Objectives

- To evaluate the opportunities to improve antimicrobial use in patients on a surgical subspecialty team
- To describe the interventions made during the initial 5-month period

Methods

- Beginning in November 2013, an Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist performed three-times-weekly prospective case review for all inpatients receiving antibiotics on one of the following surgical services:
  - Neurosurgery
  - Maxillofacial Surgery
  - Plastic Surgery
  - Otolaryngology
  - Urology

- Recommendations regarding antimicrobial therapy were communicated to the surgical teams when appropriate

Results

- A multi-disciplinary antimicrobial stewardship collaboration performing prospective case review in a surgical subspecialty population led to opportunities to improve antibiotic use.

- In nearly half of cases reviewed, there were opportunities to improve antibiotic use.

- There was a high degree of acceptance of stewardship team recommendations.

Conclusions

- Limitation: The number of cases in this early intervention period was too small to assess impact on antimicrobial use.

- Future direction: Prospective case review with provider feedback will continue. Future analysis should include overall antimicrobial use and clinical outcomes.