

Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative

Sample: Antibiotic Time-Out Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish parameters for performance of Antibiotic Time-Out—and thereby optimize antibiotic selection and use based on clinical response and laboratory findings within 48 hours of antibiotic initiation.

Procedure

- 1 The pharmacy will produce a daily list of residents who have taken antibiotics for more than 48 hours and distribute to nursing units.
- 2 Charge nurse (or designee) on each unit will identify which residents on the 48-hour list have not had Antibiotic Time-Out SBAR completed for their current round of antibiotics.
- 3 Charge nurse (or designee) will complete an Antibiotic Time-Out SBAR form to fax to the clinician prescribing the antibiotic and place a copy of the SBAR in the resident's clinical record.

Sample: Antibiotic Time-Out SBAR Form

At the top or bottom of the form, include your facility name and fax number, resident identifiers, date, and names of people completing & receiving the form

Situation

Example: Resident on antibiotic therapy more than 48 hours; new labs and assessment available for review

Background

Include details about:

- The initial order and indications for antibiotic (drug, dose, schedule, route, and what infection the antibiotic is intended to treat)
- Any known drug allergies
- Vital signs
- Clinical assessment of infection
- Culture and sensitivity lab results

Assessment

Include details about:

- Whether the resident is tolerating the antibiotic
- Signs and symptoms of infection compared to baseline (have the clinical indications changed since starting the antibiotic?)

Request

Example: Please review and advise whether antibiotic should be continued as-is, modified, or whether a more targeted antibiotic should be used instead.



www.Medicare.QualisHealth.org/LS2