Data Submission: Who Can Participate?

- Hospitals that have:
  - Electronic Medication Administration Record (eMAR), or
  - Bar Coding Medication Administration (BCMA) systems, and
  - Admission Discharge Transfer (ADT) system
- AND
- Ability to collect and package data using HL7 standardized formation
  - Clinical Document Architecture:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/cdaportal/index.html>
    - Commercial software vendors: <https://sidp.org/AURVendors/>
    - “Homegrown” vendors (facility’s internal IT/Informatics resources)

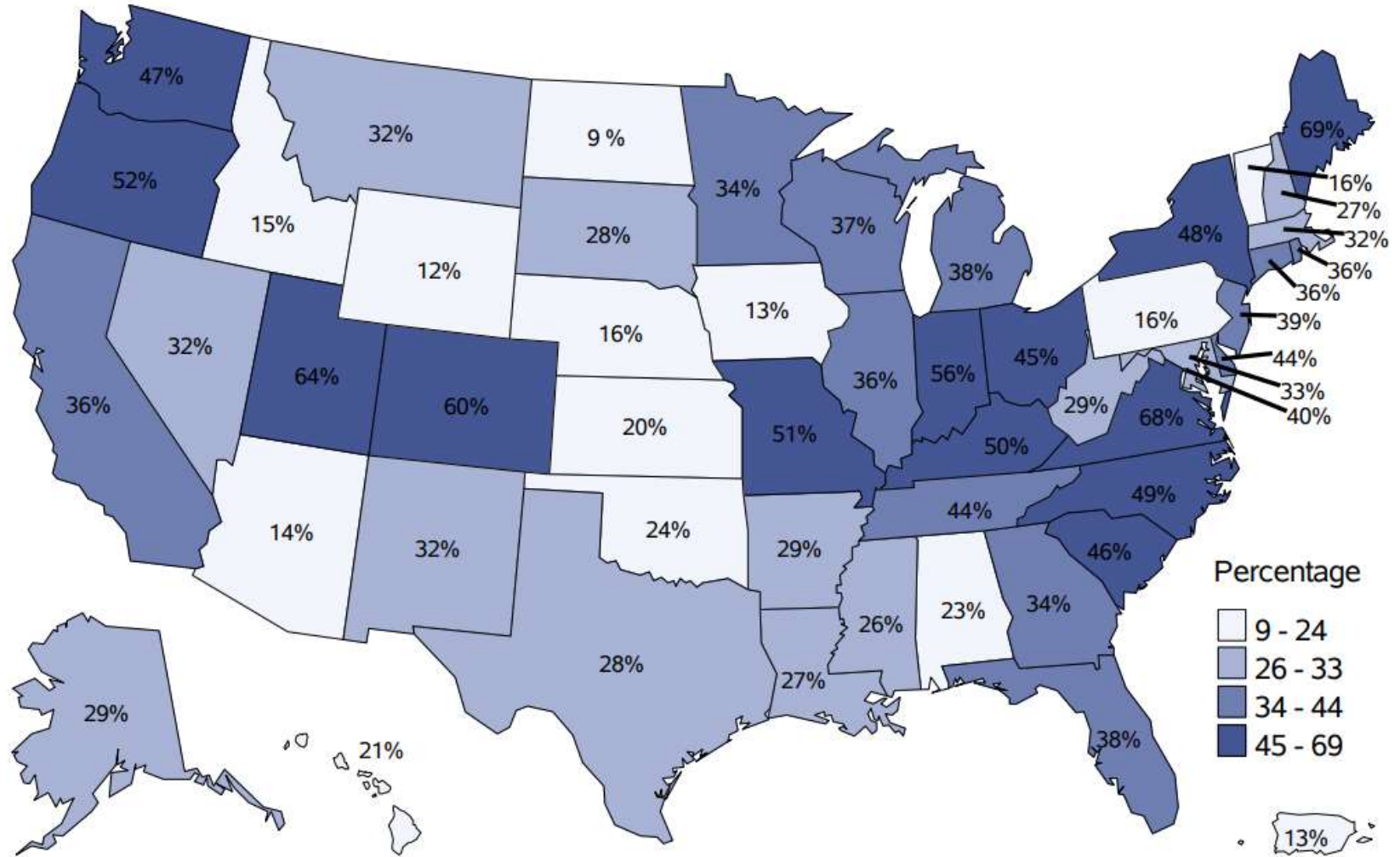
## AU Option: Summary Data

- Monthly aggregate, summary-level data
  - By location
    - All inpatient locations individually
    - All inpatient locations combined (Facility-wide inpatient)
    - 3 outpatient locations (ED, pediatric ED, 24-hour observation)
    - **Use same mapped locations throughout the NHSN application**
  - **Important:** Requires accurate/complete electronic capture of both the numerator and denominator for the given locations
- Data are aggregated prior to sending to NHSN
- No patient-level data shared with NHSN for AU Option

## AUR Module – Steps for Facility Participation

- Prerequisite: eMAR/BCMA system for inpatient locations
  - Identify facility lead(s)/champion(s) for AUR Module
    - Add AUR users to your NHSN facility so they can start SAMS process
  - Discuss roles and responsibilities within NHSN
    - Who will update the reporting plans? Who will upload the data? Who will run the analysis reports?
  - Discuss location mapping
  - Monthly submission and review of data
  - Assist with HAI/AUR data comparison requests during validation process
- 

# Percent of facilities reporting at least one month of AU data



\*As of 9/1/22

## AUR Module data are required in CY 2024

- Beginning in **CY 2024**, AUR Module data are required under the Public Health and Clinical Data Exchange Objective of the CMS PI Program
- Applies to eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals that participate in the CMS PI Program
- **Measure includes submission of both AU and AR Option data**
- For CY 2024 facilities attest to either:
  - Being in active engagement with NHSN to submit AUR data or,
  - Claim an applicable exclusion

<https://www.cms.gov/regulations-and-guidance/legislation/ehrincentiveprograms>

# AUR Module Reporting Resources

## NHSN AUR Module Resources

- NHSN AUR Module homepage:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/psc/aur/index.html>
- NHSN AUR Protocol:
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/pscManual/11pscAURcurrent.pdf>
- AU Option Case Examples:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/au-case-examples/index.html>
- NHSN Analysis Quick Reference Guides:
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/reference-guides.html>
- NHSN CDA Submission Support Portal
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/cdaportal/index.html>

### NHSN Helpdesk

(protocol & submission questions)

[NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov)

### NHSN CDA Helpdesk

(technical CDA related questions)

[NHSNCDA@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSNCDA@cdc.gov)