Antimicrobial Stewardship Practices Reported by California Hospitals – Annual Hospital Survey Data Submitted Via the National Healthcare Safety Network, 2014
Erin Epson MD,* Kyle Rizzo MPH, Sam Horwich-Scholefield MPH and Lynn Janssen MS CI C CHCQ
Healthcare-Associated Infections Program, California Department of Public Health

Background
California is the first and remains the only state to enact antimicrobial stewardship legislation. Since 2008, California acute care hospitals have been required to develop processes for evaluating the judicious use of antibiotics and to report results to their quality improvement committees. A national survey conducted in 2011 found California hospitals were significantly more likely to have an antimicrobial stewardship policy than hospitals in other states.

New California legislation further requires hospitals to implement an antimicrobial stewardship policy in accordance with guidelines and to establish a physician-supervised multidisciplinary committee with at least one physician or pharmacist with specific stewardship training by July 1, 2015.

Methods
Beginning in 2014, the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Annual Hospital Survey included questions about antimicrobial stewardship practices. Annual Hospital Survey data submitted by California acute care hospitals via NHSN were analyzed to determine proportions of hospitals implementing specific antimicrobial stewardship practices.

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stewardship Practice</th>
<th>No. (%) Hospitals Responding Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requiring prescribers to document indication for all antibiotics</td>
<td>166/381 (43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility-specific antibiotic treatment recommendations</td>
<td>313/381 (82%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibiotic time-out</td>
<td>133/381 (34%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibiotic pre-approval</td>
<td>275/381 (72%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antimicrobial prescription audit with feedback</td>
<td>342/381 (89%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing feedback to prescribers regarding improving antibiotic use</td>
<td>288/381 (75%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing antibiotic stewardship education</td>
<td>278/381 (73%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring antibiotic use</td>
<td>310/381 (80%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions
In the setting of state legislative requirements, we document that substantial numbers of California hospitals are engaged in antimicrobial stewardship.

These data are being used to identify opportunities for public health to guide programs that promote and support further implementation and advancement of antimicrobial stewardship practices in California hospitals.

The California Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Initiative

The California Department of Public Health, Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program’s California Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) Initiative provides guidance and support for California hospitals to implement ASPs, including:

- The Spotlight on ASP project (right) allows hospitals to highlight their programs and share their progress implementing activities comprising an 11-element ASP definition developed by the California HAI Advisory Committee.
- A 1-year statewide ASP Collaborative (agenda below) convenes webinar-based educational presentations and implementation discussions with expert faculty addressing a series of core topic areas of ASP.

Acknowledgments: Thanks to Lanette Corona, Mary Nennig RN BSN, and Sue Chen RN MPH for supporting the California Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Initiative at CDPH, and to all the expert faculty of the ASP Collaborative. The authors have nothing to disclose.