Development of a Citywide Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative

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Our project will focus on laying the groundwork to achieve the following specific aims: (1) identify local barriers to and facilitators of implementation in antimicrobial stewardship across healthcare facilities, (2) identify and prioritize local problems in antimicrobial resistance and prescribing practices, (3) design and facilitate implementation of interventions across healthcare facilities to improve antimicrobial prescribing practices and to prevent the spread of MDROs throughout the community, (4) share data on antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance, (5) create a research infrastructure for faculty at the University of Pennsylvania and individuals across the city to study antimicrobial use and effects of interventions to improve it on a community level, and (6) train local leaders across healthcare settings in antimicrobial stewardship to build capacity within the community. This project is timely because of the urgent need for improved antimicrobial prescribing in the face of growing problem of antimicrobial resistance. It also comes at a time when the CDC recently has called local hospitals and communities to action to help combat inappropriate antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance. In this context, there is also a growing need to close the gap between research and guidelines and implementation across local healthcare communities because these problems cross the boundaries between individual healthcare facilities and boundaries separating healthcare facilities from the community.